



The Center on  
Conscience & War

# The Reporter for Conscience' Sake

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## *Selective Service Manual Revisions Harm CO Rights*

By Bill Galvin

As of this last May, Selective Service revised the RIPS Manual (Registrant Integrated Processing Systems Manual), which contains all of the SSS standard forms, as well as procedures for the system providing for a six-month initial start up for any draft. The vast majority of changes describe how paperwork and files are kept internally, and simply reflect the System's increased reliance on computers. These changes will not have any effect on the Center's *Draft Counselors' Manual*. Other changes tighten up the procedures or clarify ambiguity in the previous RIPS Manual. And many of the changes are semantic, for example, "Age 20 Selection Group" (the first group to be drafted) is now called the "First Priority Selection Group." These changes will be reflected in an update to the manual to be provided in the next few months.

### **CO Waiver of MEPS Examination**

But there are a few substantive changes that will impact conscientious objectors (and others) affected by the draft. The biggest change affects COs who waive the MEPS examination. Under the RIPS procedures, those who are called up are first ordered to the MEPS for a military physical. If found qualified for military service, they are given 10 days to file a claim. However, recognizing that some COs may not be able in good conscience to submit to military control for the examination, Selective Service procedures give 1-O conscientious objectors the option of waiving the MEPS exam. According to the old RIPS, a CO who waives his MEPS exam is deemed "fit for service" and if his CO claim is approved, he is required to perform alternative service even if he has a medical

condition that would have disqualified him. Under the new RIPS, a CO who waives his MEPS exam waives his right to file ANY other claims in the future. If the CO claim is ultimately denied, and the CO applicant is later drafted, he would be given a MEPS exam at the time of induction. But, for example, should a family emergency develop, he would not be able to file for a hardship deferment, whereas, if he had not waived the original MEPS physical, he would be entitled to file a hardship claim.

Furthermore, if a CO files any other claims initially (such as hardship), he will not be allowed to waive the physical.

The rationale behind this policy appears to be to coerce COs to take the physical.

### **Order of Call**

Many of the changes relate to the "order of call" section—deciding who gets drafted first. The new RIPS reintroduces some Vietnam era concepts, like extended priority. Basically, Selective Service will establish a cut-off number, based on its estimate of how many individuals it expects to draft to meet the anticipated quota for the year. If someone who is classified 1-A (available for unrestricted military duty), 1-O (conscientious objector from all military duty), or 1-A-O (conscientious objector to combatant roles in the military) has a lottery number that is below the cut-off number, and they have not been drafted at the end of the year, they move into the "Extended Priority Selection Group" rather than the "Second Priority Selection Group." Those in the Extended Priority Selection Group will be drafted before those in the First Priority Selection Group. After 90 days, those in the Extended Priority Selection Group move to the Second Priority Selection Group.

### **Appeals**

Other changes relate to appeals. The new RIPS requires that someone request a personal appearance before a board *at the time the claim or appeal is made* or such a hearing will not be allowed. And this sentence has been added:

**No review of an administrative denial, or appeal of a denied classification, may be taken if a different class has been considered and granted.**

(Cont. on page 4 as RIPS REVISION)

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# News Briefs

In July 2002, delegates from the Fellowship of Reconciliation reported that 19 Jewish, Christian and Muslim **peace builders** were **denied entry** into Israel and the Palestinian territories. This was the second group of American peace activists turned away by Israeli authorities during the summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

This summer hundreds of **unarmed women** took over pipeline stations owned by ChevronTexaco in four Nigerian villages. Demanding improvement in the poverty-stricken area where they live, the women successfully pressured the oil giant to negotiate a seven-page statement of understanding.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Peace activist** Bert Sacks, a retired engineer, was **fined** \$10,000 in May 2002 for bringing medicine into Iraq without a license. He has worked in conjunction with Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation, the American Friends Service Committee and the Voices in the Wilderness campaign to end economic sanctions against Iraq and to bring humanitarian relief to the suffering.

\*\*\*\*\*

A week before U.S. pilots mistakenly bombed Canadian troops in Afghanistan they voiced complaints about lack of adequate rest periods between missions. Instead of support they were advised to seek prescriptions of amphetamines and sedatives to regulate sleep. In the April 17, 2002 "**friendly fire**" incident four Canadian soldiers were killed and eight injured.

