



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

Committed to a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

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Press Conference with Daniel Ellsberg, David Krieger and Fr. Louis Vitale – Friday, February 24 at 10:30 a.m.

U.S. Air Force to Launch Intercontinental Ballistic Missile from Vandenberg Air Force Base

February 17, 2012

For Immediate Release

SANTA BARBARA, CA – On Friday, February 24 at 10:30 a.m., the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation will hold a press conference to discuss the scheduled February 25 launch of a Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile from Vandenberg Air Force Base.

The test launch will send an “unarmed” nuclear-capable missile over 4,000 miles to a target in the Marshall Islands at a cost of over \$20 million.

The press conference will feature: **Daniel Ellsberg**, former nuclear strategist and the man responsible for leaking the Pentagon Papers to the press in 1971; **David Krieger**, President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation; and **Fr. Louis Vitale**, who has been arrested numerous times for acts of civil disobedience at Vandenberg Air Force Base while opposing the launch of nuclear-capable missiles.

Ellsberg was arrested at Vandenberg Air Force Base in 1983 protesting the launch of a MX nuclear-capable missile. He remains steadfastly opposed to the testing and proliferation of all nuclear-capable missiles. Ellsberg said, “The U.S. government must get rid of these wholly-anachronistic lightning-rods for ‘accidental’ nuclear war, which have not had a strategic rationale that could stand up to public examination and debate--never yet forthcoming-- for over half a century.”

Notes to editors:

1. The press conference will take place at the office of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, 1622 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.
2. Please RSVP to ensure your place at the press conference. Call Rick Wayman, NAPF Director of Programs, at (805) 965-3443 or (805) 696-5159.
3. Daniel Ellsberg will also deliver the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s 11th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity’s Future on Thursday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara.
4. There will be a protest against the launch at 11:55 p.m. on Friday, February 24 at the front gates of Vandenberg Air Force Base.