



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Which Presidential Candidate Will Make Us Safer from the Nuclear Threat?

Santa Barbara, CA (September 30, 2004) – The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has published a guide to the presidential candidates positions on nuclear issues. Nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction continue to pose grave dangers to the US and its citizens. It is up to US citizens to elect a President who will implement policies that will ensure a more secure and far safer world. The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s “US Presidential Candidates’ Report Card” offers voters a guide to the candidates’ stances on nuclear policies that will protect the US and its citizens. The report includes the major presidential candidates’ positions on preventing the threat and proliferation of nuclear weapons and materials, stopping efforts to create dangerous new nuclear weapons, ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and making reductions to nuclear arsenals permanent and verifiable. The full report is available at <http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/nuclear-dangers/report-card.htm>.

Despite calls from past Presidents, nuclear weapons have assumed a far more central role in US security policy. In 2001, the Bush Administration’s Nuclear Posture Review stated, “Nuclear weapons could be employed against targets able to withstand non-nuclear attack, (for example, deep underground bunkers or bio-weapon facilities).” The document further stated, “The need is clear for a revitalized nuclear weapons complex that will: ...be able, if directed, to design, develop, manufacture, and certify new warheads in response to new national requirements; and maintain readiness to resume underground nuclear testing if required.”

The new, more “usable” role that the US government has assigned to nuclear weapons and its doctrine of pre-emptive warfare can encourage other nations to obtain

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nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in pursuit of their own security needs. These policies diminish US national security and attempts to control the spread of weapons of mass destruction, increasing the risk that other countries and non-state extremists will obtain and use nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction against the US.

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is dedicated to educating and advocating responsible US nuclear policies that promote long-term security. Understanding how the presidential candidates will deal with these issues is essential in allowing US citizens to make an informed decision on who is best suited to lead this great country.

The “US Presidential Candidates’ Report Card” is part of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s Turn the Tide Campaign to chart a new course for US nuclear policy. The Turn the Tide campaign utilizes online advocacy tools allowing citizens to directly contact their elected representatives and local media on urgent nuclear issues. For more information about the campaign, please visit <http://www.chartinganewcourse.org>.

For more information on the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s “US Presidential Candidates’ Report Card” or Turn the Tide Campaign, please contact Carah Ong, Communications Director at Cell: (805) 896-1909 or email cong@napf.org.

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For more than 20 years, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has been committed to advancing initiatives to eliminate the nuclear weapons threat to all life, to fostering the global rule of law, and to building an enduring legacy of peace through education and advocacy. The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan international organization on the Roster in consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.