

End the Occupation of Iraq,  
Afghanistan, Palestine & Haiti!

# TROOPS OUT NOW

September 24, 2005

Jobs, Education & Housing  
NOT WAR!

COALITION  
TROOPS OUT NOW.ORG

The Troops Out Now Coalition is a national network of grassroots organizers committed to building a movement to oppose the U.S. war in Iraq and beyond.

It is not enough to talk about the war in Iraq. An effective and credible movement must also address all of the occupations and interventions carried out or backed by the U.S. government, including those in Haiti, Palestine, and Afghanistan. It is also vitally important to address issues of racism, sexism, and LGBT oppression.

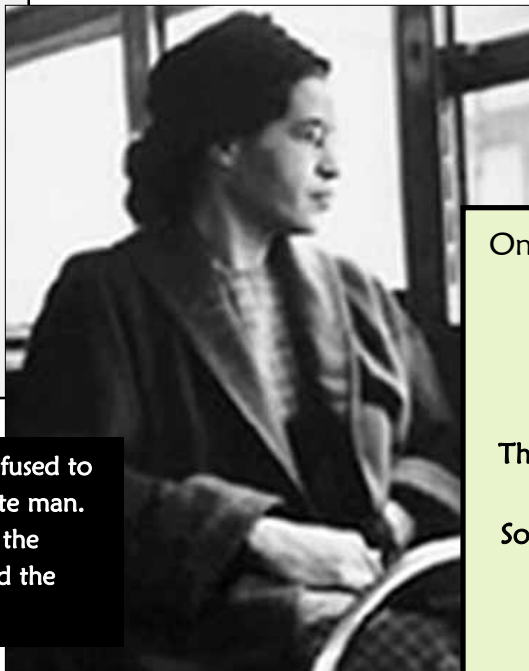
We recognize that there is a war being waged against working people here. Working and oppressed people are being killed and maimed in Iraq, while their families at home face cuts in education, healthcare, and housing. Hurricane Katrina confirms that under the current system, it is always poor people and people of color who are left to suffer and die.

We reject the notion that the path to building a broad movement is to narrow our focus and exclude issues. We will build a broad and effective movement of all the people by embracing the struggles of oppressed people, and by reaching out in solidarity to all who struggle against the Empire. These are not separate struggles; it is one struggle with different fronts. Fighting the Empire requires an anti-imperialist movement, and that movement must be rooted in the communities that are most under attack.

If you're interested in helping to build this movement, see the coupon on the back page to find out how you can get involved.

**Troops Out Now Coalition**  
TroopsOutNow.org  
212-633-6646

Fifty years ago, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man. Her act of defiance launched the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the modern Civil Rights struggle.



DEC. 1: It's Time to

## SHUT DOWN THE WAR!

### National Strike Against Poverty, Racism and War

Actions in more than 100 cities across the U.S.

The outrage over New Orleans is a clarion call to the antiwar movement and grassroots activists across the country.

The criminal neglect that allowed thousands to die in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina demonstrates just how dangerous the criminals in Washington and Wall Street are. They have already killed more than 100,000 Iraqi people. Then they sat on their hands and watched as people died in the streets of New Orleans. They followed this with the legal lynching of Frances Newton in Texas on September 14. The time has come to take our struggle to a higher level—these people are dangerous and must be stopped.

Isn't it time for the anti war movement to begin to think outside the box and to move forward beyond protests to actually stopping the war? Isn't it time to start shutting down business districts, schools, recruiting stations, and shopping areas? TONC thinks it is time to flex our muscles and declare "No business as usual!"

Rosa Parks sparked the modern Civil Rights Movement in Montgomery, Alabama, on December 1, 1955. On the 50th anniversary of that historic event, the Troops Out Now Coalition, along with national labor, antiwar, and community organizations, has issued a call for a Nationwide Strike Against Poverty, Racism, & War.

We are calling on people across the country to walk out of classes, stay home from work, boycott shopping, and take direct action on that day to stop the war.

