

International action camp Germany 12-18 July 2017

**STOP the NEW U.S. NUCLEAR BOMB
— the B61-12 — FOR EUROPE!**



United we can stop the planned nuclear bomb!

Please join the German campaign to send the existing US nuclear weapons back home, and to organize against the new B61-12 nuclear bomb, scheduled to be built in the US by 2020 and deployed in five European countries – Italy, Belgium, Holland, Turkey, and Germany.

We invite anti-nuclear, environmental and peace activists from Europe and the U.S. to our camp at the main gate of the military base in Büchel. The international week of actions is part of our 20 weeks of action from March 26th to August 9th (Nagasaki memorial day). Twenty weeks represent the 20 B61 H-bombs at Büchel. Our **peace camp** includes networking, vigils, and **nonviolent civil resistance**.

This international week is the first one **uniting** with anti-nuclear resistance in the US, the country where construction of the bomb **is taking** place: 8-to-10 people from the US are planning to **participate** and 300 have signed our Declaration of Solidarity:

<https://buechel-atombombenfrei.jimdo.com/international/>

Political, Military & Corporate Background

Despite the end of the Cold War, about 20 US nuclear bombs are still deployed at the German air force base Büchel in West Central Germany. German pilots **are both trained and obliged to**

take off with these bombs in their Tornado **fighter-bombers** when the orders come from a US president, through NATO, and to **use** them on their targets. This horrifying war plan is part of the “nuclear sharing agreement” in NATO, and includes the first-strike option. NATO calls it *Power and Burden Sharing*. As part of the coalition in the war against Syria, some German Tornado jets and pilots from Büchel are also deployed in Turkey – together with another 50 US B61 nuclear bombs! – at the Incirlik Air Base used by Turkey, the US, the UK, and Saudi Arabia.

These US weapons of mass destruction – illegal under German, US and international law – are scheduled to be replaced by expensive (a \$10 billion program), new, precision-guided nuclear weapons in the near future, through the National Nuclear Security Administration’s modernization program.

Three US National Laboratories – Los Alamos and Sandia in New Mexico, and Lawrence Livermore in California – have worked to design the B61-12, and parts are being made at the Y12 complex in Tennessee, the Kansas City Plant in Missouri, and the Sandia National Lab in New Mexico. Final assembly is to be the Pantex site in Texas. Major contractors are Boeing, Lockheed-Martin, Honeywell, and Bechtel. Hans Kristensen of the Federation of American Scientists has reported that the 400 new B61-12s planned for Europe will cost at least \$25 million apiece.

Silently, the military industrial complex together with ruling political parties continue this **destabilizing nuclear weapons enhancement**.

Germany is the only country inside Europe **that** has a **German-wide** campaign of 50 groups and **organizations** (called *Büchel is everywhere – nuclear weapons-free now!*) with the focus on **civil resistance** at the **scene** of crime. We believe that besides lobby work, we also have to **increase awareness** and political pressure **using nonviolent direct actions to halt the B61 replacement**.

Because of public interest – a poll shows that about 90% of the public is against **the US nukes** – our united **coalition work**, which includes **well-respected organizations** like IPPNW, IALANA, German Fellowship of Reconciliation, Pax Christi, and DFG-VK, etc., lead to the political decision not to criminalize participants of the blockades.

This planned B61 replacement is going on despite the overwhelming approval March 26, 2010 of a cross-party (bipartisan) resolution by the German Parliament (Bundestag) **calling** on the government to pursue permanent removal of the nukes.

Finally, negotiations for an international nuclear weapons ban treaty begin at the UN March 27, the day after the start of our 20 weeks of action. We will begin the 20 weeks in Büchel March 26 with German parliamentarians and Mayors for Peace.

This September will be **Germany's** next nationwide elections – the last one before 2020 – so now is the time to pressure the government into halting the nuclear upgrade. But the politicians know that when Germany steps out, this will effect future **decisions** of other European “nuclear sharing” countries. A possible “domino effect” is possible so the best time to **stop** the program is now – before the bomb goes into production.

20 Weeks of Action for 20 Bombs at Büchel

In 2016, we had 20 weeks of actions with 45 religious, peace, women, anti-nuclear and other groups participating. Starting again on March 26, 2017, and continuing through August 9, groups and individuals will hold vigils and other kinds of nonviolent direct actions (blockades, sit-ins, etc.) at the Büchel **Air Base to pressure the government and remind lawmakers of their promise to permanently eliminate the US warheads.**

Agreed Framework for Action:

When we take part in nonviolent direct action, we will not use or threaten to use physical violence against any person, especially in situations where violence is being used against us. No participant in the action **will** hold another person against their will, push them or injure them in any way. We **will not** behave insultingly or humiliate others; rather we wish to treat others (police, soldiers, **counter-demonstrators**) with respect, despite the fact that we may be critical of the actions they take.

This also remains valid **when** it **comes** to legal proceedings as a result of our action, during which we will naturally behave with solidarity towards one another. The complete agreed framework for action can be found on our homepage in German:

www.buechel-atombombenfrei.de

Declaration of Commitment

The core element of the campaign is our “Declaration of Commitment” signature gathering effort where people declare in public (on our website):

“I will come go Büchel once a year and take part in an action until nuclear weapons are withdrawn, and I will actively commit to seeking a nuclear weapons-free world in the place where I am living.”

Declaration of Solidarity

Besides the Declaration of Commitment, we also have a Declaration of Solidarity especially for people who cannot come, but who want to show their full support (please see website sign-on).

In Germany, the peace movement always risks being considered “anti-American.” With plenty of signatures from the US peace and justice movement, we can show that we are united in our vision for a nuclear-free world – and in solidarity with indigenous peoples and other people of color, who are **disproportionately** impacted by the nuclear production chain. We don’t want new nuclear weapons, and we believe the money should go to address people’s real needs!

If you are interested in joining, please contact:

mariongaaa@gmx.de ;

or via our website:

www.buechel-atombombenfrei.de

and let us know about any support you might need.

All kinds of housing, including camping, exist in this beautiful volcanic region. There will be an office and a contact person nearby.

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