

*Keep Space For Peace This Week: Oct 3-10*

# Stand Up For Life: Your Conscience Will Guide You

According to humanitarian law and common sense, war-making governments and corporations ought **never attack civilians** and must consequently never use weapons that do not distinguish between civilians and military targets. (ICJ Op., § 78). The Geneva Conventions prohibit all people from using weapons that cause uncontrollable effects [1977 Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions, Art. 51(4)]. Furthermore, “If an envisaged use of weapons would not meet the requirements of humanitarian law, a threat to engage in such use would also be contrary to that law” (ICJ Op., § 78). Since any use of a nuclear weapon would cause indiscriminate harm and unnecessary suffering, the threat of such use is illegal. What is Lockheed-Martin's role in nuclear WMDs and their communication systems?

**Lockheed-Martin builds many satellites.** A few examples follow. Milstar communications satellites (one was put in orbit during April 2003 – supporting the Iraq war) allow military commanders to use violence (including lethal WMDs) in the most destructive manner. “Keyhole” and “Lacrosse” spy satellites show those commanders where to apply that destruction. These satellites also play a pivotal role in the deployment of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), which represent a new step toward dehumanized robot warfare and have killed many civilians in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

LM also makes submarine-launched nuclear missiles, known as the “Trident”, roaming the seas with the support of high-tech communication systems. The use of the Trident system is unlawful per se because each submarine has the destructive capacity and THREAT of : effects which are indiscriminate and uncontrollable, even when targeted at military objects. “It is prohibited to cause unnecessary suffering to combatants; it is accordingly prohibited to use weapons causing them such harm or uselessly aggravating their suffering” [ICJ Op., § 78; 1907 Hague Convention IV, Art. 23(e)].

**Pray to end this violence  
Take nonviolent action  
to prevent the violence**

Therefore, dear employees of LM, remember that

**YOU HAVE THE ABILITY** to exercise your conscience regarding high-tech satellite communications work which affects civilians worldwide.

**YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY** to unplug or otherwise resist work that supports the development, building and maintenance of nuclear threats.

**YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY** to **PREVENT** the building and maintenance, research and development of **WMDs**.

Indiscriminate weapons manifest the heart of violence. None of us needs to participate in such violence. Our tax dollars pay for the missiles manufactured at this Lockheed plant, so taxpayers may follow their consciences by supporting the efforts of employees and others attempting to stop the production of WMDs and military satellite communication systems.

***Participate in PERSONAL COMMUNICATION, not domination.***