#### March on Wall Street

The December 1 actions will be followed by continued protests and teach-ins on December 2-3, culminating in a mass National March on Wall Street.

It is time for the people to demonstrate that they can stop business as usual coast-to-coast when justice requires us to do so.

We owe it to the victims of Katrina, to poor and working people, to the world and to ourselves to find the way to help turn the outrage over Katrina into a mass grassroots movement for social justice, the likes of which this country has not seen for some time. Moreover, it is vitally necessary, and much more possible now, to forge real unity on a phenomenal scale between the movement against the war and the movements of African Americans, Latinos, and all poor and working people in a struggle for economic, social and political rights.

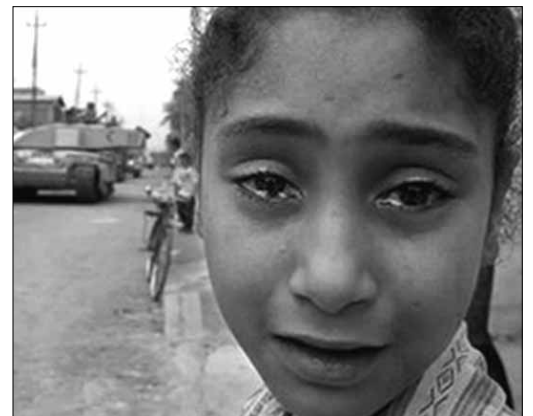
The war and occupation of Iraq and the Katrina outrage have demonstrated to the world the urgent necessity for fundamental change, and a movement that is big enough and determined enough to achieve the goal. Katrina has exposed the ugly truths about class and race, poverty, war and militarism.

Our solidarity with the demands of the Katrina survivors must evolve from empathy, charity and symbolism to a mighty social force to be reckoned with. Key to this mighty potential will be the forging of a strong alliance with activists and leaders within the African American community in the Gulf States, taking direction from them regarding the kind of solidarity that they need and the demands they are making. Our demands to end the war in Iraq and to bring the troops home now must be backed up by the kind of mass tactics that signal we mean business.

Fifty years ago, Black people in Montgomery, Alabama were forced by law to sit in



New Orleans



Iraq

the back of public buses, and give their seats to any white person who demanded it. When Rosa Parks, a garment worker and civil rights activist, refused to give up her seat to a white man, she sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott against segregation on public buses, one of the most successful and truly mass boycotts in history. The Montgomery Bus Boycott also introduced to the world a young reverend named Martin Luther King Jr., who became the boycott's principal public leader.

A December 1 Strike Working Committee was set up at a September 10 National Strategy Meeting of the Troops Out Now Coalition (TONC) attended by over 100 activists. The working committee will develop outreach and building plans for the December 1 strike.

#### DECEMBER 1 NATIONWIDE STRIKE Against Poverty, Racism and War -- Initiating Organizations:

- Troops Out Now Coalition
- Million Worker March Movement
- Teamsters National Black Caucus
- Michigan Emergency Committee Against War & Injustice.

On the 50th Anniversary of the Beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott:

### DEC 1-3 A NATIONAL STRIKE AGAINST POVERTY, RACISM, & WAR

The People of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast Must Control the Rebuilding -- Not Bush's Rich Friends!

Solidarity With Katrina Survivors -- We Demand an Independent Investigation!

A Job at a Living Wage is a Human Right!

Bring the Troops Home Now!  
Healthcare, Housing, and Education -- Not War and Occupation!

Fighting a global Empire requires an anti-imperialist movement

## BROADENING THE MOVEMENT BY LINKING THE STRUGGLES

One of the central questions in the anti-war movement is: how do we reach out to the most people in order to build the biggest, broadest movement?

One side, some say that the way to do this is to narrow the focus, shut out all other issues, and only talk about the war in Iraq. Issues like the occupation of Palestine, racism, LGBT oppression, and the global adventures of the Pentagon are relegated to the back of the bus.

