

## EXHIBIT 2

## Welcome to Armed Forces Day

Good afternoon... Welcome to Vandenberg Air Force Base, where our brothers and sisters in the Armed Forces have sworn an oath to defend the Constitution and the rights guaranteed to us as citizens by that constitution, including our right to be here and our right to speak our minds. Our Constitution states that these rights are inalienable. They are not rights granted to us as a favor from our government or by the commander of this base, but are rights intrinsically human and are ours by nature of our very humanity. We will, therefore, exercise those rights and expect our fellow citizens in uniform to honor them and to honor the oath they have sworn.

Today is Armed Forces Day and we are here because we are in solidarity with our sisters and brothers on the other side of the Green Line. We are in solidarity with them because we are fellow citizens. We are in solidarity with them because they are our sisters, our brothers, our sons and daughters and cousins and grandchildren. We are in solidarity with them because we, all of us, love our country and cherish the freedoms and values that are the hallmark of American tradition. But most of all, today we are in solidarity with them because all of us, whether military or civilian, have been deeply betrayed by our government. And such a betrayal, treasonous by any measure, demands a response.

Many of us on this side of the Green Line have been here on numerous occasions to protest our government's policies. And this is an appropriate venue for that, since Vandenberg Air Force Base is the place where some of the worst of those policies are carried out. It is the home of the Western Missile Range where our Department of Defense tests ICBMs designed to deliver indiscriminate annihilation to the targets of our choice anywhere on earth. It is the home of multiple space launch complexes where satellites are launched into polar orbit and our government's policy of the domination and weaponization of space is carried out. And it is the home of the Joint Space Operations Center where the data from our network of surveillance, positioning and targeting satellites is received and then fed out to the killing fields of our wars of aggression and clandestine operations around the globe.

But today we come here neither to protest our government's policies nor to challenge our military's service to those policies. We come here specifically

on Armed Forces Day to individually challenge those in service to that military, to search their consciences and to respond to the betrayal of their government with courage and integrity. They have sworn, first and foremost, to uphold the Constitution. We will make a case for our government's betrayal of that constitution, its betrayal of its citizens, its betrayal of its military personnel and its betrayal of the world. We will ask our brothers and sisters to honor their oath to uphold and defend the Constitution and will invite them to join us in solidarity to oppose those in our government who dishonor that Constitution.

We ask those gathered here to turn and face our fellow citizens on the other side of the Green Line, to put down your signs and if you are inclined, to participate in the program you have been handed. We will be ringing a bell about every two seconds for the two hours we are here to honor the now over 3,300 of our sisters and brothers who have died in the illegal war in Iraq. We would ask that each of you if you wish, at some point in our program, take a turn at ringing the bell. Likewise, after our opening song, we invite you to line up at the microphone, if you feel comfortable, to read a line from the litanies.

In between the litanies, there will be a period of silence to honor the hundreds of thousands of Iraqi citizens who have suffered and died over the past 17 years at the hands of the war criminals in our government from the Gulf War in 1990, through the period of the brutal sanctions, up to the quagmire created by the current administration. We ask for your silence during those periods and that you turn and face the same direction as those holding the images. Those wishing to do so, can drop to one knee.

After our first three minutes of silence we will begin with a song for peace. It will be sung completely through twice and we ask you to join in.

## *Armed Forces Day Program*

The Guadalupe Catholic Worker in conjunction with the Vandenberg Action Coalition will sponsor a program on Armed Forces Day, Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at Vandenberg Air Force Base. The purpose of the program is to both offer encouragement and to make a space for those in our Armed Forces whose conscience dictates that they give up their service to a government that, rather than respect their desire to honor their fellow citizens by protecting our Country's values, has dishonored them by involving them in imperial pursuits. The program will both honor those who have lost their lives in the illegal war in Iraq, and will shine light on our government's betrayal of its citizens, its military personnel and the world.

The program will be specific to Armed Forces Day and is designed to allow attendees to participate. Signs will not be necessary. Those wishing to participate in the program should arrive at the Main Gate to Vandenberg Air Force Base between 12:30 and 1:00pm and park in the designated area provided by Base personnel. The program will be peaceful, interactive, and will include non-violent direct action. For information, call Dennis Apel at 343-6322.