\*\*\*\*\*

Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have launched an Internet site called Medsearch, a central repository of **Gulf War-related medical research**. In July 2001, DoD, VA and CDC agreed to combine their resources to create this one-stop source of research information. It will include topics of particular interest to Gulf War veterans such as pesticides and depleted uranium, that may not be

featured in other sources. The goal of Medsearch's creators is to include all the federally funded research into the illnesses of Gulf War veterans in one centralized place.

\*\*\*\*\*

A dedicated group of Dominicans embarked on an open-ended, water only **Fast for Peace and Nonviolence** for the month of September. "We choose to be emptied of our own violent inclinations, and to feel the pain of hunger as an act of solidarity with the millions of people in our world who live the violence of hunger every day of their lives. War will never be a remedy for the hunger and suffering of our world. Peace is the only way." Rooted in their Christian faith, and strongly influenced by Gandhi and King, they welcomed "people of any faith tradition or of no faith tradition. . . to join in this spiritually-motivated Fast."

\*\*\*\*\*

On Nov. 16 & 17, an estimated 7,000 to 10,000 people gathered in the rain at the gates of Ft. Benning for the annual vigil and rally calling for the closing of the **School of the Americas** (renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation). Almost 100 people were arrested for going beyond the fence and onto Ft. Benning, including many clergy and nuns and held in jail for three days. CCW had a table at the event and was able to talk with thousands of young people about conscientious objection.

\*\*\*\*\*

Rumors abounded for several days that Congressional Member Henry Hyde (R-IL) was set to introduce a universal draft bill when Congress came back for its lame duck session after the elections. But Blaine Aaron, Hyde's Legislative Director, put the rumor to rest stating, "a draft bill is the farthest thing from his mind." **No Draft Yet.**

\*\*\*\*\*

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and FCNL are working with many faith bodies to assure that the **voices of people of faith** will not go unheard over the drums of war. Activities are planned and highlighted at their respective web sites of www.nccusa.org and www.fcnl.org.

## New BVS Volunteer Joins Center Staff

The Center welcomes Tim Showalter, a new BVS Volunteer this October, whose principal task will be to keep the web page up-to-date and prepare the Newsletter.

I recently graduated from Turner Ashby High School in Bridgewater, Virginia. I entered Brethren Volunteer Service, wanting to give myself a chance to feel things out before college, or whatever the future will give me. I entered with the motivations of wanting to understand, a bit better, this network of people we are a part of and to search to find that understanding through service and solidarity with the broader world. I was specifically interested in strengthening my walk with God and what that means to me. That's what has landed me here at the Center on Conscience & War. I turned eighteen in October 2001 and, for a variety of reasons, chose not to register with the Selective Service System. For those of you who don't know, this decision has a lot of social and economic implications for my future. My interest in this disgustingly relevant issue and, more generally, in peace, justice, and social equality, has planted in me a want to discover, on a deeper level, the multiple aspects of these topics. The Center on Conscience & War seemed like an opportunity to explore these avenues that I should not pass up. So, for now, I have committed a year of my life working for peace in the world and in the lives of those who have questions about it.

Thanks for all of your support.

## Don Hoover Leaves Center

On September 16, 2002 the Center said good-bye to Don Hoover who left to a pastoral position in Baltimore shared with his wife, Christy. Don was an able administrative assistant for the year he work at the Center and will be missed. The staff wishes him well in his new calling.

Stephen G. Cary, former clerk of the American Friends Service Committee and former administrator of Haverford College, died on July 30 at the age of 86. In World War II Cary operated civilian-service work camps for conscientious objectors in Oregon and New York. Following the war Cary headed the Quaker relief operation in Europe for which Quakers received the 1947 Nobel Peace Prize. Featured in last year's PBS documentary, "The Good War: And Those Who Refused to Fight It," Cary was still actively engaged with peace activities until his death.

On Nov. 1, the Rev. Dr. Clinton Marsh died in his sleep. Marsh, the chair emeritus of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, and a former moderator of the Presbyterian Church's General Assembly, remained actively working for justice and peace until his death. A pacifist and activist, and a deeply spiritual man, he was a guiding light in the Peace Fellowship. We will remember his moving benediction: "Go in Peace--if you dare!"

