The submission made when the United States of America was expected to attend the 109th Session of the Human Rights Committee has not been re-edited for the postponed examination at the 110th Session. It is however appropriate to give a brief update on the two ongoing cases of conscientious objectors from the armed forces.

As far as André Shephard’s asylum application is concerned, there have in fact at the time of writing been no further developments. A date has not yet been set for the hearing of his case at the European Court of Justice.

On 4th November Kimberly Rivera submitted to Fort Carson Senior Commander Brigadier Michael A. Bills an application that he use his clemency authority to grant a 45-day reduction in her prison sentence on humanitarian grounds, in order to allow her to give birth in a civilian hospital. Despite letters of support from Amnesty International and other organisations, as well as a large number of individuals, no response was made to this appeal. On 26th November, she gave birth to a son, Matthew, at Balboa (military) Medical Centre in San Diego, California. Within days the son she had started to breast-feed while in hospital was left in the care of his father while she was transferred back to the detention facility at Miramar to complete her sentence. She did not see her husband and son again until she was finally released on 13th December. (Information extracted from couragetoresist.org.)