

**Washington County Democrat Party
Resolution Before the Platform and Resolutions Committee
On
AFGHANISTAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL**

Whereas the current war in Afghanistan is making little strategic progress;

Whereas Al Qaida is no longer a significant threat in Afghanistan;

Whereas the recent Qur'an burning episode shows that senior members of the NATO occupation still do not understand the Afghan culture or the sensitivities surrounding religious issues;

Whereas the Qur'an burning and recent civilian massacre episodes substantially undermine the NATO role and the credibility of non-Muslim troops in assisting the Afghan people;

Whereas the recent massacre of civilians by an alleged rogue American soldier is a grievous tragedy and deep insult to the Afghan people;

Whereas the Qur'an burning and civilian massacre episodes have greatly raised the risk level for American and NATO troops from civilian, military, and police revenge attacks;

Whereas occupation by non-Muslim troops is considered a major offense and cultural insult; and

Whereas credibility and acceptance are critical elements in efforts to rebuild and stabilize Afghanistan:

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Washington County Democratic Party:

1. Urges the Oregon Congressional delegation to support all efforts to remove the NATO military presence from Afghanistan immediately (i.e. less than 3 months).
2. Urges our Congressional delegation to strongly support and adequately fund broad refugee assistance for those Afghani's fleeing political and social persecution and oppression.

Submitted: 12 March 2012, Gerritt Rosenthal
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