

WAR CRIME

WARNING!

To U.S. Military and Civilian Personnel in Great Britain

DO YOU KNOW?

- that YOU ARE OBLIGED BY U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL LAW TO TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LEGALITY OF **ALL** YOUR MILITARY OR MILITARY-RELATED ACTIONS?
- that WAR CRIMES are serious infringements of these laws and may be committed by civilians as well as military personnel?
- that WAR CRIMES are punishable by severe sentences: (c.f. Nuremberg and Vietnam war crimes trials)?
- that current NATO and Warsaw Pact nuclear policies break several basic international laws, and that your support for these illegal policies renders you liable for prosecution for **COMPLICITY TO COMMIT WAR CRIMES**?
- that this WARNING is part of an international campaign to expose law-breaking and uphold the law?

YOUR ACTIONS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY — UPHOLD THE LAW!

Nuclear Policies and the Law

THE FACTS

international laws of war are based on the humane self-restraint of 'civilised nations' and the 'dictates of public conscience'.

these principles have been turned into numerous detailed laws, signed by all leading nations, including the **UNITED STATES**.

nuclear policies are **CRIMINAL** because they involve:

- threats of mass-destruction
- threats to kill and maim millions of defenceless civilians, including children, the sick and other protected persons.
- threats to use weapons which discharge poison (radiation)
- threats to cause long-term and severe damage to the environment
- the use of training and command structures for illegal purposes.

NUCLEAR POLICIES ARE CRIMINAL!

DO YOU SUPPORT THEM?

Check the facts

1. Hague Conventions, 1899, 1907
2. Geneva Protocol, 1925
3. Nuremberg Trials, 1945/6
4. U.N. Charter, 1945
5. Genocide Act, 1948
6. Geneva Conventions, 1949
7. Additional Protocol 1, Geneva, 1977

STOP AND THINK!

'The term "war crime" is the technical expression for a violation of the law of war by any person or persons, military or civilian. Every violation of the law of war is a war crime.'

— *U.S. Army Field Manual, The Law of Warfare, 1956*

'The obedience of a soldier is not the obedience of an automaton. A soldier is a reasoning agent. He does not respond, and is not expected to respond, like a piece of machinery. It is a fallacy of widespread consumption that a soldier is required to obey everything his superior officer orders him to do . . . The subordinate is bound to obey only the lawful orders of his superior.'

— *U.S. Military Tribunal, Einsatzgruppen Trial, 1948*

'Refusing to obey an order to commit a war crime is a recognized defence under the U.S. Uniform Code of Military Justice . . .'

— *Levy v. Parker, 1973, 1 Military Law Reporter, USA*

'The law of war places limits on the exercise of a belligerent's power . . . and requires that belligerents refrain from employing any kind or degree of violence which is not actually necessary for military purposes and that they conduct hostilities with regard for the principles of humanity and chivalry.'

— *U.S. Army Field Manual, Basic Principles, 1956*

'The refuge of the defendants can be only their hope that International Law will lag so far behind the moral sense of mankind that conduct which is crime in the moral sense must be regarded as innocent in law.'

— *Opening statement at Nuremberg Trials by the Chief U.S. Prosecutor, Justice Jackson, 1945*

'Any person, whether a member of the armed forces or a civilian, who commits an act which constitutes a crime under international law is responsible therefor and liable to punishment.'

— *U.S. Army Field Manual, Crimes under International Law, 1956*

'The concept of Assured Destruction . . . appears to be directly opposed to the most fundamental principles found in the international law of armed conflict.'

— *The International Law of Armed Conflict, Builder and Graubard, Rand Corporation/Ford Foundation, USA, 1982*

'Everyone has the right and duty to say NO to illegal State policy . . . It is not disobedience but the enforcement of law to refuse to be an accomplice to the preparation of nuclear war.'

— *Professor Richard Falk, Professor of International Law, Princeton, USA, speaking at Nuremberg, 1983.*

THERE CAN BE NO PEACE OUTSIDE THE LAW!

We will help you face this challenge. Contact us.

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