

Freedom of Information Act Request, May 18, 2005 FBI Surveillance and First Amendment Activity: List of Participating Organizations and Individuals

Organizations

- 1 Maine Civil Liberties Union and Maine Civil Liberties Unions Foundation (collectively, "MCLU") works to protect civil rights and civil liberties in Maine. MCLU has organized opposition in Maine to the expansion of U.S. government surveillance as part of the war on terrorism and to the secret and unchecked surveillance powers of the USA PATRIOT Act. MCLU has provided legal counsel and representation to individuals and groups interested in expressing opposition to Maine and U.S. government action and policy, and MCLU has brought legal challenges to restrictions on the rights of protesters. MCLU represents Timothy Sullivan, organizer of the 2004 March for Peace, and Larry Dansinger, organizer and activist, in their challenge to the City of Augusta's parade- and demonstration-permit requirements, currently before the U.S. District Court: Sullivan et al. v. City of Augusta, Civil Action No. 04-32-B-W. In 2003 and 2004, MCLU sponsored and participated in events around the State of Maine to draw attention to threats to civil liberties embodied in the USA PATRIOT Act. With assistance from the MCLU, the Maine State Legislature, as well as the cities of Orono, Mt. Vernon, Bangor, Portland, and Waterville passed resolutions calling for greater civil liberties protection in the face of the USA PATRIOT Act. The MCLU has lobbied both Federal and State officials to protect religious and racial minorities, including immigrants, and to resist pressure to target minorities with discriminatory and unproductive legislation. The MCLU is a non-profit organization.
- 2. **Peace Action Maine** is the state's largest peace organization, and it has worked for over 20 years to promote peace and disarmament through grassroots organizing, citizen education, and issue advocacy. As one of the leading Maine organizations opposed to the war in Iraq, Peace Action Maine has organized ten rallies and marches in Maine since that war began in 2003. Peace Action Maine has participated in a number of other rallies, marches, and vigils throughout the State. As the Maine state affiliate of the national organization Peace Action, Peace Action Maine has mobilized volunteer participants for events in Washington, D.C. and New York City. Peace Action Maine is a coalition partner of Win Without War. In addition to anti-war work, Peace Action Maine is a leader in the struggle for nuclear disarmament. In response to organizing and advocacy work by Peace Action Maine, 41 towns and cities across Maine have passed resolutions, either through town meetings or city councils, calling for the total abolition of nuclear weapons. Peace Action Maine's anti-nuclear weapons work has likely come under federal monitoring by the FBI and possibly the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the FBI. Peace Action Maine is a non-profit organization.

- 3. **Maine Coalition for Peace and Justice** is a statewide organization of individual citizens and Maine group representatives working collectively and nonviolently for social equality, economic justice, direct democracy, and regenerative environmental policies. Members of the Maine Coalition for Peace and Justice have organized rallies and marches across Maine in opposition to the war in Iraq. These events have likely come under surveillance by the FBI and the Maine Joint Terrorism Task Force.
- 4. **Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine** is a non-profit community organization in Bangor, Maine, that supports and links individuals and groups concerned with peace, social justice, and environmental issues. The Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine services—including classes, lectures, seminars, and conferences—promote cooperation, expand awareness, explore connections, and encourage community involvement in working toward a peaceful and just society. The Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine organized protests in Bangor when President Bush and Vice President Cheney visited Maine and mobilized peace activists to participate in a Homeland Security Conference at the University of Maine, Orono.
- 5. **Veterans for Peace—Maine Chapter** is an organization of veterans who, after serving in our nation's military, have committed themselves to the cause of world peace. Veterans for Peace was founded in Maine in 1985, and the organization now has over 5,000 members in 150 chapters across the country. Veterans for Peace—Maine Chapter has helped organize rallies and marches in Augusta in opposition to the war in Iraq, and its leaders have been featured speakers at those events, including the "March For Truth 2003" in Augusta. The anti-war activity of Veterans for Peace—Maine Chapter are likely to have been brought to the attention of the FBI and possibly also to the attention of the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the FBI.
- 6. **Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence** is dedicated to developing and implementing training programs to prevent bias, harassment and violence. In December 2001, Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence launched the "Preserving the American Dream" project, which included investigations of FBI questioning of Muslims and incidents of bias against Muslims, in Maine. In response to FBI questioning of Muslims in 2003 and 2004, the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence developed an advisory program to assist people in asserting their rights in the face of interrogation. The Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence has been an outspoken critic of the Bush administration at public meetings in Portland and elsewhere, which may have led to FBI surveillance.
- 7. **People's Free Space** is a community organization, based in Portland, Maine, since 2002. People's Free Space sponsors classes and seminars on creative resistance and sustainable living. In 2004, the People's Free Space sponsored an video showing and discussion about radical environmentalism and political prisoners, which likely came under the surveillance of the FBI and/or the Portland, Maine Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Individuals