**TONC believes that the more inclusive a movement is, the stronger it becomes.** In struggling to end the war in Iraq, we are struggling against a global Empire. According to the Department of Defense publication, Active Duty Military Personnel Strengths by Regional Area and by Country, the United States has troops in 135 countries—70% of the world's countries.

The Bush Administration has clearly signaled its intention to expand the Empire, threatening Korea, Iran, Syria, Cuba, and Venezuela. The single biggest problem for the oppressed and impoverished worldwide is the Pentagon. **The problem is not just Iraq, it is global.**

Also, this brutal system relies on racism and constant repression to remain in power in the U.S., and the Bush Administration has stepped up attacks on women's rights, civil rights and civil liberties, immigrants, and the LGBT community.

The tragic devastation and loss of life in the areas impacted by Katrina lay bare the links between endless war, racism, economic injustice, and corporate greed, and make it clear that we must.

### IRAQ

Although every lie used to justify the invasion has been exposed, the occupation drags on into its third year, with over 100,000 Iraqi people dead, many thousands injured, and an untold number held in the torture chambers of Abu Ghraib and other detention camps. **The Iraqi people have the right to resist the criminal occupation of their country, and the antiwar movement has an obligation to stand in**

**solidarity with them by demanding the immediate, unconditional, complete withdrawal of all occupying forces from Iraq.**

### PALESTINE

The movement can no longer be silent on the issue of the Palestinian people's right to return to their homes, a right that is universally recognized as a basic human right. Only U.S. military, economic, and diplomatic support of the makes the ongoing occupation possible. **The antiwar movement must repudiate racism and anti-Arab and anti-Muslim bigotry and stand with the Palestinian people in their struggle against a brutal occupation.**

### CUBA

For decades, U.S. imperialism has carried out an entrenched aggressive foreign policy against revolutionary Cuba, including the longest blockade in history. Cuba's crime is that it prioritizes free health care and education for its people. The Bush administration's hard-liners want a more aggressive policy including military intervention. Our right to travel to Cuba continues to be violated.

### ZIMBABWE

President Robert Mugabe and the people of Zimbabwe have been the victims of a vicious smear campaign by President Bush and Britain's Prime Minister Blair because of the African leader's support for the Zimbabwean's people right to take back the land stolen from them by white colonial settlers, beginning in the late 1800s. The racist demonization of Mugabe fits a now-familiar pattern, where governments and corporate media team up to pave the way for aggression against any leader who challenges their colonial agenda.

### THE PHILIPPINES

The U.S. military occupation of the Philippines has lasted over 100 years, starting in 1898. During the independence

struggle, the U.S. killed 1.5 million Filipinos. Under the pretense of waging the war on terror, the U.S. has vastly increased the number of troops there. Human rights abuses by a corrupt regime acting on behalf of the Pentagon are at a new high.

### HAITI

For 200 years, ever since the Haitian people carried out the first successful slave revolution in the Western Hemisphere, the U.S. has worked to undermine, sabotage, and humiliate them. The kidnapping of democratically-elected President Jean Bertrand Aristide is just the latest crime carried out by the U.S. in a long history of invasions, coups, sanctions, and plundering.

### VENEZUELA

Ever since President Hugo Chavez was elected, the Bush Administration has worked to undermine and overthrow his government, including organizing a coup in April of 2002. Pat Robertson, a Bush ally and right-wing fundamentalist cleric, has called for the U.S. to assassinate Chavez. Why do Washington and Wall Street want to oust Chavez? Because he has committed what is, to them, the unpardonable act of using the natural resources of Venezuela, including its vast oil reserves, to better the lives of the people, providing health care, education, and housing. Chavez even offered to send medicine and other relief to the areas impacted by Hurricane Katrina at a time when Bush and FEMA were doing nothing.

### IRAN

As part of the agenda of U.S. hegemony in the Middle East, President Bush declared Iran a part of the 'Axis of Evil,' his way of saying that they possess massive oil reserves and refuse to bow to Washington's dictates. The government and corporate media campaign against Iran is following the same script as the lead-up to the invasion of Iraq, with claims of



Palestinian boy.