## Legacies

In a time of ever increasing demands for our services, the Center has been blessed with two legacies. One was being designated as the beneficiary of a 401(k) plan [which would have been taxable income to heirs]. We received that even as the bills were climbing in August.

The other will be received in the future as the Center has been designated as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

We thank both donors and wish the second donor a long life. But we appreciate both donors' ingenuity in providing for the long life of the Center.

## Old Name, New Fame

Micheal Hovey, a current board member here at the Center, was recently named the Executive Director of Hague Appeal for Peace. The Hague Appeal for Peace is a network organization of worldwide peace and justice groups working for the abolition of war and violence. They are focused on the promotion of a "Global Campaign for Peace Education" which will integrate peace education into curricula and will, hopefully in turn, reduce the accepted reliance on violence and prevent war.

For more information about Hague Appeal for Peace, visit: [www.haguepeace.org](http://www.haguepeace.org)

Father Richard McSorley, pacifist and professor, died October 17, 2002 at the age of 88. His opposition to war led to many arrests, founding the Center for Peace Studies at Georgetown University and eight books on peace and social justice. A Jesuit priest and retired professor, Dick McSorley never stopped confronting those who would lead this country to war rather than peace; to oppression rather than justice. Indeed, his whole life was answer to the sign he confronted the ROTC program at Georgetown with in the 1970s: "Should we teach Life and Love or Death and Hate?" His answer was Life and Love.

# RIPS Revision

(Cont. from page 1)

This sentence appears to contradict regulations and other sections of the RIPS Manual which clearly state that a registrant is to be classified in the "lowest classification for which he qualifies."

If the lowest classification is denied, but a higher classification is granted, apparently an appeal of the denial of the lower classification will not be allowed, so the registrant will not be in the lowest classification for which he qualifies.

## RIPS still has no Supporting Regulations

While there are many problems with the RIPS system, this article has focused on some of the changes between the old RIPS and new RIPS. At one point the new RIPS says that "selective service regulations do not allow. . ." which is actually quite ironic, because Selective Service regulations do not support the RIPS system. The regulations support the older RIMS emergency mobilization scenario which Selective Service currently says it does not intend to use.

Should the draft resume, it remains to be seen which of these two systems will be used, or whether an entirely different set of procedures would emerge.

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## iraq peace pledge

A PROJECT OF THE CAMPAIGN OF CONSCIENCE

**BACKGROUND:** The Bush Administration is planning major military action against Iraq. Since 1990, the US has led a devastating economic and air assault on that country, harming the people of Iraq instead of its purported target, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. This war has contributed to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. The Bush Administration rationalizes escalation of the war against Iraq as the next step in its "war on terrorism." We oppose war on Iraq and call for resolution of the crisis through international diplomacy.

*I support peace for Iraq. I grant permission to use my name and city publicly as an opponent of the ongoing economic and bombing war on Iraq, and of any escalation of that war.*

**SPONSORS** of the CAMPAIGN OF CONSCIENCE: American Friends Service Committee, Education for Peace in Iraq Center, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Interfaith Network of Concern for the People in Iraq, Lutheran Peace Fellowship, National Network to End the War Against Iraq, Pax Christi USA, Voices in the Wilderness.

Please print here to affirm your public support for peace in Iraq.

Please contact me to participate in...

Name	Email	Mailing Address: Street, City, State, ZIP	Phone	PUBLIC Outreach	LOBBY	MEDIA	EDUCATE	Volunteer	DIRECT ACTION

- ⊕ **PUBLIC OUTREACH:** Participate in legal demonstrations or vigils
- ⊕ **LOBBY:** Letter writing or lobbying elected officials
- ⊕ **MEDIA:** Contacting my local news & editorial outlets
- ⊕ **EDUCATE:** Organizing an event in your community or place of worship
- ⊕ **VOLUNTEER:** Working with local groups to promote the Pledge
- ⊕ **DIRECT ACTION:** I may be interested in *nonviolent* civil disobedience. Send information on the *Pledge of Resistance*.

Please fill out and return to your local organizer. To compile, enter information at:  
**www.peacepledge.org**  
or send to "Iraq Peace Pledge," PO Box 271; Nyack, NY 10960.

