

Press release

nuclear weapons: International Law in the Dock

On Thursday, October 8, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., two women will stand before the Koblenz Court of Appeal, which is to legally classify their intrusion with an 18-member international group into the Bundeswehr military airfield.

Background: On July 15, 2018, the activists non-violently disrupted operations at the Büchel nuclear weapons base and also read applicable laws in English and German to military personnel to avert their possible participation in nuclear bomb exercises and their actual deployment. The participating activists come from the USA (7), Germany (6), the Netherlands (4) and England (1).

The activists, including a woman in a wheelchair, entered the compound through the barbed wire and other fences. Some made it to the runway and three activists even made it to a suspected nuclear weapons bunker, including the defendant Stefanie Augustin on Thursday (see picture in the appendix).

The second defendant is Marion Küpker, who received the Aachen Peace Prize last year for the nationwide campaign Büchel ist überall! atomwaffenfrei.jetzt. This campaign stands for the - since 2016 - annual 20-week protests at the Büchel nuclear weapons base in the Eifel region.

Marion Küpker says: "The approximately 20 U.S. nuclear bombs in Büchel pose a continuous threat to a war crime of enormous proportions, since German pilots could deploy them at any time by order of President Trump. Our current legal regulations oblige every citizen to adequately oppose this. The international U.S. legal expert Anabel Dwyer, in her statement for this process, confirms the legality of these go-in actions and states that nuclear deployment and nuclear sharing are illegal, i.e. the shoe is on the other foot: the nuclear bombs in Büchel violate international law. Since international law is superior to our law, it must also be applied in our proceedings, otherwise the judges are (partly) guilty".

This action was part of the International Week, which was organized by the action group GAAA - Gewaltfreie Aktion Atomwaffen Abschaffen, a member organization of

the DFG-VK (www.gaaa.org/ www.dfg-vk.de) during the 20-week action presence. The campaign demands the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from Germany, the cancellation of the planned nuclear armament with new atomic bombs (B61-12) and the accession and ratification of the international treaty to outlaw nuclear weapons by our government. Currently, only four ratifications are still missing for the Prohibition Treaty to come into force. Obligations under international law must, however, be met now.

We ask the press and trial observers to appear before the Regional Court of Koblenz, Karmeliterstr. 14, as early as 12:30 p.m. Please bring your identity card with you!

For press interviews Marion Küpker is available: 0172 771 32 66,
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Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)