"weapons of mass destruction" and links to terrorism.

### KOREA

The U.S. occupation of Korea dates to the end of WWII. In the 1950-1953 war against Korea, the U.S. killed over 4 million people and has maintained a military occupation and forced division of the nation until this day, disregarding the Korean people's desires.

### Build a Global Movement to Fight a Global Empire

Across the globe, people are fighting back against the Empire. The Iraqi people are heroically resisting the occupation of their country. The Venezuelan people are pushing forward to build a society based on human needs, not corporate greed. Despite a neo-fascist government and brutal repression, the movement in Colombia continues to fight against privatization and foreign domination. A worldwide movement is gaining strength to boycott Coca-Cola, known to work with Colombian death squads. In Haiti, resistance to the U.S. coup and kidnapping continues. Those of us here in the U.S., living in the seat of the global Empire, owe it to our sisters and brothers across the globe to also take on the Empire.

The devastation, loss of life, and military oppression in the wake of Hurricane Katrina demonstrate clearly that the U.S. government will follow the same murderous policies at home that it follows abroad, and that activists must challenge the Empire on every front. This means standing in solidarity with all who resist the Empire, from Palestine to Iraq to Zimbabwe, and acknowledging their absolute right to determine their own destinies.

Join Ramsey Clark, Noam Chomsky, Peter Coyote, Marcia Campos, Danny Glover, August Nimitz, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, James Petras, U.S. Rep. Jose Serrano, and Howard Zinn for:



### An Evening of Solidarity with Bolivarian Venezuela

TUESDAY  
Nov. 8

6:30 pm  
Town Hall  
123 W. 43rd St.  
in Manhattan, NY  
212-633.6646 x26

THURSDAY  
Nov. 10

7:00 pm  
Immanuel Presbyterian  
Church  
3300 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA  
323-936-7266

Join us for this important meeting to help ensure that tensions between the U.S. government and Venezuela cease, and that the sovereign rights of nations and international law be respected.

www.venezuelanov8.org • www.aporrea.org  
Venezuela@globalsolidarity.info

Oct 14-16 Washington DC

## THE MILLIONS MORE MOVEMENT

On Saturday, October 15, the 10th anniversary of the historic Million Man March, the Millions More Movement (MMM) will rally on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

The MMM has drawn wide support from civil rights leaders, churches, community organizations, and progressive antiwar activists across the U.S. With more than 500 local organizing committees, MMM activists are predicting that the march may be even larger than the 1995 event, which drew well over a million participants.

The Million Worker March Movement, a Black-led coalition of progressive labor activists, will be represented as one of the co-conveners of the March, representing labor.

To quote from the Million Worker March Movement's Letter for a Millions More Movement Resolution: "Oct. 16th 2005 marks the 10th Anniversary of the historic Million Man March (MMM). This event was not only the largest gathering of African American people; it was also the site of the greatest mobilization of workers in a single demonstration in American History.



Photo: Nation of Islam

Chris Silvera, Clarence Thomas, Louis Farrakhan, Brenda Stokely, Larry Holmes. Bashiri Silvera in front holding MWM T-shirt.

working class in general much higher than they were when nearly 2 million workers elected to attend the MMM and did not go to work on Monday, Oct. 16, 1995.

"The MWMM clearly recognizes that the labor movement cannot be absent from this next mobilization. We will be mobilizing workers to participate on Oct. 14th-16th around the demands put forward by the Million Worker March on Oct. 17, at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C."

