

Green Party opposes war with Iraq

The Green Party of the United States adopted a statement (excerpts below) in opposition to U.S. plans to invade Iraq on Sept. 19, 2002.

The Green Party of the United States is adamantly opposed to President George W. Bush's plans to continue and expand military operations against Iraq. The Bush administration claims the invasion of Iraq would improve the security of citizens of the United States, but it would do just the opposite. A U.S. war on Iraq would undo decades of progress in international conflict resolution and make the world a more dangerous place for everyone.

The United States should not undertake military operations against Iraq for the following reasons:

- ▶ An attack on Iraq would be illegal.
- ▶ Peaceful means for addressing the possibility that Iraq is developing weapons of mass destruction have not been exhausted.
- ▶ Allies in the region of Iraq are opposed to the U.S. plans for an invasion.
- ▶ The overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime through a U.S. invasion is unlikely to lead to a democratic government.
- ▶ There is no evidence that the security and safety of the United States are directly threatened by Iraq.
- ▶ A war against Iraq would be immensely costly at a time when resources are desperately needed for the eradication of poverty both domestically and globally.

We therefore urge our fellow citizens of the United States to raise their voices against the U.S. invasion of Iraq. We must encourage the President and Congress to build a true foundation for peace and security in these ways:

- ▶ Act in concert with the United Nations to address any potential security risks posed by Saddam Hussein.
- ▶ Shift investment from military spending to address the basic needs of humanity, both within the United States and around the globe: clean air and water, access to education and health care, adequate housing and transportation, and civil liberties.

In sum, the Green Party's key value of non-violence implies that war is neither an effective nor justifiable means for resolving disputes between nations. The United States is in a position of unprecedented economic and military power in the global scene. We should use that power to work toward security and peace through justice, rather than through intimidation and military destruction.

Full text: www.greenpartyus.org/press/pr_09_24_02.html

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GREEN PAGES

Green Party opposes war in campaigns nationwide

The Green Party is proud to join with all efforts to prevent a U.S. led war in Iraq. Today's protests in Washington, across the country, and around the world are just a start to a movement to reflect the will of people that this is not a just and justifiable war.

Many Green Party members will be participating in these and other protests, but our anti-war activities spread much farther. The Green Party has passed a resolution opposed to the war (excerpts on the other side) and is running more than 500 candidates for public office this year, many of whom are making opposition to this war a keynote of their campaign. With Democratic Party leadership supporting the war and undercutting those Democrats who are opposing it, the Green Party is the most prominent political party taking a clear and consistent stance against a unilateral (or any) war in Iraq.

These Green Party candidates are taking this message to voters and the media in a majority of the states, but face the obstacles that we always face: Exclusion from debates and a lack of coverage by the media. But grassroots campaigns can overcome these hurdles — if you help.

When you return home from these protests, look at the candidates running where you live. These Green Party candidates need your vote, but they really need your volunteer support to get the message out. There are only two weeks left before election day and they need every extra volunteer hour. Please go to the Web site below to search for candidates in your area, or call our national office toll-free at 866-41GREEN (866-414-7336) to find out how you can help send a message both today and on Nov. 5.

Green Party candidates: www.greens.org/elections

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