- 1. **Shenna Bellows** is the Executive Director of the MCLU. Formerly an organizer with the ACLU National Legislative Office in Washington, D.C., Ms. Bellows has made speeches across Maine and across the country about threats to civil liberties contained in the USA PATRIOT Act. Ms. Bellows helped develop and implement the ACLU strategy for organizing opposition to the USA PATRIOT Act.
- 2. **Zachary Heiden** is the Staff Attorney at the MCLU. Mr. Heiden has acted as an advocate for protesters and demonstrators throughout Maine, including individuals gathered to protest President Bush's visit to Maine on Earth Day (April 21) 2004. Mr. Heiden is currently counsel to Timothy Sullivan and Larry Dansinger in their challenge to parade permit requirements in the City of Augusta.
- 3. **Greg Field** is the Executive Director of Peace Action Maine. Mr. Field has organized and participated in numerous rallies, marches, and demonstrations across Maine, including anti-war rallies in Augusta in 2003 and 2004 that likely came under surveillance by the FBI and the Maine Joint Terrorism Task Force. In his capacity at Peace Action Maine, Mr. Field has organized Maine delegations to national protests in New York City and Washington, D.C.
- 4. **Wells Staley-Mays** is a board member of Peace Action Maine and an activist in human rights causes. Mr. Staley-Mays started the Diversity Networking Project, as part of Peace Action Maine, to act as an advocate for refugees from Somalia and Sudan settling in Maine. Mr. Staley-Mays serves as an advisor to a number of community groups dedicated to serving East African refugees in Maine. A convert to Islam in 2000, Mr. Staley-Mays made the hajj pilgrimage to Mecca in 2002. Because of Mr. Staley-Mays's outspoken opposition to U.S. foreign policy in East Africa and the former Yugoslavia, and because of his advocacy on behalf of his fellow Muslims, he has likely come under surveillance by the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the FBI.
- 5. **Sally Breen** is a board member of Peace Action Maine, and she serves as Treasurer of that organization. Ms. Breen has been especially involved in the movement to abolish nuclear weapons and in the struggle to protect the environment. Ms. Breen has participated in protests across the country, including events at the Bath Iron Works, the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and the Los Alamos Research Laboratory in New Mexico. In January 2003, Ms. Breen participated in a sit-in at the office of Senator Olympia Snowe to prevail upon the senator to vote against going to war with Iraq. These protests and demonstrations have likely been the subject of surveillance by the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the FBI.
- 6. **Timothy Sullivan** is a coordinator of the Maine Coalition for Peace and Justice. He is one of the primary organizers of the March for Truth, held in Augusta in March 2004 to show opposition to the war in Iraq and to support better pay and benefits for members of the armed services and their families. Mr. Sullivan is lead plaintiff in the challenge to the City of Augusta's parade and demonstration permit requirements, currently before the

