



# Bring Our Troops Home from the Middle East



**George McGovern**, a former U.S. senator from South Dakota, was the Democratic nominee for president in 1972.

*The following excerpts are taken from his column "Bring Our Troops Home from Mideast This Year" (The Capital Times, Wisconsin, 4/23/09).*

**"Are we now going to ignore for another three years the public mandate of 2006 against this costly, pre-emptive war based on deceit? And how can we justify putting thousands more U.S. troops into Afghanistan? We have exhausted our treasury. We are also close to exhausting our soldiers."**

**"Our policymakers contend that we must maintain U.S. troops in the Middle East to curb terrorism. I strongly believe that it is our military presence in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere in the Middle East that is driving terrorism against the United States."**

**"No country that longs for national sovereignty wants a foreign army in its midst. We taught that lesson to the British Empire in 1776 when George Washington and his ragtag guerrilla army drove the British military from our shores."**

**"For our sake and God's sake, let's get out of there and begin healing our own bankrupted land."**



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**5/23/09**

*Rockland Coalition for Peace & Justice*