

# Another Mother for Peace

Spring 2008



## WILL OUR LEADERS EVER LEARN?

As we approach Mother's Day 2008, we decided to reprint the Another Mother for Peace Mother's Day Newsletter from April 1970...

Happy Mother's Day, Mrs. Smith!

Will your son be home for the special day? 40,828 sons that we know about will not. How many North and South Vietnamese mothers have said a permanent good-bye to their sons, we don't know ... But 40,828 American mothers will spend May 10th this year bombarded by merchants' pleas to "give Mom what she really wants for Mother's Day"... when what she really wants is lying dead in a grave, buried with her dreams for his life.

We labor to bring children into the world ... we sacrifice to raise them. And every mother all over the world rears her young with the same love and concern. And then these children are ripped from us and sent out to kill each other. All in the name of ideals...all basically an international power play and land grab. Our sons die to change maps not minds.

But limited wars are by definition unwinnable (Vietnam), short of using ultimate weapons. And since these ultimate weapons will destroy the planet on which we live, war is obsolete.

It's not surprising that man is beginning to look around and see the natural beauty of earth, and that he is suddenly getting very involved in preserving his rivers, his air, his trees. Here, on the eve of total destruction, we are moved to look around us and treasure this tiny clump of earth whirling in the endless night.

But let's not lose sight of the fact that war, itself, is the worst pollution... that the testing of weapons put Strontium 90 into our children's bones-that the sight of societally sanctioned murder in Vietnam, in Laos, in the mideast pollutes their minds-and that the threat of nuclear holocaust poisons their youth and cancerously consumes their hope.

Enough!

The sons we raise must not die in other Vietnams - in Laos... Thailand... Cambodia... Each war brings us closer to nuclear confrontation.

We won't have it anymore.

We refuse to raise our young under the threat of total destruction.

Those who don't know that war is obsolete must be told.

Those who make profits from war must be exposed and stopped!

1970 Editorial Board, Barbara Avedon and Dorothy B. Jones

*continued on page 2*



LEFT:  
July 11, 2007  
Baghdad, Iraq  
© Zorlah  
[www.zorlah.com](http://www.zorlah.com)



RIGHT:  
April 1975  
Vietnamese refugee  
evacuation mission  
off coast of South  
Vietnam – photo  
referenced from

[www.scarface-usmc.org/1975\\_the\\_evacuation.htm](http://www.scarface-usmc.org/1975_the_evacuation.htm)

### May, 2008...

Once again, thousands of American mothers and fathers will not have their sons and daughters home for Mother's Day. American deaths exceed 4,000. Over 20,000 are wounded. Tens of thousands of Iraqis have said permanent good-byes to their loved ones; one estimate suggests the actual number is over 1,000,000!

By the end of 2008, total U.S. expenses in Iraq may exceed \$800 billion (*The Three Trillion Dollar War*, Joseph Stiglitz and Linda Bilmes), and could eventually reach \$3 trillion! Yet our school teachers are being laid off, millions of Americans cannot afford healthcare, many others are being forced out of their homes due to the failing economy...the list goes on.

Another Mother for Peace knows that voter concerns about the economy, jobs, healthcare, and environment are in the forefront of the Presidential election. While our candidates argue over which one supported the invasion of Iraq, none has a plan for ending the war. How can any plan for meeting America's social, healthcare, environmental, and employment problems be achieved while committing billions to the war effort? What could we do with \$800 billion?

**For this Mother's Day...we want our sanity returned...we don't want another Viet Nam or Iraq in 38 years.**

## Peace Homework

✓ Support H.R. 1084, the Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act of 2007. Introduced by Representative Sam Farr (D-CA 17th), this legislation would create a Response Readiness Corps as "a critical first step toward changing the way the U.S. engages the world. Many of the problems in the world today cannot be solved by military force. Problems such as economic disparity and the lack of a functioning, legitimate government can't be solved by the military. Yet U.S. policymakers lack a corps of civilian experts to send to crisis torn areas to help countries help themselves and provide basic services to their citizens. This legislation addresses that need." Press Release, Ann Vaughan, Friends Committee on National Legislation, March 5, 2008.

