



Exonerate Lt. Ehren Watada

Source: "The Trials of Ehren Watada" by J. Brecher & B. Smith, The Nation, May 19, 2009



As Americans are inundated with revelations about the lies, torture and other crimes that accompanied the US-led war in Iraq, **many who resisted continue to be punished for refusing to participate in those crimes.**

In 2006, 1st Lt. **Ehren Watada** became the first commissioned military officer who **refused to be deployed to Iraq on grounds that the war was illegal and immoral and that to participate in it would make him complicit in war crimes.**

Lt. Watada, based at Ft. Lewis, Wash., won a significant legal victory recently when the US Department of Justice dropped efforts to retry him after a bungled court-martial. But his legal problems continue. He is not alone.

Many Iraq War resisters remain prisoners or fugitives. There are more than fifty public resisters in Canada and an estimated 250 more underground.

It is shameful that those responsible for the war and its crimes remain at large while war resisters are persecuted and GIs are stop-lossed and denied adequate medical and psychological care.

As America debates what to do with its accused war criminals, isn't it time to exonerate Ehren Watada and all those who stood up against their war crimes?

Isn't it time to honor Lt. Watada and other war resisters with medals for their courage to resist the illegal war?



Join 342nd Peace Vigil to end the war!

Every Saturday, 1-3pm, at Rte. 59 & N. Middletown Rd. in Nanuet, NY

For info: www.rocklandaction.org

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Rockland Coalition for Peace & Justice