

# Hancock Nativity Tableau Charges Dismissed

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CHARGES DISMISSED AGAINST 12/23 "NATIVITY FOUR" HANCOCK REAPER  
DRONE PROTESTERS FOLLOWING LAST WEEK'S JURY ACQUITTAL OF THE  
"BIG BOOKS" HANCOCK DRONE PROTESTERS

In a surprise move, DeWitt Town Court Judge David Gideon dismissed charges against all four\* Upstate Drone Action activists protesting the hunter/killer MQ9 Reaper drones piloted over Afghanistan by the 174th Attack Wing of the NY National Guard at Hancock AFB just north of Syracuse NY.

The four had staged a December 23, 2016 "Nativity tableau" in front of Hancock's main gate, at 6001 East Molloy Road in the Town of DeWitt. The four protesters were charged with trespass, disorderly conduct and obstruction of government administration. (OGA). OGA is a misdemeanor requiring a jury and carrying up to a year's sentence.

Judge Gideon explained last night's dismissal by noting that the accusatory documents provided by Hancock repeatedly referred to the 12/23 "Nativity" arrests as occurring on Federal property – which the Judge declared outside his jurisdiction.

In a three-day trial culminating on March 2, 2017, also before Judge Gideon, a six-person jury, after deliberating about a half hour, acquitted all defendants of the same charges for

their "Big Books" action at Hancock on March 19, 2015

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[[nativity acquittal press release]]

[UpstateDroneAction.org](http://UpstateDroneAction.org)

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## **CONNECTING THE DOTS... NO BAN, NO WALL, NO KILLER DRONES at Hancock Airport/Air Base**

Thank God for the great crowd of 1,000 protesting Trump's Ban of Immigrants at Syracuse International Airport, as thousands flooded airports all across the US last Saturday night, Jan. 28th, when the ban first went into effect!

We have a beautiful foto of a member of the Afghan Youth Peace Team with a poster saying "We Wish to Live Without War". The youth sent a bolt of the sky blue fabric to US drone activists to wear as blue scarves to remember their wish for blue skies...skies safe without killer and surveillance drones hovering over them and assassinating them causing people to

flee and become refugees.

Ironically on the other side of the same Hancock Airport campus of Syracuse is Hancock Air National Guard Drone Base. Many locals are not aware that the US assassinates people from Hancock Drone Base. Our US drone policy of execution without due process is a part of the driving force for the refugee crisis throughout the seven countries Trump has listed in his ban of people from the Middle East.

Lets work together to connect the dots....drone assassinations cause people to flee...who become refugees... who need asylum in other countries...countries who shut their borders to refugees...like the US under Trump.

I invite that great crowd of 1,000 to come around the corner to the other entrance of the same airport campus...to the Hancock Drone Base on East Malloy Rd, in DeWitt, East Syracuse, and demand that Hancock end their drone killings with MQ9-Reaper drones. We violate our US Constitution and International Law when we kill with drones.

We, who gather, would be giving a message of peace to the world and to the parents and children of the Middle East, saying "You can stay and live in peace in your own homes. You don't have to flee the drones and become refugees. We, too, wish that you live without war."

Please join us as we continue to say #NOKILLERDRONES Hancock Air National Guard Base -4:15-5pm 1st Tues. every month @ 6001 East Molloy Road, Mattydale, NY 13211.

You are welcome to attend the trial of the [Big Books](#) defendants, who were arrested March 10, 2015.

They are charged with Trespass, Disorderly Conduct and Obstructing Government Administration

A jury trial is scheduled for:

5 PM, February 28th, 2017

@ DeWitt Town Court

5400 Butternut Dr, East Syracuse, NY 13057

**Codefendants** in  
the trial  
(from the  
left): Ed  
Kinane  
(Syracuse,  
NY), Fr. Bill  
Pickard  
(Scranton, PA),  
Brian Hynes  
(Bronx, NY),  
Daniel Burns  
(Ithaca, NY)  
and James Ricks



(Ithaca, NY) on the far right, Attorney's Jonathan Wallace and Daire Irwin of Buffalo, NY. (2nd and 3rd from the right) will advise them.

For info call: [\(607\) 280-8797](tel:6072808797) -Mary Anne Grady Flores

[upstatedroneaction.org](http://upstatedroneaction.org)

#dirtywars

#loveistheonlysolution

#groundthedronesandendthewars