✓ Contact each Presidential Candidate. Remind them: "We are committed to the moral principle that war is obsolete and that peaceful methods must be creatively sought and implemented to resolve international differences. Respect for the lives of all sons and daughters in all countries is a value we all cherish."

Remember that all Senators and Representatives can be reached through the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

## DID YOU KNOW ?

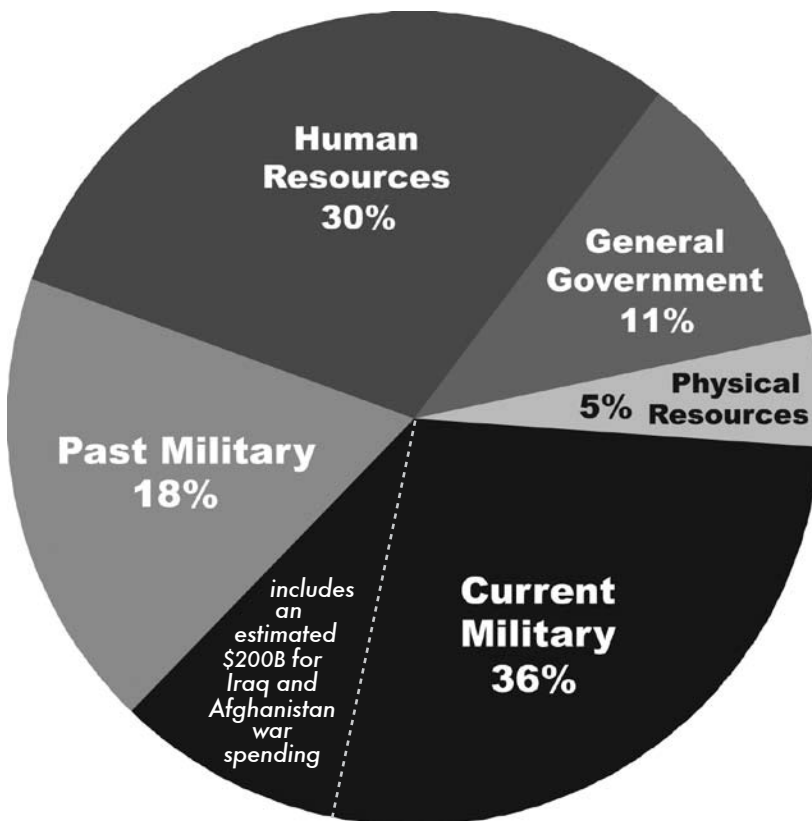
### ... where your income tax money really goes?

U.S. FEDERAL BUDGET 2009 FISCAL YEAR

Total outlays (Federal funds): \$2.659 billion

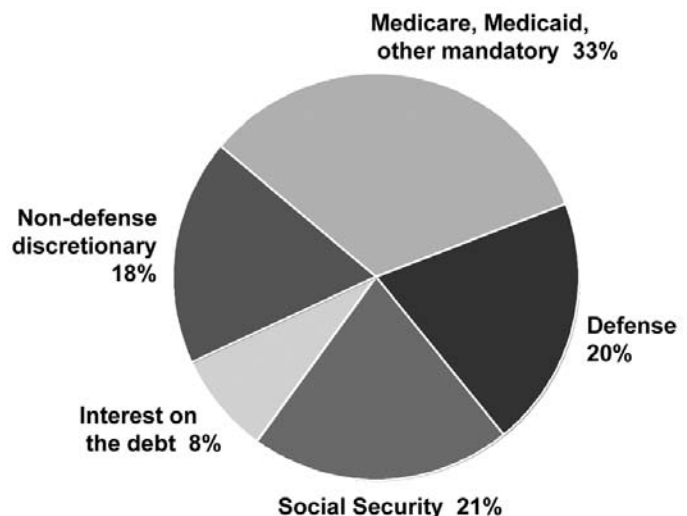
Military: 54% and \$1.449 billion

Source: War Resisters League, New York NY 10012, 212-228-0450; for more details and further explanation please go to [www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm](http://www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm)



