



Six Years in Iraq: Time for Accountability

Local actions around March 19 / New York April 4, 2009

It is imperative that we prevent future wars, and that we reestablish the rule of law. This can be achieved by prosecuting high officials who are guilty of war crimes, including the supreme crime of aggressive war. If we do not take these steps, we will be permitting a lawless world in which crimes are lamented but the criminals not punished, and illegal powers seized by one president are available to the next. The Congress has significantly compromised its powers to legislate, raise and spend money, declare and end wars, approve and reject treaties, approve and reject officials, oversee the government, and impeach those who abuse power. We cannot proceed as a movement within a democracy unless we restore and expand that democracy.

The crimes and abuses: ignoring and failing to respond to threats of terrorism, misspending funds, misleading Congress, creating false propaganda, invading Iraq in violation of Constitution, UN Charter, and HJRes 114, establishing bases and seeking to control resources, allowing energy companies to secretly make policy, providing immunity to mercenaries, wasting funds on war profiteers, detention without charge, rendition, torture, murder, imprisoning children, creating secret laws, using military domestically, spying without warrant, rewriting laws with signing statements, undermining preparedness for natural disasters and destroying economy through military waste, ordering obstruction of justice, blocking prosecutions with bogus claims of "state secrets," et cetera, et cetera.

What you can do:

Collect signatures on a petition asking Attorney General Eric Holder to appoint a Special Prosecutor to investigate and prosecute any and all government officials who have participated in war crimes.

In June 2008, 56 Democratic Congress members, led by Congressman John Conyers, wrote to Attorney General Mukasey asking for a Special Prosecutor. Ask Conyers and your Congress member to write to Holder. Also ask them to impeach torture memo author, now judge, Jay Bybee.

Ask your Congress member and senators to cosponsor the State Secrets Protection Act to prevent false claims of "state secrets" blocking prosecutions for torture and other crimes.

Ask your state AG and district prosecutors to prosecute Bush for murder.

Work to pass local resolutions.

Resources for all of these campaigns are at <http://convictbushcheney.org>

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