

Where is **peace** hiding in Arizona?

Find out at the weekly meeting of the

## END THE WAR COALITION

Where: Grace Lutheran Church, 1124 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Phoenix, AZ in the Education Center (basement)

When: Every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm

Questions: 480-894-2024 or [endthewarcoalition@cox.net](mailto:endthewarcoalition@cox.net)

**SEE YOU THERE!**

# COME AND SUPPORT PHOENIX VETERANS FOR PEACE



**Wednesday, November 11, 2009**

as they march in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade with a float, exhibiting the unnecessary human cost of the Afghanistan war and occupation, featuring a pair of boots for each of the 17 Arizonans killed in Afghanistan and a coffin draped with an American flag. More than 200,000 people are expected to attend the parade.



## You can support the Phoenix Veterans for Peace (VFP) this Wednesday, November 11 by:

(1) whether you are a veteran or not, wearing a VFP or peace T shirt or wearing your former military uniform if you are an anti-war veteran and carrying a sign opposing the Afghanistan war; or (2) joining activists with signs opposing the escalating Afghanistan war and having a strong anti-war presence along the parade route.

### To March:

By no later than 8:30 a.m meeting at the east end of the Veterans Administration Medical Center Complex, at 650 East Indian Indian School Road, Phoenix, at complex #85. Streets close at 10 a.m. You may leave your vehicle at the North Baptist Church at 5757 North Central Avenue (corner of Bethany Home), Phoenix. A shuttle runs from there so you can get back to your vehicle at the end of the parade. The shuttle stops running between 9:30 a.m and 10 a.m. For more information call (480) 620-5323 or e-mail [endthewarcoalition@cox.net](mailto:endthewarcoalition@cox.net)

### To Demonstrate:

Arrive early around 8 a.m. to reserve our place along the parade route. If you can help create a strong peace/ anti-war presence along the parade route, bring your signs focusing on opposing the Afghanistan war to the pedestrian cross walk between the northwest and southwest corner of Cental and Camelback. You may bring your own sign but please have them focus on opposing the Afghanistan war. We have learned that if we do not arrive early we cannot reserve the area along the parade route. By arriving early, we do not block people behind us when we hold our signs and banners. When the VFP contingent goes by, we will honor them with our applause. If you arrive early there is parking on the side streets south and west of Central & Camelback.

### **BRING WATER, SNACKS AND SUN SCREEN**

The parade route leaves from the Veterans Administration complex on Indian School Road, goes northbound on 7th Street from Montecito to Camelback, west on Camelback Road to Central, and north on Central Avenue to Bethany Home Road ending and destaging at the North Phoenix Baptist Church.

**Volunteers needed:** If you would like to help set up the boot exhibit on the transport on the evening of Tuesday, November 10 please call (480) 620-5323 or e-mail [endthewarcoalition@cox.net](mailto:endthewarcoalition@cox.net)



All participants to uphold our traditions of non-violence

This is the day to honor veterans and urge them to take a position with Veterans for Peace. We want to keep our focus on peace, justice and respect for the soldier who can turn to a peacemaker. This is not the day to voice opinions, carry signs or wear T-shirts that speak of any other topic than opposing the escalating war in Afghanistan.

**Also! Join fellow Phoenicians in a car pool to  
the noon-3 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 15, 2009**

**"SAY NO TO TORTURE" RALLY  
at Fort Huachuca in Sierra Vista**

Ft. Huachuca is the home of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School which has been complicit in crimes of torture. The torture manuals used at the School of the Americas came from Ft. Huachuca. For several years, in conjunction with the annual protest to close the Fort Benning, Georgia School of the Americas there has been a growing demonstration at Fort Huachuca. The demonstration protests against torture being practiced in our name at places like Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan and against our country's continuing practice of extraditing prisoners to countries known to engage in torture.

**Participate in the No to Torture Rally, followed by a Procession and Presence at the Ft. Huachuca Main Gate.** The rally with speakers and musicians takes place at Len Roberts Park at E. Theater Dr. and N. Carmichael Ave. in Sierra Vista, AZ (from the main gate of Ft. Huachuca take Fry Blvd east to N. Canyon Dr and go north to Theater Dr.) Bring a brown bag or picnic lunch, beverages, hat, sunscreen, folding chair, appropriate signs, and walking shoes. *The Fort Huachuca Main Gate is a mile from Len Roberts Park. Counter-demonstrators are expected and peacekeepers will be present. We will allow a half-hour for the transition from the park to the gate. Those not walking may drive near the gate and park in the neighborhood east of the gate.*

If you are interested in participating in a carpool from the Phoenix area to Fort Huachuca e-mail [endthewarcoalition@cox.net](mailto:endthewarcoalition@cox.net) or call (480) 620-5323 or 894-2024.

Come to the weekly End the War Coalition meetings and help plan future events. The End the War Coalition meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church, 1124 North 3rd Street, Phoenix.

**ACTION ALERT:** End the War Coalition needs your help to purchase educational DVDs, create banners and continue to initiate community actions to further the peace and justice movement in our local communities.