Buses will be going to Washington from all over the U.S. for this historic event. The MMM website has the latest updates on the March and a complete list of organizing centers. (millionsmoremovement.com)

Don't miss these important

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Oct. 14-16 Washington DC – The Millions More Movement** - On the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March. For information: [www.millionsmoremovement.org](http://www.millionsmoremovement.org).
- **Nov. 8 – NYC (November 10 in Los Angeles) – An Evening of Celebration with Bolivarian Venezuela.** For information [www.venezuelanov8.org](http://www.venezuelanov8.org)
- **Nov. 11–13 - Detroit - National Conference to Reclaim Our Cities** We need funding for jobs, housing, Social Security, schools, healthcare, and the environment. End the War in Iraq - Bring the Troops Home Now! For information: [www.home.earthlink.net/~national\\_conference\\_of\\_cities](http://www.home.earthlink.net/~national_conference_of_cities).
- **Dec. 1-3 - Nationwide - National Strike Against Poverty, Racism & War** - On the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, join a national day of action to Shut Down the War. For information: [www.TroopsOutNow.org](http://www.TroopsOutNow.org).



## Free the Cuban 5 Anti-terrorists

The Cuban 5 are five Cubans sent to the U.S. to monitor right-wing actions in Florida. They were unjustly sentenced by the U.S. and sent to five federal prisons around the country. On August 9 after over one year of weighing the evidence, the 11th Circuit of Appeals vacated a previous court's ruling. It determined that the Five did not receive a fair trial and ordered a new trial. This is a victory but the struggle to free the Five is far from over. Organizers and supporters are continuing to pressure Attorney General González to release them and grant visas for the families.

To help, contact [www.freethethefive.org](http://www.freethethefive.org).

In New York, contact [www.freethethefive.ny.org](http://www.freethethefive.ny.org), a member of TONC or call 212.633.6646x26.

## Hurricane Katrina Exposes the War Against Poor and Black People

### 'Like a bomb was dropped in the region'

Following are excerpts from a talk by Teresa Gutierrez, to the Troops Out Now Coalition Emergency Strategy Session in New York City on September 10.

The few days that Johnnie Stevens and I spent in Texas and Louisiana as part of the Troops Out Now Coalition and International Action Center delegation were probably the most profound and life-changing experiences I've had.

I want to put my comments within the context of a challenge to progressives and activists to take what we say and get the message out to the millions around this country who will need the analysis and perspective.

I compared the tragedy of what happened there to some of my experiences in Latin America. This is obviously an anti-war issue because indeed a bomb was dropped - a bomb of negligence that has resulted in catastrophic conditions.

Imagine you have a roof over your head, and running water to bathe, wash your hair, brush your teeth. The home may be poor or not, maybe it's an apartment or you live in a housing project. But you have something; there's a community.

And all of a sudden that is lost. The natural disaster of the hurricane was bad enough-but it was intensified because of the neglect, and damage to the environment.

What was not natural is that money was stolen from the levee for other priorities. What was not natural was how the government handled the crisis. It was an evacuation if you had a credit card, a car and money to buy gas. But if not, then you had what you see now.

The government made a decision to let that tragedy happen. The folks that we talked to are also stunned because there's a feeling: Why were the buses waiting outside the region? Why weren't the buses coming in to pick us up?

Could it really be that the government wanted us to die?

Some people were very conscious and very understanding of the role of the government historically. Others were not. So it was very shocking. I can guarantee you that every single person from this tragedy is going to need some major support, psychologically.

One man, as he was swimming away from his house, kept hearing this thump. He turned around and it was a body floating into the second floor window of his house. You know that this man will live forever with that thump in his head.

He goes to the Superdome in New Orleans and sees that the National Guard was obviously not there to help. He saw two youth, trying to break a soda machine to get drinks, shot to death right there. He heard a baby in a stroller crying and crying, and then it stopped crying and was dead.

### Occupation, militarization of area

When we drove from Houston to New Orleans, there were caravans and caravans of military trucks.

On a lot of the trucks were chalk messages written by

the soldiers. "We're going to kick butt in Louisiana." "My mom told me not to hit women, but Katrina is one woman I'm going to beat." This is the kind of occupying, military mentality that they have.

When we went to the [Houston] Astrodome, everyone was terrorized. In shock.

A bus came in to pick up only women to take them to another state. And everyone was saying, "Why only the women?" And the people were afraid. So they refused to go in that bus.

