Let it be said that people in the United States did nothing when their government declared a war without limit and institut-
ed stark new measures of repression.

The signers of this statement call on the people of the U.S. to resist the policies and overall political direction that have emerged since Sept. 11, 2001, and which pose grave dangers to the people of the world.

We believe that people and nations have the right to determine their own destiny, free from military coercion by great powers. We believe that all persons detained or prosecuted by the United States government should have the same rights and protections valued and protected. We understand that such rights and values are always contested and must be fought for.

We believe that people of conscience must take responsibility for what their own governments do -- we must first of all oppose the injustice that is done in our name. Thus we call on all Americans to RESIST the war and repression that has been loosed on the world by the Bush administration. It is unjust, immoral and illegal.

We too smoked the thousands of innocent dead and shook our heads at the terrible scenes of carnage -- even as we recalled similar scenes in Baghdad, Panama City, and Afghanistan. We too watched with shocked horror as the Bush government exposed the world to a reign of terror unmatched in our time.

We believe that questioning, criticism and dissent must be valued and protected. We understand that such rights and values are always contested and must be fought for.

In our name, the Bush administration, with near unanimity from Congress, not only attacked Afghanistan but arrogated to itself the right to rain unrelenting terror and death and destruction on any country which has no connection to the horror of Sept. 11. What kind of world will this become if the U.S. government has a carte blanche to start a war and stop one, to declare "there IS a limit" and refuse to be seen for what it is and resisted. Too many times in history people have waited until it was too late to resist.

This challenge. We applaud and support the questioning and protest now going on, even as we recognize the need for much, much more to actually stop this juggerna-
to.

In our name, within the U.S. government has created two new kinds of people: those to whom the basic rights of the U.S. legal system are at solemn prom-
ised, and those who now seem to have no rights at all. The government has rounded up 1,000,000 immigrants and detained them in secret and indefinitely. Hundreds of thousands of others have been deported and hundreds of thousands wrongfully imprison-
ted in this massive concentration camps for Americans in World War II. For the first time in decades, immigration processes single out certain nationalities for unequal treatment.

Groups are declared "terrorist" at the stroke of a presidential pen.

Dissident artists, intellectuals, and professors find their views distorted, attacked and suppressed. The so-called Patriot Act -- along with a host of similar measures on the state level -- gives police sweeping new powers of search and seizure, supervised if at all by secret proceedings before secret courts.

In our name, within the U.S. government has created two new kinds of people for a hollow promise of safety. We say NOT IN OUR NAME. We refuse to be party to these wars and we repudiate any that are being waged in our name or for our welfare. We extend a hand to those around the world suffer-
ing from these policies; we will show our solidarity in word and deed.

We who sign this statement call on all Americans to join together to rise to this challenge. We applauded and supported the questioning and protest now going on, even as we recognize the need for much, much more to actually stop this juggerna-
to. Instead, let the world hear our pledge: We will resist the machinery of war and repression and rally others to do everything possible to stop it.

For more information, visit: http://www.nion.us

The over 45,000 signers include...

Michael Albert, political activist, (Park Cities Book Exchange, New York)
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