Two December Protests Against Bush War Policies Go Forward Undeterred by Snow and Efforts to Sideline Our Message

Dec. 1, Whippany— When George W. Bush came to the Hanover Marriott in Whippany on Dec. 1 for a \$2000-a-plate fundraiser, at least 200 demonstrators showed up to greet him, despite snow and rush-hour traffic. NJ Peace Action and the Morristown Peace Vigil organized the protest, which drew activists from as far as Monmouth and Mercer Counties. Though local police had informed us we would be allowed to demonstrate on the hotel's front lawn, in sight of Route 10 motorists, when we arrived we were relegated to a parking lot away from the road.

Motorists might not have seen us but NJ 12 and Telemundo were there to witness our call for a new foreign policy: an end to pre-emptive war, cooperation with international treaties and movement toward a world without nuclear weapons. Demonstrators chanted "We want our democracy back," "Democracy for Sale, \$2000 a plate," "Money for Schools, Not For War" and "Bush Lies, Who Dies?" We demanded that the Bush Administration be held accountable for the illegal invasion of Iraq and the continuing deaths of American soldiers and Iraqi civilians.

The attempt to sideline us was consistent with the experience of other protesters around the country. This September, the ACLU of Philadelphia filed a lawsuit against the Secret Service's establishment of so-called "protest zones," areas designated for the exercise of free speech, out of sight and out of mind. NJ Peace Action and the Morristown Peace Vigil's experiences will be added to this lawsuit.



BRAVING THE BLIZZARD

Left: David Hungerford, Carol Gay, Anna Nelson

Right: Barry Bontempo, Nelson and Gay



Dec. 6, Newark—Four brave peace activists braved blizzard conditions and showed up at Peter Francisco Park for the 3d Annual Peace Train rally.

Barry Bontempo, People's Organization for Progress member David Hungerford and NJPA Board members Anna Nelson and Carol Gay (also a member of NJ Labor Against the War) held an abbreviated rally. They spoke of the human and financial costs of the Iraq War, and the current conditions in Iraq, including the repressive labor practices of the Occupation Authority.

Soup and Civil Rights

"Mother Jones of New Jersey," for her integral role in the effort to link the various peace and justice movements.

Fr. Nickas, who received the Hope Shapiro Bread and Roses Award, accepted it on behalf of all the Catholics and Baptists in the room, prompting applause and laughter.



NJPA board member Terri Suess presents award to Larry Hamm of POP.

PEACE BOUTIQUE

Proclaim peace AND support NJPA.

Visit the NJPA office or web site, www.njpeaceaction.org, to buy books, t-shirts, NJPA soup mugs, buttons, bumperstickers, and other peace items.