

HOW YOU CAN HELP RESCIND "OPERATIONAL BULLETIN 202"

- Call or write to your Member of Parliament asking them to demand the withdrawal of "Operational Bulletin 202". To find your MP and their contact information online visit www.parl.gc.ca/common/index.asp
- Email your Member of Parliament asking them to demand the withdrawal of "Operational Bulletin 202"
-Send a copy to the leaders of the opposition: ignatieff.M@parl.gc.ca, layton.j@parl.gc.ca, duceppe.g@parl.gc.ca
-Send a copy to the immigration critics: trudeau.j@parl.gc.ca, chow.o@parl.gc.ca, st-cyr.t@parl.gc.ca
- Write a letter to the editor explaining why you oppose "Operational Bulletin 202". To find your local newspaper visit <http://canadians.org/wordwarriors/contacts.html>. To send letters to the Globe&Mail or Toronto Star write to letters@globeandmail.com and lettertoed@thestar.ca
- Download a petition against "Operational Bulletin 202" (available at <http://www.resisters.ca/resources.html>) and circulate it among your friends, family, co-workers, faith community, labour union activists, and community groups
- At all-candidates meetings during the federal election, ask: "Canada refused to go to Iraq, the vast majority of Canadians continue to oppose the war and last election Prime Minister Harper admitted it was 'absolutely an error', yet the minority government has refused to support troops who came to the same conclusion. What will you do to support US Iraq War resisters?"

War Resisters Support Campaign visit www.resisters.ca

RESPECT DEMOCRACY RESCIND "OPERATIONAL BULLETIN 202"



LET U.S. IRAQ WAR RESISTERS STAY

THE HARPER GOVERNMENT'S CONTEMPT FOR DEMOCRACY

- * Prorogued Parliament twice and re-branded the Government of Canada as "the Harper Government".
- * Produced a guide to disrupt parliamentary committees.
- * Integrity Commissioner received 228 whistleblowing complaints and upheld none.
- * Fired Veterans Ombudsman Pat Stogran and smeared veterans advocate Sean Bruyea for supporting the troops.
- * Gutted veteran benefits. According to Major Mark Campbell, "This New Veteran's Charter is a grotesque travesty. It is an abject betrayal by the government of Canada to our new generation of disabled and wounded veterans."
- * Minister of International Cooperation Bev Oda altered documents related to NGO funding, then lied about it.
- * Immigration Minister Jason Kenney used government resources to launch partisan fundraising.
- * Immigration Minister Jason Kenney publicly criticized the judiciary for not enforcing his government's policies. The Canadian Bar Association called his remarks "an affront to our democracy and freedoms."
- * Immigration Minister Jason Kenney labelled US Iraq War resisters "bogus refugee claimants", a smear the Canadian Council for Refugees described as giving "the strong appearance of political interference."
- * Appointed Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) members who accepted as few as zero refugee claimants.

WHAT IS "OPERATIONAL BULLETIN 202"?

Canada has a proud tradition of welcoming war resisters, two-thirds of Canadians support US Iraq War resisters, and Parliament has twice voted to let them stay.

By the US military's own estimates the Iraq War has killed over 100,000 people, two-thirds of them civilians. The Nuremberg Principles call on soldiers to refuse participation in such war crimes.

Recently, the Federal Court of Canada unanimously ruled that war resisters' beliefs need to be taken into account when determining their refugee claims.

Despite Prime Minister Harper admitting the Iraq War was "absolutely an error", his minority government deports US Iraq War resisters to the US, where they are given harsh sentences for speaking out against the war.

In July 2010 the "Harper Government" issued "Operational Bulletin 202", a directive that instructs Immigration Officers to flag all US war resisters, labelling them criminals and stating they are potentially inadmissible before even hearing their cases.

According to Amnesty International Canada, it is "a violation of international refugee law to suggest that deserters are automatically inadmissible to Canada."

Furthermore, "Amnesty International believes that Operational Bulletin 202 misstates the law and seeks to intrude on the independence of both IRB members and Immigration Officers. To be consistent with Canada's international obligations under both human rights and refugee law, Amnesty International urges you immediately to withdraw the bulletin."