

Anti-War Protesters Declare 4/23 Zero Recruitment Day

Press Conference:

Thursday, April 23, 9:30 a.m.

Knollwood Mall, Parking Lot (by the Knollwood sign),
Highway 7 and Texas Avenue, St. Louis Park

On April 23, 2009, anti-war groups will engage in coordinated protests at military recruiting centers across Minnesota. Participating groups are united in an effort to:

- Visibly oppose the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan
- Expose recruiter lies
- Prevent military recruiting that day



Anti-War Committee member Katrina Plotz explains, “President Obama has failed to keep his promise of ending the U.S. war on Iraq. His plan to keep 50,000 troops in Iraq through 2011 will continue an unjustified military occupation for almost three more years. An escalation is planned for Afghanistan, where Obama just deployed 17,000 additional troops. Maintaining these wars and occupations requires military recruiters to entice young people with false promises. Recruiters, who already disproportionately target low-income people, will use the economic crisis to intensify pressure on vulnerable youth. We have to shatter the illusion that the war is ending and that new soldiers won’t have to fight.”

Sarah Martin, Grandmothers Peace Brigade member of articulates her concern, “Recruiters target young people with false promises just to meet their quotas. Contrary to what recruiters say, new recruits are sent to fight, kill and die in real wars. Those who survive, come home physically and psychologically injured, and face greater economic hardship upon their return. The truth about recruiting reveals a system that deceives and exploits young people. To end these unjust wars, we must actively resist military recruitment so there are no more soldiers to fight.”

All participating groups will send a representative to the press conference to address the media. The media is also welcome to cover the actions on location. Below is a list of the groups organizing events at military recruitment centers:

Katrina Plotz, 651.769.4474
Anti-War Committee

Chris Clauson, 612-805-7039
Northwest Neighbors for Peace

Tracy Molm, 612.432.4756
SDS, U of M

Sarah Martin, 612.437.0222
Grandmothers Peace Brigade

Marie Braun, 612.275.2720
Twin Cities Peace Campaign

James Dimock, 507.304.1761
Mankato