**VETERANS FOR PEACE, PLENARIES AND WORKSHOPS**

The conference is open to all. For more information and to register go to VeteransForPeace.org.
Registration options include one and two days or the full conference.

**PLENARIES AND MINI-PLENARIES**

* On Thursday morning, August 23rd the plenaries will open with ***Indigenous Peoples and the Doctrine of Discovery***, a discussion about this papal bull from the 15th century and its effect on Indigenous Peoples in America.
* On Friday morning August 24th three mini-plenaries are offered around the theme of ***Where and What is the U.S. Doing Around the World***: ***The Korea Peace Campaign, Veterans Administration Health Care, and Crisis at the Border and U.S. Policy in Central America.***
* On Friday afternoon August 24th a plenary is being held to discuss ***UN Potential: What We Can Do to Help the UN End War and How to Do It.***
* On Sunday morning August 26th a plenary is offered about the ***Kellogg-Briand Pact***. This treaty was signed on August 27, 1928 by nations worldwide ten years after the end of World War I. Frank Kellogg, then Secretary of State, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1929 for his role in its creation.

**WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS: A sampling organized around themes.**

Workshops are scheduled for the afternoons of Thursday, August 24th and Friday, August 25th in concurrent sessions. Most of the workshops have two or more presenters who have considerable experience in their topics. See the times and descriptions for each workshop on VeteransForPeace.org.

**PEACE IS POSSIBLE**A combined workshop on ***Nuclear Disarmament Today*** and ***A Nuclear Free World*** focuses on the Golden Rule voyage and on a campaign in Minnesota to Ban Nuclear Weapons that can serve as a model for other states. Two other workshops emphasize organizing for peace: ***Making Peace Possible*** emphasizes reconciliation between nations and people and ***Transformative Collaboration Experiential*** explores working together to create and maintain peace in the face of militarized aggression.

**US EMPIRE
*US Empire: 1968 Fifty Years Later, Challenges and Implications for Today*** and ***Confronting the Militarization of US Borderlands and the Culture of Impunity.***

**FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RESISTING THE DRAFT
*Freedom of Speech in War Time*** addresses our Constitutional rights around freedom of speech, dissent, and protest and raises pertinent questions about these issues today. **It’s Time to Abolish Selective Service (Draft) Registration** discusses how and why the draft is back in the national conversation.

**VETERANS FOR PEACE REACH OUT AROUND THE WORLD
*Economic Empowerment in Latin America, Real Life Experience with Community Lending Pools*** describes the work of St. Paul organization Mary’s Pence in five Latin American countries that helps women affected by the poverty and injustice of war. ***Building Bridges, Making Peace Possible,*** while focusing on Viet Nam, shares practical and inspirational solutions for building relationships in communities and globally for peace. ***Making Peace Possible Through Civilian Diplomacy*** discusses the VFP Speaking Tour in Japan and the 2018 Summer Tour. ***Working in Coalition Grassroots Outreach*** describes using Nonviolent Conflict Resolution for working in coalitions with particular emphasis on raising awareness about the US/Israel/Saudi military campaigns in the Middle East.

**FOR VETERANS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS**A number of workshops focus on information for veterans: Understanding veterans’ rights and issues like PTSD, benefits, and the appeal process, and a how to about creating successful projects and grant applications. In addition many workshops around healing are offered, such as trauma sensitive mindfulness practice, disabilities and ableism, and from the Veteran Service Corps the healing power in helping veterans help their communities. Other forums include a discussion about deported veterans programs and another about the challenges in serving increasing number of homeless veterans, as well as workshops by Military Families and Iraq veterans.

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