



HAWAI'I STATEMENT

IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF VIEQUES



AUGUST 19, 1999





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Part of the legacy of colonialism is the severe impact of militarization. Puerto Rico, like Hawai'i, was taken over by the United States in 1898. Vieques, a small island off the coast of Puerto Rico's main island, is home to 9300 residents. Seventy-two percent of the population live below poverty level. Unemployment is at 50%. Cancer rates are at least 30% higher than the rest of Puerto Rico.

Present since the 1940s, the Navy now controls nearly 3/4 of the island. On April 19, 1999, two 500-pound bombs missed their target in a Navy exercise and caused the death of civilian security guard David Sanes Rodriques. This event ignited the long-smoldering fires of decades of struggle by the people of Vieques.

In solidarity with the people of Vieques, we support their efforts to create an island community which is based on peace and justice, rather than war.

We call upon the United States government to immediately end all military operations on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico.

We add our voices to those in Puerto Rico now speaking out and engaging in various forms of active resistance. These include the highest level of elected officials, leadership of the catholic church, trade union groups, fishermen, university professors, and thousands of grassroots Puerto Rican residents.

We support the Vieques community's insistence on:

- Demilitarization
- Decontamination
- Devolution (return of the lands to the people)
- Development (sustainable)

The situation in Vieques has numerous parallels to what has occurred/is occurring in Hawai'i, Okinawa, the Marshall Islands, the Philippines, Panama, and other territories. Such military actions which are so profoundly destructive to human, environmental, and cultural resources violate basic human rights. It is time to end the invasion!

- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) - Hawai'i Area Program
- Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana
- Nation of Hawai'i
- Ahupua`a Action Alliance
- Sparky Rodrigues, Mālama Mākuā
- Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Anti-Imperialist - Hawai'i Chapter
- Uchina Youth Increasing the Peace (UYIP)
- EnviroWatch Inc.
- Leandra Wai, Mālama Mākuā
- Jessina Anela 'O Maunakea Lopez, Kānaka United for Action
- Kyle Kajihiro, AFSC Hawai'i, Hawai'i Ecumenical Coalition
- Terri Keko'olani Raymond, 'Ohana Koa / Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific
- Nancy Aleck, AFSC Hawai'i
- Kekuni Blaisdell, M.D., Ka Pakaukau
- Ulla Hasager, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs
- Marion Kelly, Ethnic Studies, University of Hawai'i - Mānoa
- Judy Kern, AFSC Hawai'i
- Roger Furrer, AFSC Hawai'i, Mālama Mākuā
- June Shimokawa, AFSC Hawai'i
- Ku'umeaaloha Gomes, Na Mamo O Hawai'i
- Rev. Kaleo Patterson, Hawai'i Ecumenical Coalition
- Rev. Alapaki Kim
- Tony Castanha, Boriqūa de Hawai'i
- Angel M. Santiago Cruz, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i
- Norma Carr, Ph.D., at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i
- Daniel Sanchez, 17, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i
- Ramona Caraballo, 18, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i
- Antonio Rodrigues, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i
- Erasto Caraballo, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai'i





