

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Event: Friday rally and march take on the US Military Recruiters, gearing up for action highlighting the lies, intimidation and exploitation of high school students for Bush's criminal wars and occupations.

Date: Friday, July 15, 2005

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Broadway & SW Yamhill, downtown Portland

Contacts: William Seaman
(503) 888-7455
PPRC Voicemail
(503) 344-5078
pprcnews@yahoo.com
www.pprc-news.org

Counter-Recruiting Action

Date: Saturday, July 16, 2005

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: 1317 NE Broadway, Portland, Oregon.

Friday rally and march take on Military Recruiters, promote action against recruiter lies, intimidation and exploitation for Bush's wars and occupations.

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition's* Friday rally and march turns to the dishonest and exploitive practices of military recruiters, promoting a weekend action planned for Northeast Portland. "The young people being recruited are the members of our community with fewer options and opportunities and this is certainly apparent from the areas and schools that are the heavy recruitment targets," said Regina Hannon, a volunteer with the PPRC. "Those who pushed us into this illegal and unjust war are content to have those with the least options and opportunities to fight their war for them and God forbid if any of them or their family members would ever be called upon to do this dirty fighting."

In a recent statement, a newly-formed organization, *Oregonians Against the War*, emphasizes that "[t]he entire year's budget for Portland Public Schools is spent in a day and a half in Iraq," and that the community "cannot have the Education, Health Care, and Infrastructure we need here at home and also pay for this War." According to the group, the war in Iraq has cost 176 billion dollars by the middle of June, 2005, and that the bill increases by 1.5 billion each week.

The counter-recruiting action is planned for this Saturday, July 16th, at a military recruiting outlet located at 1317 NE Broadway in northeast Portland. "The fact that military recruiters have been missing their targets for the past several months is a very

hopeful sign for our country,” said William Seaman, another volunteer with PPRC. “This suggests that awareness and understanding of the lies that dragged the US into this war and occupation are breaking through to young people, and that they’re looking for and finding alternatives to a career fighting, killing and dying for Bush’s oil war.”

The rally and march will also focus once again on the tactics of lies and intimidation that were used in the Bush administration’s campaign for war. “The revelations this week of concrete evidence of Karl Rove’s role in leaking the identity of a US intelligence agent only highlights once again how much this war had nothing to do with the security of our communities,” said Seaman. “Rove deliberately burned a CIA agent, an agent whose work was focused precisely on the threat of WMDs, in order to retaliate against Joseph Wilson for revealing Bush’s lies about an alleged Iraqi nuclear program, and to send a clear threat to any other would-be whistle-blowers.” Rove identified the wife of Joseph Wilson as a CIA operative in a conversation with a reporter days before this fact was revealed in a column by conservative writer Robert Novak. Today’s *New York Times* reveals that Rove also spoke with Novak as Novak was preparing the article in which he revealed the identity of Wilson’s wife as an undercover CIA officer.¹

“At the very top, in the person of Bush’s most trusted advisor, the man called ‘Bush’s Brain’, our country has a man guilty of burning an intelligence asset directly involved in the effort to protect the US from WMDs, and this crime was committed as retaliation, it was a treasonous act committed for base, petty political gain,” said Seaman. “And yet the White House staff and the *Republican National Committee* is rallying to protect this scoundrel.” The RNC has issued talking points aimed at deflecting the mounting criticisms and questions raised regarding Rove’s role in the scandal.

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition* can be reached through their voicemail phone number at (503) 344-5078 or by e-mail at pprcnews@yahoo.com. Their weekly rallies and marches have been taking place each Friday at 5:00pm at Pioneer Courthouse Square since November of 2001.

1. “Rove Reportedly Held Phone Talk on C.I.A. Officer”, By DAVID JOHNSTON and RICHARD W. STEVENSON, *New York Times*, July 15, 2005

– END –