OMNI

IRAN NEWSLETTER, August 9, 2019.

COMPiled BY DICK BENNETT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND JUSTICE


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OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology and the Nonviolence Peace Alliance are protesting US preparations to bomb Iran. Part of our legal and moral foundation is the UN Charter, which prohibits not just attacking another country EXCEPT IN CASE OF DEFENSE AGAINST ARMED ASSAULT, but making preparations to attack. (See Chapter I.) The Charter is a treaty ratified by Congress; i.e., it is US LAW. Join us each Saturday in August at the Courthouse, College and Dickson, 11:00 a.m. to noon. We have placards, or bring your own—a few words in large letters.

PRAISE FOR TULSI GABBARD, and HOPE FOR A MASS FOR PEACE

“Why the Media hates Tulsi.” Definitely worth noting as she’s the only candidate who’s openly challenging our bi-partisan foreign policy consensus. Card-carrying members of the Democratic Establishment such as Howard Dean have been attacking her for years. [Video link]

Regardless of Tulsi’s record or chances of winning the election, I am most interested in whatever pushes the conversation toward peace & justice & shifts public consciousness. She is doing that. If public consciousness is sufficiently shifted, mass movements can follow...electoral politics be damned. I see movement politics as more powerful, and less corruptible. The People lead, politicians follow. That’s what we are working on every Saturday. I have a dream a fire will ignite & reach critical mass like a nuclear bomb for peace. Better to dream than give in to despair, I figure.

Cheers! Abel

I really agree about the need to build a critical mass for peace. And I think this will happen, because of Iran tensions. Iran can’t sit still under our economic warfare. They must continue upping the ante, by gradually increasing their uranium enrichment for sure and probably also by seizing oil tankers (Revolutionary Guard troops control this, provided Khomeini agrees). Eventually, the US and Israel will become uncomfortable about the uranium build-up and will have to resort to something more than sanctions. One possibility: Israel bombs Iran. There are many other possibilities. At some point in all this, the American public is going to finally speak out about Iran and there will be a critical mass for peace. All Americans should be
WHO AND WHAT ARE PUSHING FOR WAR AGAINST IRAN
THE WARMACERS

For the Record: The Republicans on June 28, 2019 blocked the Udall-Kaine-Lee amendment to stop a dangerous, needless, destructive, and costly war with Iran. That does not mean we lose in the long run. Let’s continue our pressure on Sens. John Boozman and Tom Cotton. Give them a call and simply say what’s on your mind, a few words or many. Get engaged with them and their staff who are just as bloody-minded as the Senators. Be innovative and let the rest of us know.

None of the senators or representatives publishes his e-mail address, but each can be contacted by filling in forms offered through his website.

Senator John Boozman: (202) 224-4843
Website Email: http://www.boozman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me
Lowell Office phone: 479-725-0400

Senator Tom Cotton: (202) 224-2353
Website Email: http://www.cotton.senate.gov/content/contact-tom
Springdale Office phone: 479-751-0879

The following offers further reading for you who wish to know more about the infamous vote, and who are the friends of war and of peace.

Senate rejects Iran war powers amendment - POLITICO
https://www.politico.com/.../senate-rejects-iran-war-powers-amendment-13...
Jun 28, 2019 - The Senate chose not to attach an Iran amendment from Democratic Sens. Tom Udall of New Mexico and Tim Kaine of Virginia to a must-pass defense bill. ... to do whatever he wants, it’s not that if Congress says ‘no,’ that would stop him. .... Susan Collins of Maine, Mike Lee of Utah, Jerry Moran of Kansas ...

Senate rejects attempt to curb Trump's Iran war powers | TheHill
https://thehill.com/.../450775-senate-rejects-attempt-to-curb-trumps-iran-w...
Jun 28, 2019 - Sixty yes votes would have been required to get the amendment added ... add the Kaine-Udall proposal retroactively if they could secure the votes. ... Republicans, however, had appeared confident that they would be able to block it from .... Collins Jerry Moran Rand Paul Mike Lee James Inhofe war powers.

