

Media Advisory October 11th Mobilization Committee

www.Oct11Boston.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 11th – National Day of Action Against the War

Iraq Veterans, Military Families, Student Activists, Peace Groups to Gather on Boston Common

-- Photo & Interview Opportunities --

WHO: A broad regional network of anti-war, human rights, and peace and justice groups is organizing a massive rally featuring **Iraq Veteran Against the War, an Iraqi journalist, City Councilor Chuck Turner**, student organizers, immigrants' rights activists, and **cultural performances spanning genres from folk to funk.**

WHAT: Several thousand participants anticipated; **2-hour rally with speakers and cultural acts; open mic area and children's activities; 1-hour march through downtown Boston and Copley Square**, returning to the Boston Common Parade Grounds for music and organizing.

March and rally includes contingents of Iraq War veterans, military families, student, labor and religious groups, marching bands from Somerville's famous "Honk Fest", costumed participants, colorful signs and banners, and large visually-arresting puppets.

The rally is part of a National Day of Action with additional demonstrations organized for nine other cities across the country. **October 11th marks six years since Congress voted to authorize the invasion of Iraq.** Just a few weeks before the 2008 election, the action demonstrates the growing and persistent public opposition to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

WHERE: The rally takes place at the **Parade Grounds on Boston Common**, closest to the intersection of Charles and Beacon Streets; the march departs from and returns to the rally area.

WHEN: Saturday, October 11, 2008; **Rally – 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.** March 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Attached: Central Demands of the October 11th Day of Action, Speaker and Performer List.

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October 11th Day of Action's Central Demands:

- Stand Up For Peace In The Middle East.
- Bring The Troops Home Now.
- Stop The Wars And Occupations Of Iraq And Afghanistan.
- Money For Jobs, Education, Healthcare And Housing - Not For War And Occupation.
- No Sanctions Or Attack On Iran.
- Stop The Racist Scape-Goating Of Arabs And Muslims.
- Stop The Assault On Human Rights And Civil Liberties.

Speakers:

Huda Ahmed, Iraqi journalist

Iraq Veterans Against The War

Chuck Turner, Boston City Councilor

Meghan Day, UMass-Boston student activist

Merrie Najimy and Centro Presente activists on immigrants rights

Ashley Smith and Joseph Gerson, leading writers & activists on global issues and social change

Cultural Performers:

Pete Cassini (Solo Rock)

Kier Byrnes (Americana Solo)

Fluttr Effect (Modern Rock Band)

Ryan Harvey (Solo Riot Folk)

Casey Desmond (Melodic Rock Female Solo)

Sgt. Maxwell's Peace Chorus (Anti-War Folk/Gospel)

Bojah & The Insurrection (Political Funk)

Michael Bloom (Solo Political Folk)

Pat Scanlon (Anti War Folk Quartet)

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