

Dec 28, 2007

Statement by StratCom Line Crosser, Dagmar Hoxsie, a 76-year-old Catholic Worker from Yankton, SD. This was Dagmar's third line crossing at Offutt AFB.

As a child growing up in Germany, I could not understand: Why war? Why the bombing of our homes, death and destruction of civilians?

After the war, finding out about the mass murders in concentration camps, it was impossible to understand. I only knew Christian people, grew up with faith-filled Catholics. Looking back now, some folks did not know, some ignored it all, some were afraid to take a stand – to oppose meant a death sentence, and many died.

As a young adult I came to the United States. I learned about what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki where hundred of thousands of civilians were incinerated, innocent lives. The terrible suffering of the survivors and the radiation never to go away. How can anyone understand such evil?

The United States has thousands of nuclear weapons, many on hair-trigger alert. There easily could be an accident. Just recently 6 nuclear armed missiles disappeared in North Dakota, flown to a base in Louisiana by mistake, called an "unacceptable mistake". With the President willing to use Nukes and unwilling to join the Nonproliferation Treaty, a dark cloud looms over our world.

Will we watch our children die an excruciating death? Will we witness the end of all life? My faith gives me no choice but to oppose this insanity. As a Catholic Christian I am taking a stand: Eliminate Nuclear Weapons stop the arms race!

Instead of spending another \$150 billion dollars on warhead replacement, use it for education, reduce hunger and homelessness, and fight global warming. And finally I understand, whenever evil occurs, good people need to rally no matter what the cost.

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