LOCAL CONTACT INFO HERE



## “Addicted to War”

### Why the U.S. Can't Kick Militarism

#### An illustrated exposé by Joel Andreas

Avoiding careless mud-slinging, Joel Andreas, in his recent exposé, *Addicted to War*, boldly takes on the most imperialistic, powerful, and destructive military in existence. Beginning with the less-than altruistic motives behind Manifest Destiny, he explores the battles that the United States has been taking up in the name of destiny, duty, defense, and democracy since the early 1800's.

In a comic book or graphic novel format, this is a book that is appropriate for adults and teenagers. The information may be too overwhelming for younger children, but is entertainingly set forth for the older audience.

Updated with a chapter on the War on Terrorism, Andreas explores the inconspicuous, yet complete wall that separates the people from the decision makers in this country, a long-neglected issue. Andreas brings the ideal home when he hyperbolically suggests that the community in his story is

forced to hold a bakesale for toilet paper in their school. The reality is that an average American household “gives”, through taxes, \$4,000 a year to the cause of building up a military that is already far more powerful than the next four largest militaries combined. The result of this outrageous spending are budget cuts for social service programs such as education.

Andreas has taken on the illustrious task of defining militarism in America:

Who really benefits from these military adventures?

Who pays?

And who dies?

Find out why the United States has spent more money on military, in the past four decades, than the net value of all human made wealth in America. Throughout the story, as the picture of military injustice begins to penetrate, Andreas uncovers surprising, malicious quotes from Truman, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and others, which reveal the truth behind America's frightening foreign policy. Blase Bonpane, the director of the Office of the Americas says, “Our young people will learn more about the cult of militarism in this short and accurate book by Joel Andreas, than they might learn in their first twelve years of schooling.” This educational conglomeration of carefully documented citations, quotes, and comparisons “hands us our hearts” that we might choose to start again, and work for worldwide social equality, or continue on our paths of apathy and blind cooperation with a country who stands “addicted to war.”

There appears to be an impenetrable cast in many, encapsulating the innate knowledge that war and military principle is idiocy. Hopefully, this compilation of brilliantly written and illustrated rhetoric, might to some degree penetrate that cast and release the truth that has been so long soaked in military lies.

-Tim Showalter, CCW Staff

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We are carrying *Addicted to War* for \$8.

Call us today and place your order or make clearly marked checks (for: Addicted to War) payable to:

Center on Conscience & War  
1830 Connecticut Ave.  
Washington, DC 20009

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# Memorial Reflections

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Travis Poling  
CCW staff

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Albert Einstein, a genius and brilliant philosopher, sits on the steps of some great institution and muses regarding the music of the spheres. He looks so calm and inviting, and gives the feeling that if you spend the day with him you will understand what few actually realize; something no one can name. Maybe that's why so many people who come to see him actually end up visiting, exploring and playing with Uncle Albert. He sits forever in this manner because he is 4 tons of bronze. This statue in Washington, DC remembers Einstein as the great person he was - kind and gentle, with the appearance of playfulness. We like to remember him like that - nothing at the monument site mentions his discovery of nuclear energy that was harnessed upon millions, killing approximately 300,000 people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We like to remember our history, but usually ignore the ugly parts. Who would want to remember good ol' Albert for causing such destruction? He certainly didn't.

My point is that when we remember our history, we usually leave out the bad parts. We don't want to be faced with the horror that our world has suffered. The Washington Monument was built to commemorate our nation's first President and military General. The structure is pretty amazing to look at. But who knows how many people died as a direct result of his command? If you go to the monument, you won't find out. Glance towards the center of the District from almost any place in town, but the enormous obelisk won't answer that question.

This got me thinking, and it made me realize that what we are avoiding is the realization of our own brokenness, our own fallen state as human beings. We instead would like to recall our glory, those things which make us seem blessed and alive, while we continue to curse and remain spiritually dead. Only one memorial stands out in my mind as a reminder of our brokenness as a nation, and that one is still partially concealed within the earth's crust.

The first time I visited it, I had to really look until I saw it, then suddenly there it was, a deep gash in the ground, a wound which contained thousands more tiny wounds -- cuts in the earth which form letters, letters that spell names -- 60,000 names written in wounds. These names are formed by wounds because with their suffering, so came more wounds in the entire human race. It is thousands of wounds which form one great wound in us all- the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall.

