

No Other Way Out

Source: "No Other Way Out" by Chris Hedges, TruthDig.com, 2/28/2011



On March 19, the 8th anniversary of the invasion of Iraq, a coalition of U.S. military veterans from *Iraq Veterans Against the War*, *March Forward!*, *Vietnam Veterans Against the War* and *Veterans for Peace* will gather in Lafayette Park across from the White House to engage in civil disobedience actions against the wars.

We are wasting \$700 million a DAY to pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, while our teachers, firefighters and police lose their jobs, while we slash basic assistance programs for the poor, children and the elderly, while we turn our backs on the some 3 million people being pushed from their homes by foreclosures and bank repossessions and while we do nothing to help the one in six American workers who cannot find work.

These wars have taken hundreds of thousands of lives. They have pushed millions into refugee or displacement camps. They have left young men and women severely crippled and maimed. They have turned our nation into an isolated pariah, fueling the very terrorism we seek to defeat. And they cannot be won. The sooner we leave Iraq and Afghanistan the sooner we will save others and finally save ourselves.

But, we will not stop the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; we will not end this slaughter of innocents, **unless we are willing to rise up as have state workers in Wisconsin and citizens on the streets of Arab capitals.**

If veterans bearing physical and emotional wounds from wars can walk their trail of tears to the White House using their bodies to challenge the crimes of the state, so can we. We must be willing to accept personal discomfort, to put our bodies in the way of the machine, if we hope to expose the lies of war and blunt the abuse by corporate profiteers.

Please come to stand with us at the Nanuet peace vigil at 1-3 pm on Saturday.



Join our 434th Peace Vigil to end the wars!
Every Saturday, 1-3 pm, at Rte. 59 & Middletown Rd. in Nanuet, NY
For info: www.rocklandaction.org 03/12/11

Rockland Coalition for Peace & Justice