

# March on the Pentagon, March 17

By [Global Research](#)

Region: [USA](#)

Global Research, March 10, 2007

10 March 2007

## Introducing the March on the Pentagon Saturday, March 17, 2007

- ~ 40th anniversary of the historic 1967 march on the Pentagon ~
- ~ 4th anniversary of the start of the Iraq war ~
- ~ [Where we will assemble on March 17th](#) ~



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On **March 17, 2007**, the 4th anniversary of the start of the criminal invasion of Iraq, tens of thousands of people from around the country will **descend on the Pentagon** in a mass demonstration to demand: **U.S. Out of Iraq Now!** 2007 is the 40th anniversary of the historic 1967 anti-war march to the Pentagon during the Vietnam War. The message of the 1967 march was "From Protest to Resistance," and marked a turning point in the development of a countrywide mass movement.

In the coming days and weeks, thousands of organizations and individuals will begin mobilizing for the upcoming March on the Pentagon. Organizing committees and transportation centers are being established to bring people to the March on the Pentagon.

We will assemble at 12 noon at 23rd St. and Constitution Ave. NW. [Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here to read](#) [or see below] the full ANSWER statement on why we're marching.

### Initial endorsers include:

**Ramsey Clark**, former U.S. Attorney General

**Maxine Waters**, Congresswoman

**Alice Walker**, Pulitzer prize winning author

**Cynthia McKinney**, Congresswoman

**Cindy Sheehan**, co-founder Gold Star Families for Peace, author

**Ron Kovic**, Vietnam Veteran, author, Born on the 4th of July

**Malik Rahim**, Founder, Common Ground Collective, New Orleans

**Bishop Thomas Gumbleton**, Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit

**Paul Haggis**, Director of *Crash*, 2005 Academy Award for Best Picture

**Elias Rashmawi**, National Coordinator, National Council of Arab Americans (NCA)

**Howard Zinn**, Author, *A People's History of the United States*

**Rev. Luis Barrios**, Iglesia de San Romero de las Americas, UCC  
**Heidi Boghosian**, Executive Director, National Lawyers Guild  
**Chaplain James Yee**, former Army chaplain, Guantánamo Detention Center  
**Mahdi Bray**, Executive Director, Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation  
**Father Roy Bourgeois**, Founder, School of the Americas Watch  
**Leonard Weinglass**, Attorney for the Cuban Five  
**Eric LeCompte**, National Office, School of the Americas Watch  
**Mara Verheyden-Hilliard**, Co-founder, Partnership for Civil Justice  
**Brian Becker**, National Coordinator, ANSWER Coalition  
**Mounzer Sleiman**, TV commentator and Vice Chair, National Council of Arab Americans  
**Waleed Bader**, Vice chair of the National Council of Arab American, Chair of NCA NY/NJ Chapter, Former President of Arab Muslim American Federation - NY  
**Ben Dupuy**, Co-Director, Haiti Progres  
**Juan Jose Gutierrez**, Executive Director, Latino Movement USA  
**Calvin Gipson**, Former President, San Francisco LGBT Pride Committee  
**Rev. Graylan Hagler**, Senior Pastor, Plymouth Congregational Church, Washington D.C  
**Kay Lucas**, Director, Crawford Peace House, Crawford, TX  
**Iglesia de San Romero** - United Church of Christ  
**Claudia de la Cruz**, Director, Dominican Women's Youth Development Center  
**Chuck Kaufman**, Co-coordinator of the Nicaragua Network  
**Al Garcia**, Alliance for a Just & Lasting Peace in the Philippines  
**Macrina Cardenas**, Mexico Solidarity Network  
**Eugene Puryear**, Howard University, student leader  
**Gloria La Riva**, Coordinator, National Committee to Free the Cuban Five  
**CAAAV**: Organizing Asian Communities  
**Nodutdol** for Korean Community Development  
**Iglesia de San Romero** - United Church of Christ  
**Da Urban Butterflies**  
**KAWAN**: Korean Americans Against War and Neoliberalism  
**Justice Committee**  
**Ed Asner**, Actor  
**Shirley Knight**, Actor  
**Debra Sweet**, National Coordinator, World Can't Wait — Drive Out the Bush Regime  
**Jennifer Harbury**, Human Rights Lawyer, author  
**United Teachers of Los Angeles** (UTLA)  
**Jim Lafferty**, Director, National Lawyers Guild - Los Angeles  
**James Petras**, Professor Emeritus, SUNY Binghamton (State University of New York)  
**Mimi Kennedy**, Actor (Dharma & Greg)

<http://answer.pephost.org/site/News2?id=8107>

From [www.michaelmoore.com](http://www.michaelmoore.com) , March 17th: [Join the March on the Pentagon](#)

### **Statement from the ANSWER Coalition on the March 17-18 Global Days of Action**

The people of the United States want an end to the war in Iraq. The elections in November were a clear repudiation of the Bush administration's war of aggression. The new Congress, however, has no intention of ending the war. Bush and the Pentagon generals are determined to prolong the war. Tens of thousands of more troops will be sent to Iraq. We

are building a massive antiwar movement on the national and local level. Only the action of the people will stop the war.

