

Anti-Nuke Activists Freed from U.S. Prison After Convictions Vacated



Nashville, May 19 (RHC)-- Three peace activists who infiltrated a nuclear weapons site have been freed from prison after their convictions were overturned. In 2012, the self-described "Transform Now Plowshares" broke into the Y-12 nuclear facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. They cut holes in the fence to paint peace slogans and threw blood on the wall, revealing major security flaws at the facility, which processes uranium for hydrogen bombs.

The three were convicted of damaging a national defense site. Two of the activists, Michael Walli and Greg Boertje-Obed, received five-year sentences, while 84-year-old nun Megan Rice received nearly three years.

After two years behind bars, a federal appeals court recently vacated their convictions, saying the prosecution failed to prove the three intended to "injure the national defense." All three have now been released until their re-sentencing on a remaining charge of damaging government property. Defense lawyers say they have likely already served more time than they are set to receive.

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