

Statement concerning war against Iraq

At a called Meeting for Business just prior to the Congressional vote on the Resolution to Use Force Against Iraq, Asheville Friends adopted the following minute. The title of the minute was given to us by the Meeting's Young Friends.

We Do Not Want War

The Asheville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) joins with people of faith around the world in seeking a peaceful solution to the current confrontation with Iraq.

As do many in the world, we look to the United States government to set an example for the international community.

We find no justification for the human suffering, environmental destruction, and loss of life that would result from a preemptive strike.

Rather than attacking Iraq, we urge the President to pursue peaceful alternatives in the Middle East.

We support the resumption of weapons-inspections in Iraq.

We look to our government to join with the International community to take away the occasion for all wars – military and economic.

We ask our government and the people of the United States to take corrective actions regarding our countries' development of nuclear weapons of mass destruction, our countries' sale of armaments, and our energy policy, which makes us dependent on oil.

We join other people of faith in holding the leaders of the world and the people of the world in the Light of the Divine.

minute approved 10th month 2002