NIAC Statement on Senate Vote on Udall-Kaine Amendment ...
https://www.commondreams.org/.../niac-statement-senate-vote-udall-kaine-...
Senators Udall and Kaine deserve particular credit for forcing a vote and cast a vote supported the amendment, and four Republicans - Mike Lee, ... of lawmakers determined to block an unauthorized Trump war on Iran.

**Senate Rejects Measure Forcing Trump To Seek Approval For War**
https://www.huffpost.com/.../iran-udall-amendment-senate_n_5d1652a6e4...

Jun 28, 2019 - The Kaine-Udall amendment failed to gain the 60 votes it needed, ... Trump to seek congressional approval before going to war with Iran, ... and Mike Lee (R-Utah), who supported it. ... Democratic senators pushed for the vote earlier this week by threatening to block the passage of a key defense bill, the ...

**Win Without War Applauds Senate Support for Amendment to Block**
https://winwithoutwar.org/statement-win-without-war-applauds-majority-se...

Jun 28, 2019 - ... Tom Udall, Tim Kaine, Mike Lee, Rand Paul, Jeff Merkley, Chris Murphy, and Dick Durbin to block funding for any unauthorized war with Iran:

**ACTIONS**
CALL OR WRITE OUR HOUSE MEMBER TOO
We must hold in our minds the determination to rid Arkansas of these warmakers.

**Rep. Steve Womack, 3rd District:** (202)225-4301
Website Email: [http://womack.house.gov/contact/](http://womack.house.gov/contact/)
   1119 Longworth House Office Building
   Washington, DC 20515
   3333 Pinnacle Hills, Suite 120
   Rogers, Arkansas 72758

**Rep. Rick Crawford, 1st District:** (202)225-4076
Website Email: [http://crawford.house.gov/contact/](http://crawford.house.gov/contact/)

**Rep. French Hill, 2nd District:** (202)225-2506
Website Email: [https://hill.house.gov/contact/email](https://hill.house.gov/contact/email)

**Rep. Bruce Westerman, 4th District:** (202) 225-3772
Website Email: [https://westerman.house.gov/contact](https://westerman.house.gov/contact)

**We Must Stop War with Iran Before It’s Too Late**
Led by John Bolton, the Trump administration is pursuing catastrophe to protect U.S. dominance. **BY NOAM CHOMSKY**

The build-up to war with Iran sounds familiar

Jon Rainwater, Peace Action via bounce.myngp.com
Peace Action supporter,

We must not stop now.

John Bolton and Mike Pompeo certainly haven’t stopped their efforts to build a case for war with Iran. Just last week, Secretary of State Pompeo briefed Congress and once again pushed dubious claims about links between Iran and Al Qaeda. [1] This is an insidious attempt to use the open-ended 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF), which authorizes U.S. force against Al Qaeda or anyone linked to them, as authority to start a war with Iran.

We cannot allow this to happen again.

Take a quick moment today, and add your name to this petition demanding Congress take action to end the march to war with Iran.

As I’m sure you know, a war with Iran would have devastating consequences in both blood and treasure, potentially even worse than the war in Iraq. According to dozens of Middle Eastern scholars, a war with Iran would undoubtedly lead to a horrific toll of dead and injured, major environmental destruction, large scale forced migration, world-wide recession, as well as producing other equally dangerous and unintended consequences. [2] Former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates adds, “If you think the war in Iraq was hard, an attack on Iran would, in my opinion, be a catastrophe,” and commented that such an attack would only “make a nuclear-armed Iran inevitable.”

Make no mistake, the time to prevent a war is now. Last week, Trump reportedly called off a military strike on Iran. How much longer do you think he’ll stand up to the constant pro-war rhetoric from Iran hawks like Bolton and Pompeo on his national security team? The time for Congress to act is now. Sign our petition today demanding that Congress speak out and step in to stop the march to war with Iran.

