

END THE WARS

BRING THE TROOPS HOME

AMERICAN COSTS

\$725 billion spent on the war in Iraq since 3/09/03

\$273 billion spent on the war in Afghanistan since 10/07/01

\$5,000 per second

\$2,100 spent per soldier per day, \$775,000 per year

\$12 billion per month

5,485 U.S. troops killed & at least 37,864 troops wounded

\$500 billion veteran medical costs

287,790 (18.5%) filed veteran disability claims

320,000 (15-19%) veterans with Traumatic Brain Injuries

300,000 (18%) veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

580 soldier suicides since 2001

133 vet suicides in 2008 alone

SURGE DIPLOMACY, NOT TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

Another 45,000 soldiers are scheduled for deployment within months, which would raise the total U.S military presence to about 100,000 soldiers.

The cost of the Afghan surge will cost \$5.5 billion alone for fiscal year 2009.

While pouring \$100 million a day into military operations, the U.S. has pledged only \$10.4 billion in developmental aid. U.S. policy must be reoriented towards assistance led by Afghans.

There is no viable military solution towards combating terror. A 2008 RAND Corporation study states that 7% of terrorist organizations give up violent activities due to military defeat.

ACT NOW:

SUPPORT H.R. 5015 and S3197

Please call your congressperson and Senator toll free at the U.S. Capitol Switchboard, (866) 220-0044, and ask for support of HR 5015/S3197 which require the Sec. of Defense by no later than 1/1/11 to outline an "exit plan" for Afghanistan.

AFGHAN COSTS

2,000-8,000 direct deaths

20,000 indirect deaths

3.7 million refugees remain in neighboring countries

50% of Afghans live below the government's poverty line

40-80% are unemployed

Infant mortality: 1,600 deaths per 100,000 births since June 2009

70% of the population is under-nourished

54% of children are chronically malnourished

87% of Afghans have no access to clean drinking water



IRAQI COSTS

1,200,000 Iraqi deaths

2,700,000 internally displaced

2,100,000 refugees

2,000,000 war widows

5,000,000 orphans

43% live in absolute poverty

27-60% are unemployed

28% of children are chronically malnourished

63% of homes have no functional sewers

70% of Iraqis without access to clean drinking water

40% of professionals have left the country since 2003



TO "SAVE" AFGHANISTAN, DON'T DESTABILIZE PAKISTAN

HOW MANY MILITANTS CREATED FOR EVERY CIVILIAN KILLED?

Since 2006, 60 missile attacks have been conducted by Predator drones against Pakistan. The Pakistani government estimates that airstrikes have killed 701 people, 687 of whom were civilians. Since 2006 only 14 terrorist leaders have been killed. Since Obama took office the number of civilians killed has risen from 32 deaths per month in 2008 to 45 deaths per month in 2009.

This year 152 people have been killed by drone attacks. However, only two of these deaths have been linked to al-Qaeda. U.S. airstrikes therefore result in 50 civilian deaths for every al-Qaeda militant killed, a precision rate of 2%. Analysts fear that U.S. drone attacks will radicalize locals who support extremism.

U.S. airstrikes against Pakistan strengthens the Taliban and weakens the central government, further destabilizing the nuclear-armed nation of 173 million people which has experienced 5 military coups and 4 wars with its neighbor nuclear-armed India.



IT'S OIL, OIL, OIL!

For years, clear-eyed observers have said that the principal reason for the war was not WMDs, but Iraq's location over the world's second largest pool of oil. As the quip went, "What's Iraq doing sitting on our oil sands?"

Now the facts are out in the open. The US is pushing an oil agreement in Iraq, which the Iraqi government has refused to pass—not due to disputes over the distribution of oil profits among Shiites, Sunnis, and Kurds, but because the US is pushing a scheme of highway robbery. In contracts with other oil-rich nations (ie. Saudi Arabia), operating oil companies are paid for their services and granted a share of profits, but the state maintains ownership of its oil. The contracts proposed in Iraq would grant 75 percent of ownership to the corporations, leaving Iraq with only 25 percent ownership of its own resources.

No wonder the Iraqis have balked—but they have been forced into partial surrender, as no-bid contracts were recently awarded to Chevron, Exxon-Mobil, BP, and Shell for repairing Iraq's oil fields. This puts the companies in prime position for the next push on the ownership question when the oil starts flowing. Can Iraq continue to resist?

We say, no more blood for oil!

COLD WAR REDUX?

There are large oil deposits in Russia, and various countries which split from the former Soviet Union. The US has established military bases in the "Stans"—Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, etc.—ostensibly for support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and our companies are pumping oil. We have built a pipeline from the Caspian Sea to Tbilisi, Georgia, and a second line ending in Turkey, on the Mediterranean. The lines were deliberately built to bypass Russia, our clear competition.

Add US missiles in Poland and sensors in the Czech Republic, as well as pressure to extend NATO to countries on the Russian border, and we have the makings of confrontation between the two superpowers—a revival of the Cold War. With our armed forces stretched thin in Iraq and Afghanistan, the threat of nuclear war is very real.

THE NUCLEAR THREAT

The US and Russia have hundreds of nuclear weapons aimed at each other. Under Cold War launch-on-warning procedures, American crews have under 12 minutes to analyze suspicious satellite or radar signals, issue warnings up the chain of command to the President, and launch. The Russians have even less time. False alarms are frequent, sometimes occurring more than once a day. The US must lead the world in taking the following steps:

- ◆ **De-alert.** Remove all weapons from high-alert status.
- ◆ **No first use.** Make legally binding commitments to No First Use of nuclear weapons.
- ◆ **No new nuclear weapons.**
- ◆ **Ban nuclear testing forever.**
- ◆ **Control nuclear material.**
- ◆ **Nuclear weapons convention.** Commence phased, irreversible elimination of nuclear weapons.
- ◆ **Resources for peace.** Re-allocate resources from the billions currently spent on nuclear arms to alleviate poverty, prevent and cure disease, eliminate hunger, and expand educational opportunities worldwide.

*Text courtesy of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Sign the petition at www.wagingpeace.org*

NUCLEAR ARSENALS

Russia	15,000	<i>Estimates from</i>
USA	10,000	<i>National Resources</i>
France	348	<i>Defense Council</i>
Britain	200	<i>Notebook</i>
China	200	
Israel	75-200	<i>All numbers are</i>
Pakistan	60	<i>approximate. Totals</i>
India	40-50	<i>include entire</i>
N. Korea	5-12*	<i>nuclear stockpiles.</i>

**Maximum number possible from North Korea's estimated plutonium stockpile*

HR-1045—AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP

A bill, HR-1045, is before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, with 31 cosponsors. It calls for the reduction of US and Russian nuclear arsenals to 1,000 deployed and 3,000 total per country by 2015. It further stipulates that the financial savings from this reduction would be redirected to the Nunn-Lugar program, which would monitor the dismantling of Soviet nuclear stockpiles. Additionally, \$6.5 billion would go to "child survival, hunger, and universal education" programs to address the root causes of terrorism.

Only two of the 31 cosponsors—Christopher Smith and Mike Ferguson—are from New Jersey. Call your congressman today at 1-800-828-0498 to urge them to cosponsor this important bill.

SAVE THE DATE! *New Jersey Peace Action's annual soup luncheon on November 15 will feature keynote speaker Antonia Juhasz, who will discuss her new book, The Tyranny of Oil. The luncheon will be held at Columbia High School in Maplewood. Please call 973-851-2136 or visit www.njpeaceaction.org for information and reservations.*

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