We talked to a young man who lost his mother. They brought him to Houston and took his mother to Alabama.

That's one of the many, many examples. That measly, piddly \$2,000 that people are supposed to get--the ones that do get it--will probably go for many just to get their families back together.

A woman told us that they brought her to the Astrodome but she has family in Baton Rouge. So in the bus she and others were begging the military driver to please stop [in Baton Rouge]. Any other kind of system, a more humane, not profit-driven system, would have stopped the bus.

Another family drove hours to pick up their loved ones at the Astrodome and arrived 15 minutes or half an hour before the so-called curfew at 11 p.m. The guard told them, "Everybody goes to bed at 11:00. You'll have to come back in the morning."

One of the volunteers told us, "Are you kidding? There's 25,000 people there--all the lights are on. People don't go to sleep."

So it meant that the family had to pay for a motel that night, or sleep in their car.

When they were giving out the \$2,000 pittance on Sept. 9, folks were lined up and there was some disorder--folks got angry, impatient. So they shut down the volunteer center. Forty-eight people, because of supposedly acting out, were taken to jail. I mean how the hell are you supposed to act after days of starving, not having water?

In another system, the government would organize the work and would understand this frustration. Instead, in this corrupt, racist, profit-driven system they haul you off to the Houston jail.

### Movement can push this back

When we were in Lafayette we stopped and were handing out fliers. One of the people was a Latino and had lost everything in New Orleans. When he saw me and Johnnie together, he hugged Johnnie, saying, "Black and Latino--we have to be together. Bush ordered that levee to fall because he wanted to kill the Black and Latin communities. We've got to stand together."

We hardly saw any Latinos. It may never be known how many undocumented workers died.

## An Army of None

*We Won't Go* is a new handbook for counter-recruiting and draft resistance.

It contains important information about how recruiters infil-

trate schools and communities and how to challenge recruiters. It also exposes the outright lies in the recruiting sales pitch. This 102-page, pocket-size book includes important information on racism, sexism, and LGBT oppression in the military, as well as the economic draft.

*We Won't Go* is part of a national strategy to challenge and shut down military recruiting across the country. For more information, or to purchase online:

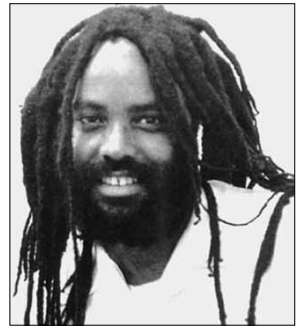
[www.NoWeWontGo.org](http://www.NoWeWontGo.org)



HANDS OFF ASSATA SHAKURI!  
[HandsOffAssata.org](http://HandsOffAssata.org)



FREE LEONARD PELTIER!



FREE MUMIA ABU-JAMALI!  
[FreeMumia.org](http://FreeMumia.org)  
[Millions4Mumia.org](http://Millions4Mumia.org)  
[PrisonRadio.org](http://PrisonRadio.org)

## FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

We have heard that immigration officers were being sent to the Louisiana-Mississippi region and you know they aren't going to help the undocumented or immigrants. They're going to find the ones they can find and they'll probably be deported.

We arrived in Camp Casey, and they were doing great work. So many of the Camp Casey anti-war activists, who were all white, were so sure what this was all about. There was discussion that it was an ethnic cleansing, about how redevelopment will push out the poor and Black community of New Orleans. They were very clear and very angry.

We left around 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday on what should have been a trip of an hour and a half to get to Algiers, La. By 6 p.m. we were still not there. Finally we couldn't get through.

The main problem was the troops. They closed the streets and when we asked for directions they were like, the hell with you, get going, and start picking up their guns. It was that kind of climate. You couldn't make or get phone calls.

When we were in the car all those hours, nothing was said on the radio about how the U.S. government had allowed the Black community, the poor community, the immigrant community of this region to be wiped out overnight.

It's the challenge of the anti-war and progressive movement to never let this issue off the front pages. To document the truth about what really happened. That we find all the folks who want to struggle.

