

**For Immediate Release**  
**Veterans For Peace: [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)**

NEWS ADVISORY  
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**Veterans For Peace Ask “Who Dies In War?”**

- Who:** Veterans For Peace, a national organization of military veterans including men and women spanning the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), World War II, the Korean, Vietnam, the Gulf, and current Iraq wars, as well as other conflicts cold and hot.
- What:** Memorials, vigils, solemn programs and parades
- Why:** To remember the fallen, the innocent and educate the public about the human cost of war.

Few really think about it, but many more innocent civilians die in war than soldiers. That is the message that Veterans For Peace would like people to think about on Memorial day.

Veterans For Peace National President Mike Ferner comments, “We have been taught that the purpose of Memorial Day is to remember fallen service members. Veterans For Peace is here to tell the nation that the number of innocent civilians who die in war far outnumbers the combatants. It would be immoral to only remember those who fought and died in war and not pay respect to those who are victims. In the final analysis, the best way to remember both is to abolish this scourge of humanity.”

Veterans For Peace National Executive Director Michael T. McPhearson stated, “As veterans this day holds special meaning for us. Many of our members have seen their buddies die in battle and we all know that only luck or grace allows us to be here today to remember the dead. We also know our actions are responsible for the enormous lose of life of innocent people simply trying to live their lives, who for no fault of their own were caught in the middle of madness. We are haunted by their deaths and stand in respectful silence to remember them, those of us who did not live to be veterans and those veterans who are no longer with us. We demand our government and all the governments of the world end this human made plague called war. There is a better way.”

Across the nation, veterans, military families and friends will gather this weekend through Monday to remember fallen loved ones, comrades, service members and all lives lost to war. Veterans For Peace will commemorate these women, children and men with vigils and solemn programs. Several chapters will display temporary cemeteries to represent the over 4,985 U.S. fallen and untold numbers of civilians killed in current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Other chapters will lay wreaths and flowers; have speakers and readings; and march in parades.

For more information, please visit [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org) .

Veterans For Peace is a national organization founded in 1985. It is comprised of member across the country organized in chapters or as at-large members and supported by a national office in St. Louis, MO. There is a convention each year attended by our members, families and supporters from across the nation. Members receive periodic VFP publications. The organization includes men and women veterans of all eras and duty stations spanning the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), World War II, the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf and current Iraq wars as well as other conflicts cold or hot. Our collective experience tells us wars are easy to start and hard to stop and that those hurt are often the innocent. Thus, other means of problem solving are necessary. Veterans For Peace is an official Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) represented at the UN.

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