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**For Immediate Release**

Event: Friday Rally Reviews the Lies told by  
George W. Bush to defraud the country into  
the criminal war and occupation in Iraq.

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Date: Friday, June 18th, 2004

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square

**Portland's Friday Rally and March for Peace Reviews the Lies Told by George W. Bush to Defraud the Country into the Criminal War and Occupation in Iraq.**

Friday's 5:00 p.m. PPRC rally at Pioneer Courthouse Square will return to the record of lies and distortions used by the Bush Administration to defraud the country into the war and occupation in Iraq. "The recent 'revelations' from the 9/11 commission once again corroborate what the anti-war community has been saying from the beginning, and that's that Saddam Hussein had nothing whatsoever to do with the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and that Iraq under Hussein was not supporting the work of al Qaeda," said William Seaman, a volunteer with the PPRC. "If you want to discover the crucial links to Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda, you have to begin with the role played by the Reagan administration in creating this monster, both by direct material support and by allowing the Saudi royal family to nurture and finance bin Laden's activities in Afghanistan." A majority of Americans mistakenly believe that Saddam Hussein played a role in the 9/11 attacks.

The New York Times quotes a 9/11 commission staff report saying "We have no credible evidence that Iraq and Al Qaeda cooperated on attacks against the United States ..." In addition, the report states that "Bin Laden is said to have requested space to establish training camps, as well as assistance in procuring weapons, but Iraq apparently never responded." The report acknowledges some evidence of contacts between Iraq and al Qaeda but concludes that "they do not appear to have resulted in a collaborative relationship."<sup>1</sup> This finding is sharply at odds with the way the connections were characterized by the Bush Administration leading up to the attack on Iraq.

"This disgraceful chapter in US history can be summed up in four simple words: 'Bush Lied, Thousands Died'; the only question is whether the American people will act to hold his administration responsible for these crimes," said Seaman. "More to the point, will the American people do what is urgently needed to prevent many more deaths and injuries, and that is to demand a withdrawal of US troops, and a return of Iraq's resources, institutions and economy back to the people of Iraq."

1. "Panel Finds No Qaeda-Iraq Tie; Describes a Wider Plot for 9/11", by Philip Shenon and Christopher Marquis, New York Times, June 17, 2004