Because this is like what happened in the Trail of Tears of the Native American population -- that kind of displacement.

The level of consciousness of the movement can push this back, can expose what is really happening in New Orleans and Louisiana. We have to make this the number one task: never to forget what happened in Louisiana and the Gulf Coast.

**We must never forget and allow the government to be**

# Who we are: **THE TROOPS OUT NOW Coalition**

**The Troops Out Now Coalition (TONC)** is a national grassroots coalition of anti-war activists, trade unionists, solidarity activists and community organizers.

TONC activists first assembled in New York City for a December 3, 2004 National Strategy Meeting and issued a call for a day of protest on March 19, the second anniversary of the beginning of the war.

The Troops Out Now Coalition March 19 protest began with a historic rally in Harlem's Marcus Garvey Park, followed by a march to Central Park and then to the residence of Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Thousands marched under the banners "End the Occupation of Iraq, Haiti, and Palestine; U.S. Troops Out Now; Money for Jobs, Housing, Education, and Healthcare," and "Harlem's Legacy is Fightback: Bring Our Children Home from Your Dirty War for Oil and Greed."

In May of 2005, TONC issued a call for all antiwar activists and coalitions to join forces for a united mass demonstration, saying (in part): "Nothing is more important at this moment than for all to walk together on the high road to unity. We believe that what we all do will be decisive. We must and we can stop the war and get every U.S. soldier out of Iraq. It is up to all of us to do whatever is necessary for our movement to rise to this challenge."

On June 11, TONC hosted a Unity Meeting, attended by activists from scores of local and national antiwar organizations, to prepare for the Fall antiwar activities and to call for principled unity in the struggle to stop the war.

In August, TONC sent activists to Camp Casey in Texas to join Cindy Sheehan's roadside encampment. Across the U.S. TONC activists established local Camp Caseys and held solidarity rallies and vigils in numerous cities, including New York City, Los Angeles, Boston, Detroit, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, TONC activists organized a fact-finding delegation to visit the impacted area and to network with local activists and community organizations. TONC helped organize solidarity rallies on September 12, the National Day of Outrage, in more than 100 cities.

As we enter a new phase of the antiwar struggle, we believe that the only force that will stop the war is a militant, multi-national, grassroots movement. If you are interested affiliating with TONC as an individual or organization, fill out the coupon below and send it to TONC, 39 W. 14th St. #206, New York NY 10011.

*Some of the organizations and individuals that are affiliated with TONC include:*

Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General  
Brenda Stokely, Million Worker March  
Charles Barron, NY City Council Member\*  
Chuck Turner, Boston City Council Member\*  
Steve Gillis, President USWA Local 8751\*  
Leslie Feinberg, Co-Chair LGBT Caucus National Writers Union\*  
Million Workers March Movement  
International Action Center  
NY Committee to Defend Palestine  
New Jersey Solidarity-- Activists for the Liberation of Palestine  
Harlem Tenants Council  
Alberto Lovera Bolivarian Circle  
BAYAN USA  
Korea Truth Commission  
Artists & Activists United for Peace  
NYCHRP - NY Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines  
NYC Labor Against the War  
Queers for Peace & Justice  
Fanmi Lavalas  
Committee to Support the Iraqi People  
Jersey City Peace Movement  
No War Westchester  
Action Center for Justice  
Al-Awda Palestine Right to Return Coalition NY-NJ  
All Peoples Congress  
American-Iranian Friendship Committee  
Arab American Civic Organization  
Asia Pacific Action  
Association of Mexican American Workers  
Central New Jersey Coalition for Peace and Justice  
Citizens for Peace, Cobb County  
FIST - Fight Imperialism, Stand Together  
Haiti Support Network  
International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu Jamal  
High County Peace & Justice  
Louisiana Activist Network  
Louisville Peace Action Community  
MLK Bolivarian Circle  
Metro Justice, Rochester  
Michigan Emergency Committee Against War and Injustice  
Minneapolis Anti-War Committee  
Movement in Motion Arts Collective  
New College Alliance for Peace  
New England Human Rights Organization for Haiti  
New School Human Rights Group  
NISPOP- Network in Solidarity with the People of the Philippines  
No Draft No Way Network  
Northeast Ohio Antiwar Coalition  
NY Committee to Free the Five  
Olean Area Coalition for Peace & Justice  
People Judge Bush  
Peoples Video Network  
Progressive Action for the Common Good  
Richmond Action Center  
Somerville 5 Defense Committee  
South Jersey Coalition for Peace & Justice  
South Mississippi United for Peace  
Stonewall Warriors  
United American Indians of New England  
Virginia Anti-War Network