- U.S. District Court: *Sullivan et al. v. City of Augusta*, Civil Action No. 04-32-B-W. Mr. Sullivan's promotion of peace issues and his organizing large protests against military activity has likely brought him under the surveillance of the FBI and the Maine Joint Terrorism Task Force.
- 7. **Ilze Petersen** is a the Peace and Justice Program Coordinator at the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine.
- 8. **Kate Brennan** is the chair of the Board of Directors of the Many and One Coalition, an organization dedicated to working for the end of racism and all forms of hatred, prejudice, discrimination and oppression in our communities, and for the construction of safe, peaceful, and just communities for everyone. Ms. Brennan teaches citizenship classes and English for speakers of other languages, at the Adult Learning Center in Lewiston. Ms. Brennan has been a featured speaker at a number of rallies and demonstrations, including the Many and One rally in January 2003 and the March for Truth in March 2004. Ms. Brennan has also participated in anti-globalization rallies in Quebec and Miami. Her opposition to the war in Iraq and to U.S. foreign policy generally has likely brought her under the surveillance of the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Forces.
- 9. **Douglas Rawlings** is the President of Veterans For Peace—Maine Chapter. Mr. Rawlings served in the United States Army from 1969-70.
- 10. **John "Jack" Bussell** is a board member of Veterans For Peace—Maine Chapter. Mr. Bussell served in the United States Army from 1959-1979. Mr. Bussell served as Assistant Executive Director to the Children of War rescue project from 1995-98. He is active in the Plowshares Support Group, which provides support for a group of nuns currently serving Federal prison sentences for protesting at the Bath Iron Works. In August 2003, Mr. Bussell was a speaker at a protest of the launch of an Aegis-class Destroyer at the Bath Iron Works on Nagasaki Remembrance Day. This event was likely the subject of surveillance by the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the FBI.
- 11. **Margaret** "Peggy" Akers is a Nurse Practitioner and is the Vice President of Veterans For Peace—Maine Chapter. Ms. Akers served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1972. Ms. Akers is an outspoken critic of current U.S. foreign policy, and she was a featured speaker at the "March for Truth" in Augusta in March, 2004, which commemorated the one-year anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. This event was likely the subject of surveillance by the FBI and possibly the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the FBI. Ms. Akers has also spoken out against U.S. military policy at events in Blue Hill, Portland, and Kennebunkport. Ms. Akers's activism was the subject of a profile by Bill Nemitz in the Portland Press Herald in April 2004. Ms. Akers participated in a protest of the launch of an Aegis-class Destroyer at the Bath Iron Works on Nagasaki Remembrance Day in August 2003. This event was likely the subject of surveillance by the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the FBI.

- 12. **Stephen Wessler** is the Director of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence and is a board member of the Maine Civil Liberties Union.
- 13. **Jonah Fertig** is a coordinator of the People's Free Space. In addition, Mr. Fertig helps direct the "Victory Gardens" project in Maine, which uses community gardening to promote sustainable agriculture, self-determination, and community gardening. Mr. Fertig's environmentalism and vocal activism in support of prisoner awareness has likely brought him under FBI surveillance.
- 14. **Bernard "Bernie" Huebner** is board member of the Maine Civil Liberties Union. In 2002, Mr. Huebner acting as spokesperson for opponents of a mandatory fingerprinting requirement for public school teachers, which resulted in numerous encounters with the FBI. Mr. Huebner resigned his teaching position in protest of the fingerprinting requirement. In 2003, Mr. Huebner organized the successful efforts to convince the Waterville City Council to adopt a resolution opposing the war in Iraq.
- 15. **Tom Ewell** is the Executive Director of the Maine Council of Churches, a position he has held since 1986, and has helped with the planning and organization of numerous peace rallies and demonstrations across Maine to promote an end to militarism as an instrument of foreign policy. A member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), Mr. Ewell is also actively involved with the American Friends Service Committee, which has come under FBI surveillance in Illinois and elsewhere. Mr. Ewell serves on the Maine Board of Prison Visitors, the Maine Interfaith Mentoring Program and the Communities for Children; recently he served as president of the Maine Coalition to End Homelessness. As a result of his involvement in the planning and implementation of anti-war demonstrations, Mr. Ewell has likely been the subject of surveillance by the FBI and possibly the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the FBI.