

*Peace and Justice Works*  
*PO Box 42456*  
*Portland, OR 97242*  
*(503) 236-3065*

To: Governor John Kitzhaber  
160 State Capitol  
900 Court Street  
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047 (by e-mail and postal mail)

April 10, 2014

Governor Kitzhaber

We are writing to follow up on the letter we sent to you 15 months ago asking you to keep the Oregon National Guard from deploying to Afghanistan. It is our understanding that about 950 Oregonians are still preparing to head into the occupied nation sometime this summer(1), despite the fact that the President has said he's willing to withdraw all American troops(2). We therefore repeat our now-urgent request that you, as Commander in Chief of the Guard, keep our men and women home to aid in search and rescue, firefighting, and other important functions that are not possibly in violation of international law.

The 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force which we cited in our 2013 letter has been called "The Most Dangerous Sentence In U.S. History" for the unlimited powers it has given the federal executive branch to launch military strikes around the globe(3).

We have waited patiently through the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions to hear your thoughts on this matter. We know that these 1000 Oregonians leaving will impact our state economy.(4) We have seen more Oregonians die in the line of duty in the ongoing military action in Afghanistan.

We urge you, Governor Kitzhaber, to keep Oregon's Guard in Oregon.

Thank you,

Dan Handelman  
for  
Peace and Justice Works

Leah Bolger  
for  
Women's International Peace and Freedom (WILPF) branch, Corvallis, OR

Nancy Greenman  
for  
Albany Peace Seekers

Bart Bolger  
for  
Veterans for Peace Linus Pauling Chapter 132 (Corvallis)

Clayton Knight  
for  
Veterans for Peace Chapter 72 Portland

Michael Carrigan  
for  
Community Alliance of Lane County

Kelly Campbell  
for  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Cara Shufelt  
for  
Rural Organizing Project

John Grueschow  
for  
War Resisters League-Portland

Geraldine Foote  
for  
St. Luke Lutheran Veterans Bridge Fund  
and  
St. Luke Lutheran Peace & Justice Group (Portland)

Bill Glassmire  
for  
Alternatives to War-Corvallis Daily Vigil since Oct 2001

LoErna Simpson  
for  
Active for Peace & Justice at First United Methodist (Corvallis)

Valerie White  
for  
Corvallis Raging Grannies

Michael Taylor, father of Iraq combat Veteran,  
Military Families Speak Out\*

John and Pat Schwiebert, Bruce and Ann Huntwork  
for  
18th Ave Peace House, Portland

Malcolm Chaddock  
for  
Individuals For Justice (Portland)

Max White, Country Specialist, Indonesia and East Timor,  
Amnesty International USA\*

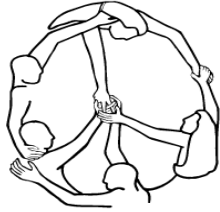
(1) Oregon Guard soldiers continue to prepare for Afghanistan deployment this  
year, Oregonlive, February 15, 2014.

(2) Obama makes it official: U.S. planning for full Afghan withdrawal, Yahoo News, February 25, 2014.

(3) 60 Words And A War Without End: The Untold Story Of The Most Dangerous  
Sentence In U.S. History, Gregory D. Johnsen Michael Hastings Fellow, January 14, 2014.

(4) Estimated impact of a 1000 person deployment in 1994 was \$10.5 million, "Returning Home from Iraq and  
Afghanistan: Assesment of Readjustment Needs of Veterans, Service Members and Their Famlies, The National  
Academies Press, 2013, at pp. 331-332.

\*organizations listed for identification purposes only



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Copy of  
2013 letter

To: Governor John Kitzhaber  
160 State Capitol  
900 Court Street  
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047 (by e-mail and postal mail)

January 10, 2013

Governor Kitzhaber

We are writing you today as organizations who, in 2009, worked with the legislature to keep the Oregon National Guard from deploying into undeclared military conflict zones in Iraq and Afghanistan, hoping you will exercise your authority of the Commander in Chief of the Guard to keep them from the planned deployment to Afghanistan in 2014.

Over 5500 people signed the petition supporting our legislation, known as HB 2556, and nearly 50 organizations supported the effort. We had pledges from at least 30 members of the House to support the legislation, but it was never brought to the floor.

The legal framework of the legislation was that the Authorization for Use of Military Force of September 18, 2001, which launched the "War on Terror," is overly broad and has allowed the United States to occupy Afghanistan and attack Somalia, Pakistan, and elsewhere, invade Iraq, as well as enabling the opening of the prison camp at Guantanamo, the PATRIOT act, military tribunals, and other affronts to human, civil and constitutional rights. The 2001 AUMF has been renewed annually by Presidents Bush and Obama, and has no provision to end the "war," a termination date nor a process or procedure to determine when the authorization should terminate.

Recognizing that in 1986, Congress passed and the President signed the "Montgomery Amendment," which provides that a governor cannot withhold consent with regard to active duty outside the United States because of any objection to the location, purpose, type, or schedule of such duty, we hold that the President must act pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States. The War Powers Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-148) specifically limits the power of the President of the United States to wage war without the approval of Congress. the 2001 AUMF could provide for the National Guard to be deployed indefinitely.

Deployment of Oregon National Guard members in Afghanistan has resulted, and continues to result, in significant harm to guard members and their families, including death and injury, loss of time together, and financial hardship.

While the bill at that time focused on the then-upcoming deployment of the Guard to Iraq, we feel it is your duty to ensure that the request by the federal government for Oregon's sons and daughters to be called into harm's way are lawful and Constitutional.

We concur with the Eugene Register-Guard, which wrote in its editorial on December 4, "The Oregon Army National Guard's 41st Infantry Brigade Combat team, with a battalion based in Springfield, is scheduled to deploy 1,800 soldiers to Afghanistan in 2014. It's Oregon's second-largest overseas deployment since World War II -- and it is a deployment that can be avoided if Obama heeds the advice of the U.S. Senate and decides that the time has come, not for sending more troops to Afghanistan, but for bringing the 66,000 who are there now home as quickly as possible."

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Dan Handelman  
for  
Peace and Justice Works

Adele Kubein  
for  
Military Families Speak Out of Oregon

Copy of  
2013 letter

Bart Bolger  
for  
Veterans for Peace Chapter 132 (Corvallis)

Clayton Knight  
for  
Veterans for Peace Chapter 72 (Portland)

Jim Woods  
for  
Rogue Valley Veterans for Peace Chapter 156 (Grants Pass)

Michael Carrigan  
for  
Community Alliance of Lane County

Allen Hallmark  
for  
Citizens for Peace & Justice (Medford/Rogue Valley)

Herbert Rothschild  
for  
Peace House (Ashland)

Peter Bergel  
for  
Oregon PeaceWorks

Kelly Campbell  
for  
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

John Grueschow  
for  
War Resisters League--Portland Chapter

John Schweibert  
for  
18th Avenue Peace House (Portland)

Rev. W. J. Mark Knutson  
for  
Augustana Lutheran Church (Portland)

Geraldine Foote, St. Luke Lutheran Peace and Justice Advocacy Group\*

Trudy Cooper, American Iranian Friendship Council\*

\*organizations listed for identification purposes only

reference: Read excerpts from our August 11, 2008 letter to Governor Kulongoski at  
<http://www.pjw.info/kulongoskiletter08summary.html>