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October 17 Peace Demonstrations to Demand U.S. Pullout from Afghanistan

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Cleveland, OH ([PRWEB](http://www.prweb.com)) October 16, 2009 -- The antiwar movement will be out in the streets again on Saturday, October 17 demanding the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, according to spokespersons representing the National Assembly to End the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars and Occupations.

The date was set at a national antiwar conference organized by the National Assembly which took place at La Roche College in Pittsburgh last July and was attended by representatives of dozens of antiwar groups.

The actions will be held in over 40 cities across the U.S. and will feature rallies, marches, teach-ins, and other forms of protest (see website for details).

Marilyn Levin, a Boston peace activist and spokesperson for the National Assembly, said that support for the October 17 day of actions has soared since July, driven primarily by developments involving Afghanistan. "You hear a lot of talk these days about the President listening to the generals. We say it's high time that the President starts listening to the American people, who have turned decisively against continuation of the war and occupation. Eight years is more than enough and the people don't want another Vietnam!" She said the largest actions on the 17th will likely be those in Boston and San Francisco.

Other demands that will be voiced on October 17, Levin added, will include immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops, military personnel, bases, contractors and mercenaries from Iraq and Pakistan; money for jobs, health care and housing, not wars and corporate bailouts; end U.S. support for the Israeli occupation of Palestine and end the siege of Gaza; U.S. hands off Iran and North Korea; end war crimes, including torture, and prosecute war criminals.