



Longmont Citizens for Justice & Democracy

“For Immediate Release”

June 16, 2003

“MONEY TRAIL LEADS TO LOCAL TERRORISTS HARBORING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION”

“OPERATION AMERICAN FREEDOM”

Longmont Citizens for Justice and Democracy’s “Operation American Freedom” has traced a money trail that directly leads to corporations that have an active role in the creation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and the theft of democracy! These corporations are located here on the Front Range of Colorado. “Operation American Freedom” intends to shine a ray of light on these corporations misconduct by sending out its peace-caravan in search of the truth. Our inspection team will consist of concerned citizens and embedded reporters. The actions of these corporations and the current politicians in office have far reaching consequences.

Identified areas of misconduct include, but are not limited to the following:

- ***The de-stabilization of the Middle East.*** For fiscal year 2003, 72% of U.S. foreign aid allotted to the Middle East was for military as opposed to just 28% for economic development.
- ***Undue influence on our democratic process through campaign contributions and political connections.*** Millions of dollars are poured into campaign contributions and high priced lobbyists, which act as a form of a pay-off for politicians in charge of the most lucrative federal contracts available. A conflict of interest also exists with 32 of the top appointees to cabinet level agencies being former executives, consultants, or major shareholders of top defense contractors. Many of these executives are well placed to help their firm’s benefit from the Bush Administration’s military and foreign policies.
- ***The deterioration of Homeland Security.*** The former defense industry’s CEOs/War Hawks that are currently part of the Bush administration determine the course of our foreign policy, which usually is the best course for their former employers, not the best for our Homeland Security.
- ***The closing of public schools and budget cuts to domestic programs, with an over-all weakening of our economy.*** If we add up the current Pentagon budget, the nuclear weapons budget of the Energy Department, the military portion of the NASA budget, foreign military aid, veteran’s benefits, interest payments on debt incurred by past military spending and other military-related expenses, the U.S. spends over \$670 billion a year to feed its addiction to war. That is more then 50% of the current Federal budget. This \$670 billion should be better allocated to assist our failing economy with struggling education and health care systems.

Fact sheets can be found in our media package for the guilty parties. The guilty parties are as follows:

Digital Globe (Longmont), IBM (Boulder), Lockheed Martin (Gunbarrel), Northrop Grumman (Boulder), Halliburton (Denver), TRW (Denver), Boeing (Aurora), Raytheon (Aurora), General Electric (Aurora), General Dynamics (Aurora)

Operation American Freedom will be meeting at the Twin Peaks Mall’s SW parking lot. 1250 S. Hover Road in Longmont on June 16, 2003 at 8:00 am. We will be departing the location at 8:30 am and began our peace-caravan to each of these locations for a demonstration including educational materials, street theater and other informative actions. Please see the attached “Road Map for Peace” for detailed information for the operation. Photo opportunity and press vehicle available, please contact 303-682-5358. For detailed information please visit www.longmontcitizens.com.

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“We don’t have democracy, we do it!”