

Press Release

For Immediate Release
For: Friday, January 31, 2003

[Download
printer-friendly version](#)

Contact:
• Trevor FitzGibbon or Nathan Naylo, Fenton Communications (202) 246-5303

Organized Antiwar Effort Grows – National Campaign Intensifies

Increasing Threat to America, No Way to Respond to Evidence of Iraqi "WMD"

New TV Ad Unveiled

Washington - Win Without War, the national coalition opposing a U.S. invasion of Iraq, announced today an intensified national effort to mobilize opposition to the war just days before Secretary Colin Powell issues a report to the UN detailing U.S. claims of Iraqi violations of UN resolutions.

"Whether or not Secretary Powell reveals evidence that Iraq has failed to fully comply with UN resolutions, there is still no justification for war", said Tom Andrews, the newly appointed National Director of Win Without War. "If on Wednesday Powell identifies weapons of mass destruction, then let the inspectors destroy them... no one has to die" he said.

"Why risk increased terror attacks on American soil when we can contain and disarm Saddam Hussein without an invasion?" said Ambassador Joe Wilson, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq (1988 to 1991), and Acting Ambassador during Desert Shield. Mr. Wilson was the last US official to meet with Saddam Hussein before the Gulf War.

The coalition revealed the latest in a series of antiwar television ads featuring Bishop Melvin Talbert and actress Janeane Garofalo. Bishop Talbert is a leader of the United Methodist Church—the same denomination as President Bush. "No nation under God has the right to launch a pre-emptive war" Bishop Talbert said, "War only increases more terrorism and makes a dangerous world for our children."

"Our coalition is redoubling its efforts to mobilize Americans opposed to war in Iraq", said Eli Pariser, International Campaign Director, MoveOn.org. "From Nashville, TN, to Chicago, IL – from Indianapolis, IN to Sioux Falls SD, people are coming forward to register their opposition to war and their willingness to join the effort to stop it."

The press conference was sponsored by Win Without War, the nation's mainstream coalition of organizations opposed to war with Iraq. Members include:

- American Friends Service Committee
- Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities
- Council for a Livable World
- Conference of Major Superiors of Men
- Leadership Conference
- Global Exchange
- Greenpeace
- MoveOn
- NAACP
- National Council of Churches
- National Organization for Women (NOW)
- NETWORK - A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
- Oxfam America
- Physicians for Social Responsibility
- Rainbow/Push Coalition
- Sierra Club
- Sojourners
- The Tikkun Community
- TrueMajority
- Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
- United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society
- Us Foundation
- Veterans for Common Sense
- Women's Action for New Directions
- Working Assets