### The Government's Deception

The pie chart (right) is the government's view of the budget. This is a distortion of how our income tax dollars are spent because it includes Trust Funds (e.g., Social Security), and the expenses of past military spending are not distinguished from nonmilitary spending. For a more accurate representation of how your Federal income tax dollar is really spent, see the large graph.



Source: Congressional Budget Office for FY2008 ([www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm](http://www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm))

## PLACARDS FOR PEACE MARCHES AND VIGILS

Another Mother for Peace is offering — free of charge — 14" x 22" cardboard placards with our "War is not healthy for children and other living things" logo, to carry at peace marches and vigils. The placards can be held up with one (or both) hands, or they can be mounted on small wooden sticks.

We have been shipping placards to AMP supporters who want to distribute them at peace events in their communities. Our logo is now visible at demonstrations throughout the country.

If you are interested in receiving a shipment of 25 – 50 placards to use at upcoming peace events, we would like to talk to you. AMP will ship the placards at our expense. Since they cannot be rolled like posters, we cannot ship individual placards. Either send an email <411@anothermother.org> or call our toll-free number, 800-763-4670, giving us your contact information — we'll be in touch to discuss the details. You must agree not to sell the placards.

Let's continue to spread our message of peace!

Another Mother for Peace is a non-profit, non-partisan association dedicated to eliminating the use of war as a means of solving disputes among nations, people and ideologies.

### Another Mother for Peace

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#### EDITORIAL BOARD

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## Peace Materials

Pax Materna Poster \$15.00  
Original AMP purple poster (4¾" x 34") from 1985.

"No mother is enemy to another mother" and our "War is not healthy..." logo in 18 languages. On the back is our Pax Materna.

### THE PAX MATERNA

I JOIN WITH MY SISTERS IN EVERY LAND  
IN THE PAX MATERNA —  
A PERMANENT DECLARATION OF PEACE  
THAT TRANSCENDS OUR IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES  
IN THE NUCLEAR SHADOW, WAR IS OBSOLETE.  
I WILL NO LONGER SUFFER IT IN SILENCE  
NOR SUSTAIN IT BY COMPLICITY.  
THEY SHALL NOT SEND MY SON  
TO FIGHT ANOTHER MOTHER'S SON.  
FOR NOW, FOREVER, THERE IS NO MOTHER  
WHO IS ENEMY TO ANOTHER MOTHER.

Medallion \$15.00  
"War is not healthy for children and other living things" logo, approximately 1" x 1¼". Available in gold or silver metallic finish.

Note Cards \$15.00  
Boxed set of 10 cards with matching envelopes. Our "War is not healthy..." logo in color on the front. Inside is blank.

Embroidered Patch \$5.00  
Our beautiful "War is not healthy..." sunflower logo on a 3" x 3½" patch to sew or iron onto clothing, backpacks, etc.

Letter Seals \$2.00  
40 self-adhesive seals per sheet. Stamp-size seals with "War is not healthy..." logo. Put these on your mail (and everything else!).

Bumper Stickers \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00  
Another Mother for Peace  
Another Family for Peace  
Another Voter for Peace

Large Poster \$20.00  
Reproduction of the original 1966 AMP large poster (22" x 26") with our "War is not healthy..." logo on a bright yellow background.

Prices do not include tax or shipping.

Please visit [www.anothermother.org](http://www.anothermother.org) for a complete list of our Peace Materials and to order online — or use the enclosed order form.