Thank you for everything you do to prevent this unnecessary and illegal war.

Sincerely, Jon Rainwater
Executive Director

Peace Action

P.S. According to a recent poll, a majority of likely voters in targeted swing states do not support an American military strike on Iran. [3] We need Congress to get that message, and you can help us do that by signing the petition today!

Sources
[2] https://mondoweiss.net/2019/06/scholars-unmitigated-disaster/

Peace Action
8630 Fenton St
Suite 934
Silver Spring, MD 20910

US Media, NADG, “amid rising tensions”: But who is causing the tensions??

See OMNI’s newsletters on NADG reporting on Iran:
As during the Vietnam War, UAF barely murmurs against this aggression. For example, consider this rare panel on Iran, the closest the UAF gets to following UA’s motto when it comes to US war crimes: Veritate Duce Progredi.

University of Arkansas

Middle East Studies Forum to Discuss Developments, Perspectives on Iran on Aug. 30.

Aug. 21, 2018 Iran 360 Degrees: Current Perspectives, Prospective Changes, a forum featuring regional experts and Middle East Studies faculty, will take place on Thursday, August 30 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Union (ARKU) Room 510-511

Topics to be discussed include current Iranian perspectives on evolving political events in the country and abroad; human rights struggles in Iran today, with a focus on the status and strategies of women’s rights activists; regional views on Iran from the Sino-Pak-Indo perspective; and developments in Sunni vs. Shia religious and political divides. [I attended this panel, which as you see diffused, evaded, covered-up the US war against Iran in preparation. Panels like this is one of the ways UAF and most universities in the US are complicit by avoiding direct confrontation of US imperial aggression. As of 8-9-19 UAF has not had a panel at least questioning the legality or rationality of the US war.–Dick]

Attendees are invited to a reception to follow the event to meet Middle East Studies faculty, students and staff. [Maybe the real purpose of the panel.]

FOREIGN WAR MAKERS EAGER TO WAR WITH IRAN 2019


URI BEN-ELIEZER is a political sociologist and chair of the department of sociology at the University of Haifa, Israel. His research interests include Israeli democracy, civil society, social movements, state-society relations, army-society relations, and peace and war. He has published numerous articles in such journals as Comparative Politics, Comparative Studies in Society and History, Comparative Political Studies, Theory and Society, Political Geography, Social Politics, Social Movement Studies, and Ethnic and Racial Studies. Ben-Eliezer is also the author of three books in English: The Making of Israeli Militarism (Indiana UP, 1998); Old Conflict, New War: Israel’s Politics Toward the Palestinians (Palgrave-Macmillan,
2012); and War over Peace: One Hundred Years of Israel’s Militaristic Nationalism (Uof California P, 2019).

CONTENTS: IRAN NEWSLETTER #29, July 11, 2019
https://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/2019/07/omni-no-war-against-iran-newsletter-29.html
OMNI’S NO IRAN WAR DEMONSTRATIONS SATURDAYS 11AM, COURT HOUSE (Abel Tomlinson)

Contact Congress on War Powers, Action
Support House Amendment to Curb Trump (J Street)
Cut Pentagon $$ (Peace Action)

Criticisms of US Aggression
Have We Learned Nothing from Iraq?
Jeremy Scahill, Col. Wilkerson (The Intercept)

Veterans for Peace
Against Sanctions
Take to the Streets

Congress for Peace
Representative Omar
Senator Bernie Sanders

The Iranian People Are Not Our Enemies (Larison)

Democrats (Tveten)

US Empire by Economic Siege
Johnstone, Starvation Sanctions Worse than Overt Warfare

Dan Beeton, Iran and Venezuela

Donald Trump, Crushing Iran

Newsletter #27
END IRAN NEWSLETTER #30, AUGUST 9, 2019

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Dick Bennett

(479) 442-4600
2582 Jimmie Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72703