Before I entered the walkway along the wall I noticed a sign: No smoking, eating, drinking, or bicycling. And if I remember correctly, there was another calling for quite. Whether it was

there or not, what I remember most is a feeling of silent awareness of the sacredness of this place. I almost felt compelled to remove my shoes.

As I began my walk, I had to bend down to see each name. The grass above the wall was at knee level, the wound not so visible yet. I continued down the path, still trying to read each name and the symbols which tell if they were missing or had died in some way. I thought about their circumstances: Were they drafted or volunteers? Did they leave behind a family, or parents which always dread outliving their own children? Where were they from? What did they believe? Were they reluctant or opposed to fighting, but had to go anyway? Were they willing and ready to die for their principles, whatever they were? What was their story? Do I know them, or someone with their name?

As I kept walking, I realized that there was no way for me to read each name - to intimately touch each life. There were just too many. As the walkway continued, the cuts of names went deeper into the earth, and the wall got higher. The wound became so deep that the wall was as tall as two of me. The enormity of the monument sank in, and I saw something that alarmed me -- my own reflection on the surface of the wall -- as if the names, the stories, and the torment from their loss had been deeply cut into my very own flesh. I was beginning to feel the woundedness of our nation that has come from so many wars.

I, too, like to remember the good parts of life, but now felt compelled to remember the suffering as well. I could no longer pretend that something as distant to me as the Vietnam War did not bring me harm. Nor could I pretend that anything cannot wound my soul. I have always known in my mind that war is never the answer. I finally knew in my heart and soul -- the place where it matters most of all. And now I can no longer pretend that what anyone does will not harm another's heart and soul, because I know something of what that felt like.

Former Church of the Brethren Moderator Paul Grout's recent statement in a letter to youth, that when we resort to violence something within us dies, rings true. Something within me died that day at the wall. I don't know what it was, but I remember the feeling I had as I read one of the final names on the wall. It was the same name as my future brother-in-law. It felt like a part of me had been taken away by this gigantic wound in my very being.

This is how we must remember and honor all who sacrifice themselves in so many ways to show us what true suffering means, and that we must live to keep it from happening to anyone else, because I for one, want no more reason for another Memorial Wall.

**Draft counseling manuals available for \$25.00**

# No Child Left UnRecruited

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Tim Showalter  
CCW Staff

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Schools around the country are finding out who, in fact, runs things in this country. A school official was surprised last May when she received a letter from a military recruiter demanding a list of the names, addresses, and phone numbers of her entire student body. Initially she scoffed at the edict. The idea seemed preposterous because, like most principals across the nation, she never gave a list of her names to anybody: not colleges, churches, employers — nobody.

Her surprise heightened when the principal dug for the motivation behind the demand. Buried deep inside Bush's new education law entitled the "No Child Left Behind Act", a frightening provision is found. The provision boldly requires public and many private secondary schools to provide military recruiters with access to facilities and, more controversially, with contact information for each and every student.

This part of the law was passed for a variety of reasons, but primarily as a result of military recruiters' complaints about lack of access to high school youth. Supposedly, fifteen percent of the high schools in America are "problem schools" which create obstacles for recruiters such as denying access to school facilities. The Pentagon claimed to Congress that recruiters were denied access to over 19,000 schools (a huge exaggeration of 15% of the 37,000 total secondary schools across the nation or 5,500). The military personnel argued that this open obstruction was, at the very least, insulting, saying that such schools "demonstrated an anti-military attitude." At the worst, it kept the recruiters from filling the ranks of the "voluntary" military.

So Congress provided recruiters with two very powerful and intrusive tools.

## Disclosure of Private Information

First, new right is to convenient access to information: the names, addresses, and phone numbers of kids are being sent to recruiter doorsteps. This disclosure is stretching the thin fabric of American privacy beyond repair. Bruce Hunter, chief lobbyist for the American Association of School Administrators, comments, "We feel it is a clear departure from the letter and the spirit of the current student privacy laws." He continues, "It's a slippery slope. I don't want student directories sent to Verizon . . . just because they claim that all kids need a cell phone to be safe."

There is, however, still an option for parents and students who do not want to be contacted by recruiters. The law gives students or their parents the right to request in writing that the school withhold their records. The statute is quite clear that the schools are supposed to inform parents and students of their right to opt out. But, many schools are submitting the information to the military without informing the students

or their parents of this right, thus making it impossible to withhold the information.