# International Network of Solidarity with Katrina Survivors & Their Communities

*Based on discussion at a TONC Strategy Meeting held in NYC on Sept. 10 of over 100 activists from around the country:*

*We call upon the antiwar movement to support and embrace this proposal, and to make it central to the program at the anti-war march in Washington D.C. on September 24th.*

## **A Proposal to Establish an International Network of Solidarity with Katrina Survivors and Their Communities**

**The network's initial focus will be the following demands:**

### ■ **Stop the Real Looters**

Freeze the awarding of Katrina reconstruction contracts by FEMA until the local community organizations, leaders, activists, and trade unionists have made public their ideas and plans. Local people must control the \$52 billion reconstruction fund for New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, not Halliburton and President Bush's rich friends. Pres. Bush and Congress have given FEMA a \$52 billion check for Katrina reconstruction, but this check is not being handed to the people who have lost everything—the Black community, the poor, and the hundreds of thousands of workers who have lost jobs because of Katrina. Right now, the White House's rich friends are sitting around a table dividing up the loot. This money must go to the people who need it to create living-wage jobs and housing. The people of the Gulf Coast must have the decisive say over the allocation of all government reconstruction funds.

### ■ **End the military occupation of New Orleans - No Forced Evacuations**

### ■ **Let human rights observers into New Orleans.**

Human rights observers, independent of military, federal, state or local governments and law enforcement agencies, must be allowed into New Orleans and all of the areas in the

Gulf Coast affected by Katrina, and under military occupation, to monitor the conduct of military and police personal, and document conditions in occupied areas.

### ■ **The right to return**

All of the people who have been forced from their cities and towns must be assured of the right to return to their communities. Katrina must not be turned into an excuse for ethnic cleansing and gentrification.

### ■ **Accept the 1,100 Medical Doctors that Cuba has offered, and free resources that Venezuela has offered**

### ■ **Pay the prevailing wage**

Congress and the president must rescind the waiver of the Davis-Bacon Act, which bars federal contracts to businesses that do not pay the prevailing wage to workers. No contractor should be allowed to proceed with any work until they have publicly stated that they will pay prevailing wages in their industry.

### ■ **Extend unemployment benefits, back pay, and a guaranteed job for all workers displaced by Katrina**

### ■ **The establishment of an International Commission of Inquiry into the U.S. Government's response to Katrina**

### ■ **Money for Katrina Recovery and Human Needs—Not War! Bring the Troops Home Now!**

The Katrina Solidarity Network will aggressively solicit all activists and progressive organizations committed to working in a united front, and who understand the necessity of taking direction from the activists in the Gulf Coast. The network's goals, demands and activities will be modified and expanded in conjunction with its consultation with community and labor activists in the Gulf Coast.



## Help Build a National Grassroots Movement Against War and Racism:

**Yes! I am interested in helping the Troops Out Now Coalition in building a national movement to stop the war.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

I want to be a local organizer  My Organization would like to be a local affiliate of the Troops Out Now Coalition

I would like to contribute to help build the movement. Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to: Troops Out Now Coalition, 39 W. 14th St. #206, NY NY 10011 ■ 212.633.6646 ■ www.TroopsOutNow.org**

**www.TroopsOutNow.org ■ TROOPS OUT NOW COALITION ■ 212-633-6646**