We are returning to the Pentagon because the Iraq war has resulted in more than 655,000 Iraqi deaths (Lancet), on top of more than 1 million killed by sanctions between 1990-2003. This is genocide.

We are returning to the Pentagon because U.S. military deaths has exceeded 3,000. But that doesn't begin to tell the story. There have been 21,921 wounded as of Nov. 30 and another 17,835 evacuated due to serious injury or illness as of Sept. 30, 2005 when the Pentagon stopped releasing these statistics.

We are returning to the Pentagon because it is U.S. missiles and bombs, including hundreds of thousands of cluster bombs that have been sent to Israel to kill and maim the people of Palestine and Lebanon. These weapons are a war crime. The estimate is that between 2 million and 3 million cluster bomblets were dropped on Lebanon, and more than a million remain unexploded — posing a danger to civilians for years to come. The war in Iraq is one front in the U.S. plan for domination of the Middle East. Colonial occupation is a crime whether it be in Iraq or Palestine or Lebanon.

### **The Global Military Machine**

We are returning to the Pentagon because it maintains 714 military bases in 130 countries to extend the influence of US transnational corporations, oil giants and banks. The slogan of national security and the war on terror stands exposed as a pretext for a global empire enforced by military might and limitless violence.

While the focus of the recent years has been to use military power and violence against the Arab people, the Pentagon has been targeting peoples and nations all over the world. U.S. troops occupy South Korea. U.S. nuclear weapons target North Korea. Interventionist actions are already taking place in the Philippines, and are planned against Cuba, Venezuela, and throughout South and Central Asia.

### **The Warfare State: Spying, Surveillance, Secret Prisons and Torture Facilities**

We are returning to the Pentagon to demand the immediate closure of Guantánamo and all other torture facilities. The grotesque revelations of torture and abuse in Abu Ghraib were the tip of the iceberg. Punishing a few rank and file soldiers and counting on the mass media to tire of the story, the Pentagon has tried to conceal the reality that it engages in arbitrary detention and torture of those it identifies as "enemies."

We are returning to the Pentagon to demand an end to the surveillance and other spy programs conducted against the people of this country by the Pentagon and other agencies.

### **Militarism: The Social Costs of the Warfare State**

We are returning to the Pentagon because the military budget of this country is a dagger in the heart of programs that meet peoples' needs. More than 47 million people in the U.S. are without health care coverage and one out of every four children is born into extreme poverty. Fifty percent of all bankruptcies in the last year were filed by people who couldn't pay their hospital and doctor's bills. Factories are closing and whole communities and

neighborhoods are being turned into ghost towns. Skyrocketing tuition is and will continue to make the dream of a college education harder to realize for working class youth. In the last year, Bush and Congress cut money for education, food aid and veterans' benefits while the Senate voted almost unanimously to rubber stamp the new "war" budget of \$590 billion (the official budget number of \$443 billion conceals at least \$150 billion in expenditures.)

We are returning to the Pentagon to challenge the system that is addicted to war and global domination. The Iraq war is a criminal endeavor based on lies. It was always about conquering the entire Middle East with its vast repositories of oil. While the Iraq war has been an absolute catastrophe for the entire people of Iraq and for tens of thousands of U.S. soldiers, it must be remembered that many U.S. corporations are benefiting. They are the recipients of new Pentagon orders for weapons, supplies and contracts. The Iraq war costs approximately \$279 million each day. That breaks down to more than \$11 million every hour of every day of the year. The total cost of the Iraq war will be \$2 trillion, according to the Iraq Study Group report.

Unless the people act now, the human and economic costs of the war will only increase. Let's unite and stand together at the Pentagon on March 17.

[http://answer.pephost.org/site/News2?abbr=ANS\\_&page=NewsArticle&id=8157](http://answer.pephost.org/site/News2?abbr=ANS_&page=NewsArticle&id=8157)

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