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For Immediate Release

Event: Friday rally and march reviews the human costs of Bush's criminal war, highlights *Lancet* study estimating 100,000 Iraqis killed by US attack.

Date: Friday, November 5th, 2004

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square

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Friday rally and march reviews the human costs of Bush's criminal war, highlights *Lancet* study estimating 100,000 Iraqis killed by US attack.

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition's* Friday rally and march turns again to the human costs of the US war on Iraq, condemning the Bush administration for its murder of upwards of 100,000 Iraqis. "We had hoped that Bush would be removed from office through the vote on Tuesday, but the failure to oust this bloody regime only emphasizes the depth and breadth of their crimes and the need to continue our struggle to bring this band of mass murderers to account," said Mikel Clayhold, a PPRC volunteer. "The US public was defrauded into supporting the war crime of Bush's invasion and occupation of Iraq, and a large part of this country continues to be held by the enforced ignorance and outright lies that are the stock and trade of this administration and the complicit commercial media."

Clayhold said the peer-reviewed study on Iraqi war deaths, which appeared in the British medical journal, the *Lancet*, confirmed the worst fears of people working against the US war and occupation. The study was designed by Les Roberts and Gilbert Burnham of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Richard Garfield of Columbia University, and Riyadh Lafta and Jamal Kudhairi of the Al-Mustansiriya University College of Medicine in Baghdad. In their summary, they report that "[m]aking conservative assumptions, we think that about 100000 excess deaths, or more have happened since the 2003 invasion of Iraq," and that "[v]iolence accounted for most of the excess deaths and air strikes from coalition forces accounted for most violent deaths." The study is available at the *Lancet* website at: www.thelancet.com

"Questions remain as to the legitimacy of the vote count in Tuesday's election process, but what is certain is that the current occupant of the White House is guilty of war crimes in Iraq and beyond," said William Seaman, another PPRC volunteer. "It is our responsibility to create a genuine democracy here in the US, and part of that struggle will be ending the illegal and criminal occupation in Iraq and bringing the Bush administration criminals to justice here at home."