

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

Event: TAX DAY ACTION: PPRC Friday Rally hosted by Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance, redirects withheld taxes to community organizations, welcomes speaker on Haiti.

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Date: Friday, April 15th, 2005

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square

**TAX DAY ACTION: Friday Rally hosted by *Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance*, redirects taxes to community organizations, welcomes speaker on Haiti.**

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition*'s Friday rally and march at Pioneer Courthouse Square will be co-hosted by the *Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance*. "This week Americans are busy filling out tax forms and wondering why we're spending billions of tax dollars on a criminal war and occupation while our schools close down for lack of funds and plans are made for looting the country's retirement insurance system," said William Seaman, a volunteer with PPRC. "To highlight the inequities and morally bankrupt priorities of our government's spending, the *Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance* will be holding a public redirection ceremony to support groups working for peace and social justice."

The several hundred dollars in redirected funds are tax dollars withheld from the federal government by local war tax resisters who feel strongly that their hard-earned dollars should go directly toward meeting human needs rather than supporting the horribly destructive and misguided wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. A representative from each selected organization will be present at the ceremony to accept the checks and to say a few words about their important work. The *Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance* hosts informational workshops throughout the year on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at *Laughing Horse Books* (3652 SE Division, Southeast Portland). They are also a support group for local war tax resisters and other conscientious objectors to war. For more information, please call John Grueschow at (503) 238-0605 or (503) 244-2292.

In addition to the tax day action, the Friday rally welcomes San Francisco-based writer, Ben Terrall, who is visiting Portland this week to discuss the current situation in Haiti. Terrall traveled to Haiti in December as part of a human rights delegation. He will be speaking at the Friday rally and on Saturday at 7:00PM at the Friends Meeting Hall at 4312 SE Stark Street. For more information, please call (503) 344-5078.