The president of the San Francisco Board of Education says, "I think the privacy implications of this law are profound. . . . For the federal government to ignore or discount the concerns of the privacy rights of millions of high school students is not a good thing, and it's something we should be concerned about."

Some students in this country are concerned: 200 students in Bennington, Vermont have chosen to defend their rights and to demand the school hold their records confidential.

## Recruiter Access to School Halls

The second new right of recruiters that raises concerns is the right to "the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to post secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of these students."

Theoretically, this is to provide access for recruiters in schools which have barred or limited their access. But at many schools, recruiters already show up for more than just career day: they can frequently be found on the school grounds and in the cafeteria at lunch. There are, however, some who consider recruiters in school, eating lunch with their daughters, a problem. A few schools may have banned recruiters for political reasons, but the harsh reality is that that other schools that have done so because of "incidents" with the recruiters and high school girls. Many of the recruiters are only a few years older than the high school students they recruit--and the age difference seems no barrier to "romantic" interests.

But this attempt to strong arm schools and districts which have banned recruiters for whatever reason may well backfire. At this time many recruiters, who often have considerably better access to students than the average college or corporate recruiters, could be forced to accept the access that they lobbied for: "the same" or limited to corporate and college recruitment norms of once or twice annually. Activists across the country are in discussion with the Center about finding a way to enforce this very provision.

Educators are, in general, pretty upset or, at least, concerned for their students. They have been pointing out: The armed services have exceeded their recruitment goal for the past two years in a row now without this unprecedented access.

But, recruiters have no shame when explaining what this law means and how they plan to act on it. They say that they will use school lists to pursue students via e-mail, U. S. mail, and through personal visits. The pursuit will be aggressive and without respect for parental consent. The head US Army recruiter for Vermont and northeastern New York, Major Johannes Paraan, boldly states, "The only thing that will get us to stop contacting the family is if they call their congressman . . . or maybe if the kid died, we'll take them off our list."



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## *From the Desk of the Executive Director*

No quotes. No cute stories. Just four important issues.

**First**, I thank every one of you who contributed to the effort to stop the war against Iraq. It may not feel like it right now, but we have had a victory. When I began in May of this year to warn of a war against Iraq, many suggested that I was wrong. But by July, many more suggested that it was a done deal and that we should be preparing for the war rather than lobbying against it.

But we did lobby against it and because of our joint efforts, the President who was ready to go at it alone without consultation was forced to consult the Congress. This was a victory.

We spoke out more and the President who was ready to act unilaterally was forced to go to the United Nations. This was a success.

We lobbied and worked, and the Senate vote that I was told would be virtually 100% for the war, ended up 23 to 75. This was better than the vote of 2 to 98 against the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. This is a real win.

We rallied and demonstrated, and the press—who kept asking me where the peace movement was—started reporting it. This is a triumph.

**Second**, we cannot stop. Although there is not yet a war (at least at the time that I write this), the possibility is real. We must give our thanks to those who voted “no.” We must work to assure that every Congressional member and Senator who voted “to give the President the tools he needs” and not “for” war, remembers that that is what they said as they voted. Only this will prevent the war we all dread.

**Third**, if there is a war, we know from experience that there will be conscientious objectors in jail. Has there ever been a war when this was not true? We plan, as our short term goal, to ask the Congress to provide for protection to conscientious objectors to war. COs should not have to choose, as they did during the Gulf War, between violating their conscience and jail. This bill was originally drafted by Ron Dellums when he was Congressional Member from California. We will be sending more information on this issue as it develops. (Are you on our Urgent Action e-mail list? If not you should email us at [nisbco@nisbco.org](mailto:nisbco@nisbco.org))

**Fourth**, if there is a war (and the likelihood grows each day with the President’s ever increasing-demands on Iraq) the need for our services and support will only grow. In fact, they already have. Until, and if, these clouds of war dissipate, men and women need training to counsel young people about the military and a potential draft, men and women will need advice and support as they face these issues, and we will be walking the halls of a bellicose Congress seeking protection for men and women of conscience as they take the unpopular position that war is wrong. We need your prayers and support to assure that we can provide all of the services that will be needed.

Help us find continued success, complete victory, and triumph over at least this war.

Yours for Peace and Justice,

J.E. McNeil