- Albert Rodrigues, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Jenny Hogan, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Florence Rodrigues, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Dominga Trusdell, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Frank Almodova, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Isabella Rodrigues, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Jollene Rosario, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Laura B. Robley, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Julie A. Robley, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- George Garcia, at the meeting of the United Puerto Rican Association of Hawai`i
- Steven L. Tayama, Security, Nation of Hawaii
- Richard N. Salvador (Belau/Palau), member of Coordinating Committee of Abolition 2000: A Global Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- Wesley Ueunten, Okinawa Peace Network
- James Nakapa`ahu, Kanaka Maoli and Polynesian Liberation Organization
- Lani Ka`ahumanu, BiNet USA/National Gay and Lesbian Task Force
- Dennis "Bumpy" Kanahale, Nation of Hawai`i
- Jane Nakatani, Honor Thy Children, Inc.
- Alexander Nakatani, Honor Thy Children, Inc.
- Doug Minnick, Guerilla Gardeners Union, AFSC Hawai`i
- Gabrielle Welford, Guerrilla Gardeners Union, AFSC Hawai`i
- Noenoe Silva, Ph.D., AFSC Hawai`i, Center for Hawaiian Studies
- Pete Shimazaki Doktor- freelance Okinawa activist
- Rolf Nordahl— Press Secretary, Nation of Hawai`i
- Cynthia Franklin, University of Hawai`i-Mānoa
- Valerie Tobin, Berkeley, CA
- Samuel Mitchell, Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board, International Association of Machinists
- Jeannie Anne Pinpin, Ke Ala Hōkū Youth Steering Committee, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Chianne Galclones, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Christopher Petersen, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Laraline Lautaha, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Melissa Zolkeply, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Lisa Lau, Millennium Young People's Congress
- William Crowley, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Patricia Pavo, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Leanne Nakamura, Protect the Planet, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Chrisanta Donela Mullins, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Lisa Yanagida, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Peter Estermann, Punahou School, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Traci Murakami, Punahou School, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Kaily Yee, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Sherrie Takaki, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Annie Lee, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Max Eisenbürger, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Nicole Arriaga, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Troy Tanaka, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Eric Folk, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Marsha Torres, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Walter De Gunya, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Darren Sanga, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Tricia Ilima Hamasaki, Protect the Planet, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Melelani Sax-Barnett, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Melissa Brewer, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Cheryl Lynn Yee, Millennium Young People's Congress
- Jane Calfee, Kapi`olani Community College
- Kelly Rae Kraemer
- Kathy Durham
- Raphael Hulihee
- Elia Loya, Mexicana de Hawai`i
- Keli`i Skippy Ioane, Free Association, King's Landing Village
- Joy Aulani Ahn, International Revolutionary
- Refuse and Resist! Honolulu Chapter
- Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Anti-Imperialist (National Office -Seattle, Washington)
- Liz Rees, Refuse and Resist! Honolulu Chapter





DECLARACIÓN DEL PUEBLO DE HAWAI'I EN SOLIDARIDAD CON EL PUEBLO DE VIEQUES

Parte de la herencia del colonialismo es el impacto severo del militarismo. Puerto Rico, lo mismo que Hawai'i, fue apoderado por EU en 1898. Vieques es una isla chica cerca de la costa de Puerto Rico donde viven 9,300 personas. Setenta y dos por ciento de los que viven ahí tienen un nivel económico muy bajo. El desempleo está a cincuenta por ciento. La cantidad de personas que sufren de cáncer es cuando menos treinta por ciento más alto que en Puerto Rico.

Desde 1940, la Marina de Guerra de EU controla tres cuartos de la isla. Dos bombas de 500 libras que fallaron el objeto en un ejercicio de la Marina de Guerra y causaron la muerte de un guardia civil llamado David Sanes Rodríguez. Esta tragedia fue encender la resistencia ardiendo latente por muchos años.

En solidaridad con el pueblo de Vieques, nosotros apoyamos el esfuerzo para construir una comunidad de la isla que es basada en la paz y justicia, en vez de guerra y violencia.

Exijimos al gobierno de EU que cese inmediata todas las actividades militares en la isla de Vieques, Puerto Rico.

Nosotros unimos nuestras voces a nuestros compañeros de Puerto Rico que están luchando en varias formas. Esto incluye políticos en puestos altos, autoridades de la iglesia Católica, los sindicatos, los pescadores, los profesores de la universidad, y miles de Puertorriqueños.

Nosotros apoyamos la comunidad de Vieques e insistimos en:

- Demilitarización
- Decontaminación
- Devolución (de las tierras de el pueblo)
- Desarrollo (ecológicamente)

La situación en Vieques paralela lo que está ocurriendo en Hawai'i, Okinawa, las Islas Marshall, las Filipinas, Panamá y otros territorios. Estas acciones militares que son profundamente destructivas a las personas, el ambiente, y los recursos culturales violan los derechos humanos fundamental. ¡Ya es tiempo que termine la invasión!