Please donate here: <http://endthewarcoalitioncontributions.tk/>

Do you want a deeper understanding of the US involvement with Afghanistan?  
Free, short documentaries!

[www.RethinkAfghanistan.com](http://www.RethinkAfghanistan.com)



Should the US government have a plan to get OUT of Afghanistan?  
Support Rep. James McGovern's bill HR2404 to develop one.

Two Arizona congressmen already support HR 2404.

Does YOUR Arizona Representative support it?

Find out at: [www.GetAPlan.tk](http://www.GetAPlan.tk)

## Cost of War in Afghanistan

See the cost to your community at [www.costofwar.com](http://www.costofwar.com)



# Waging long-distance war

By Adam Zoll and Rick Tuma | TRIBUNE GRAPHICS

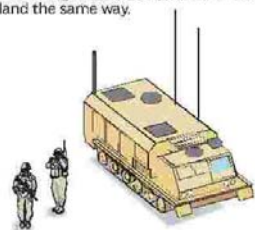
Monday's deadly airstrike in northwest Pakistan marks the latest example of U.S. forces' increasing reliance on unmanned aircraft, or drones, to target Al Qaeda and Taliban personnel in the region. These remotely-piloted planes, such as the Predator and the Reaper, play an important role in surveillance and targeting of enemy forces in Pakistan and have been used in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The planes are guided remotely from command centers in the U.S. using technology that allows pilots on the other side of the world to control their actions, including firing missiles. These strikes have become controversial following incidents in which drone-fired missiles have killed non-combatants.

## Sample mission

An Air Force spokesman wouldn't discuss details regarding how drones are being used in Pakistan but gave the following account of how they are used in Afghanistan and Iraq, where they typically operate in support of ground troops and under orders of a commander in the field.

### 1 IN THE FIELD

The drone takes off from a base in Afghanistan and is controlled remotely from that location via line-of-sight radio contact. It will later land the same way.



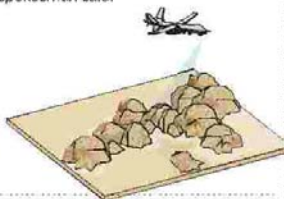
### 2 TRANSFER OF CONTROL

After the drone becomes airborne, control is transferred to a U.S.-based ground control station. Many of these stations are operated from Creech Air Force Base, near Las Vegas.



### 3 COMMANDER'S ROLE

The commander in the field often has access to a live video feed from the drone and may decide whether to have the U.S.-based drone pilot fire a missile at a target. In about 20 percent of cases, however, video is unavailable, and the commander must rely on a visual description relayed from the U.S.-based pilot, the military spokesman said.



## At the controls

Inside a ground control station in the U.S., a pilot and sensor operator operate the drone. Drone pilots are certified to fly planes, while sensor operators need not be.

### Pilot

Operates flight controls and fires missiles.

Shows plane's planned route

Includes airspeed, altitude and other readings

Flight data in text form

Throttle Controls plane's propeller speed and flaps

Control stick For manual flight (Most of flight is on autopilot.)

Live feed of the positions of all ground and air forces on the battlefield

An example of the live video (B) feed available to the pilot and sensor operator



Sensor operator Assists pilot, operates lasers used for targeting. Same setup as pilot, with the following exception:

Controls for focusing and zooming plane's under-mounted camera on the target

Sensor operator

Pilot

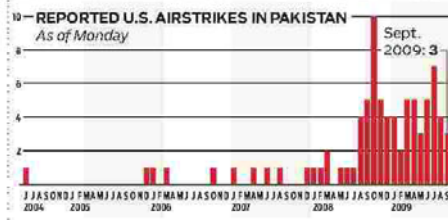
Rudder pedals (not shown)

Telephones allow for communication with troops in the field via satellite or land line. Communication with other aircraft in the area of the drone is also available via secure radio.

## Drone use in Pakistan

The CIA has been flying drones over tribal areas along Pakistan's northwestern border for years, and the U.S. military recently began doing so. The frequency of these strikes has risen sharply since last year, including an Aug. 5 strike that killed Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud. The map below shows reported U.S. airstrikes in the area since 2004.

KEY: X NUMBER OF STRIKES



## MQ-1 Predator

Lasers and camera with infrared capability and night vision

Max. altitude: 25,000 feet

Length: 27 feet

Height: 6.9 feet

Wingspan: 48.7 feet

Weight: 1,130 pounds (empty)

Payload: 450 pounds

Top speed: 135 m.p.h.

Range: Up to 454 miles

Armament: Two laser-guided Hellfire missiles

Cost per plane: \$4.5 million  
Fleet: 116 planes, 35 of which can be airborne at any one time

Size comparison:



## MQ-9 Reaper

Max. altitude: 50,000 feet

Lasers and camera with infrared capability and night vision

Length: 36 feet

Height: 12.5 feet

Wingspan: 66 feet

Weight: 4,900 pounds (empty)

Payload: 3,750 pounds

Top speed: 250 m.p.h.

Range: Up to 3,682 miles  
Armament: Can include Hellfire missiles and 500-pound laser-guided bombs  
Cost per plane: \$17 million  
Fleet: 28 planes

Armament: Two laser-guided Hellfire missiles