

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH AND VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD B. CHENEY

WHEREAS, we as American citizens and community leaders are outraged by the immoral pursuits of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney through their violation of the United Nations Charterⁱ in launching an illegal war of aggression against Iraq without cause; and,

WHEREAS, their use of fraud in propagandizing the war to the United States Congress and lying to the American public violated the United States Codeⁱⁱ and grossly offended our human sense of decency and morality; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney violated the Geneva Conventions by targeting civilian populationsⁱⁱⁱ as tragically demonstrated during the Shock and Awe Campaign of March 2003 and the ongoing US Occupation, resulting in the deaths of one million Iraqi civilians and the displacement of four million; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney's abdication of their moral and ethical obligations as world leaders has resulted in the deaths of 4,021 US soldiers and 30,000^{iv} wounded, while many veterans struggle to receive adequate care for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and other combat-related illnesses^v; and,

WHEREAS, Suicides among active-duty soldiers in 2007 reached their highest level since the Army began keeping such records with twenty percent more soldiers having killed themselves in 2007 than in 2006^{vi}; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney are in violation of their international commitment against using toxic weapons^{vii}, including white phosphorous, and uranium munitions^{viii}, that cause harm outside the field of battle and whose lethality has been proven to be detrimental to people and land beyond the timeframe of battle; and,

WHEREAS, their disregard for the Geneva Conventions and military law that denounce the use of torture has resulted in the indefinite detention of people without charge or due process of law, suspending the Writ of Habeas Corpus^{ix}, and subjecting them to the practices of torture^x in Guantanamo Bay, Abu Graib, and other detention camps, many in unknown locations; and,

WHEREAS, they have violated of the US Constitution in many ways including through the suspension of Civil Rights and Liberties including rights of privacy^{xi} against search and seizure of one's property, papers, and effects which is guaranteed in the Fourth Amendment of the US Constitution; and widespread wiretapping^{xii} of the phone calls and emails of Americans without a warrant; and,

WHEREAS, the cost of their Occupation of Iraq has totaled \$600 billion and is projected to cost \$5 trillion in total economic cost by the year 2017 (\$3 trillion in combat operations)^{xiii}, and has caused an economic crisis here at home, while affecting the most vulnerable people in our society; and,

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 4 of the US Constitution states that the ‘The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors’; and, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the board of directors of the Whatcom Peace & Justice Center, on April 8, 2008, calls for the Impeachment of President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney; and,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Whatcom Peace & Justice Center calls on all American citizens to speak out against these injustices and demand that the US Congress hold Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney accountable through the process of Impeachment; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Washington’s 2nd Congressional District Representative Rick Larsen; Washington State Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray; and to House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers with the request that he immediately initiate Impeachment proceedings.

PASSED by the board of directors this 8th day of April 2008.

Duane Jager, President
Michael Biesheuvel, Treasurer
Rev. Gary Grafwallner
Amy Englesberg

Tiffany Schoessler, Vice President
Larry Enriquez, Secretary
Dotty Dale
Peter Drewes

Marie Marchand, Executive Director

ⁱ No. 82, Principle VI, ‘Crimes Against Peace’, of International Law Recognized in the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and in the Judgment of the Tribunal. Adopted by the International Law Commission of the United Nations, 1950.

ⁱⁱ Title 18 United States Code, Section 371, ‘Conspiracy to commit offense or to defraud United States’

ⁱⁱⁱ Part I, Article 4, Fourth Geneva Convention.

^{iv} <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/casualty.pdf>

^v *Soldiers Face Neglect, Frustration At Army’s Top Medical Facility*, The Washington Post, February 18, 2007.

^{vi} *Soldier Suicides at Record Level: Increase Linked to Long Wars, Lack of Army Resources*, The Washington Post, January 31, 2008.

^{vii} ‘Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.’ Ratified by the US on March 26, 1975.

^{viii} Spreadsheet from the Chief, Army Medical Surveillance Activity, US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, to OSAGWI, Subject: "DU-related Nephritis.xls," April 25, 2000.

^{ix} Military Commissions Act of 2006, Section (e) (1) and (2).

^x *CIA destroyed video of ‘waterboarding’ al-Qaida detainees*, The Guardian, December 7, 2007.

^{xi} Presidential Executive Order, July 17, 2007

^{xii} Admitted by President Bush on December 16, 2005 in a televised radio address.

^{xiii} Dr. Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize winning economist. *The Three Trillion Dollar War: the true cost of the Iraq conflict*.