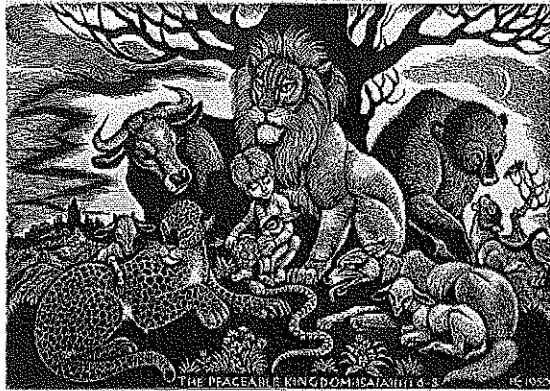


name as an American citizen. I am now sickened to see him continuing the ridiculous policies of the Bush-Cheney administration and wonder: when will we as a nation say that enough is enough?" - David Moreton, Los Angeles



The Peaceable Kin-dom – Isaiah 6:8

ACTION

During this season of Peace, consider the words Martin Luther King used about the Vietnam war when he received the Nobel Peace Prize – and make an effort to put them into practice:

"The true meaning and value of compassion and nonviolence, is when it helps us to see the enemy's point of view, to hear his questions, to know his assessment of ourselves. For from his view we may indeed see the basic weaknesses of our own condition, and if we are mature, we may learn and grow and profit from the wisdom of the brothers [and sisters] who are called the opposition."

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TRANSFORMING TOMORROW**

Local contact:

PEACE ON EARTH??



If only you had known the path to peace this day; but you have completely lost it from view. — Luke 19:42

Peace, peace! they say, though there is no peace. — Jer. 6:14

President Obama spoke eloquently on the acceptance of his Peace Prize as he did when explaining his decision to send an additional 30,000 troops to Afghanistan.

But we must measure Mr. Obama (and ourselves) not by his words but by his actions.

Under the Obama administration, the U.S. kills as ruthlessly and indiscriminately in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan as it did under Bush.

Pakistan

"More CIA drone attacks have been conducted under President Obama than under President George W. Bush. The political consensus in support of the drone program, its antiseptic, high-tech appeal and its secrecy have obscured just how radical it is. For the first time in history, a civilian intelligence agency is using robots to carry out a military mission, selecting people for killing in a country where the United States is not officially at war." - New York Times, 12/4/09

The CIA, the mercenary force Blackwater (now called "XE") and the US military are increasing the use of drone attacks in Pakistan.

Drones, or UAVs, (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles), are robotic death machines that are controlled from thousands of miles away to rain violence down on people who have not been tried or convicted in any court of law.

Hundreds of children have been killed by

unmanned drones since Obama became president.

Because this war has never been publicly confirmed by the Bush or Obama administrations, there is no oversight of these attacks. Anything goes!!

Afghanistan

Obama's troop surge in Afghanistan brings the total of U.S. troops to 100,000. Additionally, the U.S. employs 100,000 mercenary forces there. Despite Obama's rhetoric, there is no end in sight to the killing and destruction.

The richest country in the world is destroying some of the poorest countries in the world.

Before, during and after Obama's speech at West Point, thousands, -- but not tens or hundreds of thousands, or the millions needed -- protested Obama's war surge in Afghanistan - the second major escalation that Obama has ordered in the Afghan war since taking office in January of this year. Across the country, groups of people in 100 cities from Honolulu to Maine to Florida, gathered with anger and outrage to protest this escalation.

In a recent survey by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center, only 32 percent of the poll respondents favored increasing U.S. troops in Afghanistan, while 40 percent

favored decreasing them.

Iraq

"I will promise you this, that if we have not gotten our troops out [of Iraq] by the time I am president, it is the first thing I will do. I will get our troops home. We will bring an end to this war. You can take that to the bank." - Barack Obama, October 27, 2007

Today, Iraq lies in ruins. Some 120,000 US troops remain there and sectarian violence, brought about by the immoral and illegal invasion and occupation of Iraq, continues unabated.



We have to stop making an idol out of Obama. He is not a messiah; he is not, as Cindy Sheehan jokes, "The Pope of Hope." He, like every president before him, is the spokesperson for the empire. He's increased our military budget beyond that of George W. Bush.

A letter to the editor of the New York Times expresses what must be on the minds of many Obama supporters:

"I believed President Obama's pledge to end the wars, and I campaigned heavily for him because I hated seeing so much death and destruction done in my