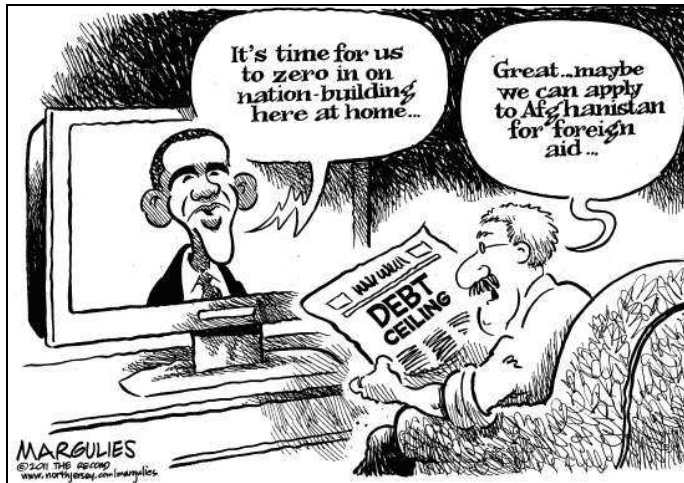


Bring War \$\$ Home Now

Sources: "US Mayors Tell Congress: Bring War Dollars Home" by Lisa Savage, CommonDreams.org, 6/20/11; "Obama's Too-Slow Afghan "Exit" Strategy Scores Him No Political Points" by John Nichols, the Nation, 6/22/11; "In Afghanistan Speech, Obama Offers Token Troop Withdrawals While Maintaining the "War on Terror" Mindset" by Phyllis Bennis, AlterNet, 6/22/11.



"Afghanistan Troop withdrawal" by Jimmy Margulies. Reprinted by permission

On June 22, President Obama announced that he will withdraw 10,000 troops from Afghanistan this year and 23,000 more troops by September 2012.

That's too slow a timeline, according to majority of the American people.

A new Pew Research Center survey taken in June finds that a record high level (56 percent) of Americans want all U.S. forces removed rapidly from Afghanistan.

Moreover, U.S. mayors have listened to their constituents and taken the message farther than President Obama's modest cut in troops. At the June 20 plenary session of the annual U.S. Conference of Mayors, they voted to call on the federal government to stop funding wars and to bring the war dollars home.

It costs about \$1 million per soldier per year to fight the war in Afghanistan today; for that same million dollars, the U.S. government could bring that soldier home and hire her and 19 more for a year at a good, green middle-class job.

In this war, dropping bombs at \$1 million apiece – the equivalent of 25 teachers' annual salaries – is a shameful waste of our national wealth.

This year alone, U.S. taxpayers will pay about \$122 billion for those U.S. soldiers to kill and die in Afghanistan. That's why ending the wars is the most important single thing we can do to rebuild our economy and provide jobs for people across this country.

If the President has forgotten that Afghanistan is called "the graveyard of empires," the people have not. Their mayors now join the chorus calling on the federal government to end the endless wars, and bring the war dollars home to meet urgent human needs.



Rockland Coalition
for Peace & Justice

Join our 450th Peace Vigil to help end the wars!
Every Saturday, 1-3 pm, at Rte. 59 & Middletown Rd. in Nanuet, NY
For info: www.rocklandaction.org 7/2/11

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