

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

Event: Friday rally and march: The "Gulf War" 15
Years Later.

Date: Friday, January 13, 2006

Time 5:00 p.m.

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

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Friday rally and march: The "Gulf War" 15 Years Later.

Peace & Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group Co-Hosts Weekly Action for Peace.

Portland area peace groups will be cosponsoring an expanded weekly Friday Rally on January 13, 2006 at 5 PM in Pioneer Courthouse Square to commemorate 15 years since the onset of the "Gulf War." The *Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group* is cosponsoring the *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition's* weekly event, which has been going for over four years since November, 2001. The focus of the event will be to connect the 43-day bombing and ground campaign, which began January 16, 1991, to the current U.S. occupation of Iraq.

The event will begin with about 20 minutes of speakers, then a short march which will return to the Square by 6 PM.

The conditions put on Iraq to end the sanctions included their dismantling any weapons of mass destruction. Although it is now known that Iraq did not have any such weapons, the sanctions continued for nearly 13 years until the current conflict broke out. "The U.S. war on Iraq began in 1991, continued in the form of sanctions and bombing throughout the Clinton presidency, and escalated with the invasion in March, 2003," said Dan Handelman of the *Iraq Affinity Group*. "Hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have died, and roughly 2500 Americans. By remembering the beginning of the war we hope to bring an end to it, calling for all the troops to come home now."

For more information, please contact the *Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group* at 503-236-3065 or iraq@pjlw.info. Information on the *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition* can be found at <http://www.pprc-news.org>, by emailing pprcnews@yahoo.com or calling 503-344-5078.

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