

## THE GREEN PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES

### INTRODUCTION

The national Green Party is a federation of 40 State Green Parties. Greens are dedicated to social, environmental, economic and political justice. The four principles that underpin our policies are grassroots democracy, social justice, ecology and non-violence.

The Green Party is distinguished from other political parties by its independence from corporate control. We accept no contributions from Corporations and are not beholden to the corporate paymasters.

The Green Party of the United States is a partner with the European Federation of Green Parties and the Federation of Green Parties of the Americas. Green parties are the first parties to recognize that our role in the world is stewardship of Earth's natural resources rather than domination and unrestrained consumption of the goods of the Earth. Greens recognize that human survival depends on our understanding and commitment to our role of stewardship. .

The US Green Party was formed near Middleburg, VA, in 1996, as the Association of State Green Parties. In 2001 it changed its name to Green Party of the United States (GPUS) and was recognized by the Federal Election Commission that same year.

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### Platform Preamble

We believe that humankind is threatened by two crises

1) The survival of the human species, indeed, the survival of all living things on Planet Earth is endangered by over use, abuse and drain of nature's resources which are our life- support system. Pollution of the land, the sea, the rivers and the air call into question our recognition of our obligation to ourselves and following generations.

2) The second threat is the drift away from the rule of law by our government and the erosion of our Constitution. Government of, by and for the people depends on an educated and informed public who do not surrender their citizen oversight when they elect candidates to office. Government accountability for its performance is a permanent obligation to retain the public trust. In contemporary times, our government has deliberately cut off access and shown indifference to the public will. It has reduced the rule of law to a hollow promise. Furthermore our government's defiance of international law and nullification of the UN Charter has undermined the willingness of other nations to abide by the same rule of law embodied in the Charter and international law.

The compass that guides our Green policies is embodied in the 10 Key Values defined below.

### 10 KEY VALUES

#### 1. Grassroots Democracy

Government of, by and for the people translates into participation by all those under its rule and it guarantees equal rights, equal treatment and equal opportunity to all. The interaction between citizens and government must be an open, ever-flowing channel.

#### 2. Social Justice and Equal Opportunity

Everyone must have equal opportunity to enjoy the benefits of our society's productivity. Government creates the setting in which all can thrive and guarantees that the rewards from the labor and invention will be distributed fairly to the benefit of all.

### 3. Ecological Wisdom

Humankind is part of nature, not above it. We live within a natural framework and we must protect the balance between what we derive from nature and how we replenish it. We are stewards, not owners of the Earth and we must pass on to the next generation the same dynamic of re-creation that sustains us.

### 4. Non-Violence

A functional and enduring society aims at peace among its citizens and abjures war to solve international disputes. Preparing for war is preliminary to declaring war. We recognize that conflict resolution in a forum of equality and cooperation is the only viable alternative to the rule of force.

### 5. Decentralization

In the affairs of man, power draws more power towards itself. It requires constant vigilance by local government and citizen groups to practice local control and give life to the principle of self-government. Letting local authority go unused will result in the loss of self-government on that level while power gravitates toward the level above it.

### 6. Community-based Economics

We support cooperatives or employee ownership as the proper model for our productive enterprises. Workplace democracy must be practiced wherever people are employed by others. The size and reach of the corporate structure and its control of our economy is antithetic both to community-based economics and local government .

### 7. Feminism and Gender Equity

We have inherited a social system based on male domination of politics and economics. We call for the replacement of the cultural ethics of domination and control with more cooperative ways of interacting that respect differences of opinion and gender. Human values such as equity between the sexes, interpersonal responsibility and honesty must be developed with moral conscience. We should remember that the process that determines our decisions and actions is just as important as achieving the outcome we want.

### 8. Respect for Diversity

A healthy society cannot breathe and thrive in a lock-step model. It needs to recognize and include ethnic, racial, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity. There is no such thing as "one size fits all" in the human family.

### 9. Personal and Global Responsibility

Each of us is responsible to ourselves and to those around us. The well-being of our society depends on our recognition that what we do, or fail to do, is part of building the good will that glues society together.

### 10 Future Focus and Sustainability

We must direct our investment of time, energy and attention toward sustaining and enriching the life that nurtures us.

We may not treat all that we use as waste to be disposed of as though there were no tomorrow. Reduce, re-use, recycle and, repair are the four tenets of a sustaining lifestyle.

## DEMOCRACY

Our nation was born as the first great experiment in modern democracy. To sustain this form of

government as defined by our Constitution and expanded over the years, we must revive citizen participation and regain citizen control of our politics and our economy. The barriers to entering the electoral arena must be removed enabling the development of a democratic, multi-party system. To create a level playing field where all may enter, exclusion for lack of funds can no longer be the rule. Also, the Supreme Court ruling of 1976 (Buckley vs. Valeo) that equated money with speech and secured the unhindered flow of money to every level of political official, must be overruled. Once elected, our government must listen to all voices before passing laws that fall equally on all to obey. To guarantee equal access by citizens, and equal opportunity to enter the productive and commercial world, our elected government is obliged to regulate economic, entrepreneurial and environmental activity and to be ever vigilant to prevent exploitation and control by the rich and powerful over public activity..

The Green Party is the alternative to a system that puts a price on every form of public activity. The Green Platform policies and positions offered here are the formula for the restoration and practice of democracy in our fragmented and misguided government

## CHAPTER I

**A. POLITICAL REFORM** The Green Party advances a comprehensive political reform agenda:

1. Democracy depends on political debate in the public forum, followed by the formulation of public policy, and followed again by legislation, implementation and enforcement. The practice of citizenship does not end after the voting day. Citizen access must be no less than access by the wealthy few, by corporations or by other private interests.
2. Comprehensive campaign finance reform includes full disclosure of contributors, caps on spending and contributions at the national and state level as a step toward full public financing of elections.
3. All valid candidates at the state and federal levels should have free and equal access to a regulated and neutral internet, to radio and television time, and to print press coverage. No preferential treatment can be permitted.
4. We will ban or greatly limit political action committees and restrict soft money contributions.
5. We support:
  - a) Strict control of lobbying. Disclose lobbying via "gifts" and money contributions.
  - b) Access to a mandatory record of visits to Legislators' offices for all certified lobbying organizations.
  - c) Strengthen power of Congressional Ethics committees to oversee and investigate performance of legislators within the year that suspected wrong-doing occurs..
  - d) Sunshine laws that enforce transparency at all levels of non-executive government that are not closed by law.
  - e) Restore the power and reach of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), reduce cost to citizens who use the Act and reduce time allowed for an agency to reply.
  - f) Expand power of Government Accounting Office - GAO, beyond reporting and recommending remedies to bringing evidence pro-actively to the Inspector General's attention..

## **B. ELECTION REFORM -**

The present winner-take-all system of election results in a narrow range of parties, a narrow spectrum of issues debated and the same narrow spectrum reflected by the media. Consequently, a bare 50% of the voters actually vote

1. The Greens aim to replace winner-take-all with any of several systems, or combinations thereof, including:
  - a) Proportional Representation.
  - b) Cumulative voting or choice voting.
  - c) Instant Run-off Voting.

These formulae will widen the range of choice,; widen the ability for candidates to enter the race, , break the two-party hold on the system and enlarge the voting public.

2 Ballot access to third parties:

we demand, either by legislation or by judicial ruling, based on the enumerated rights in the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment and the rights guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, signed by the United States, that ballot entry be equally available to all political parties.

3. Abolish the Electoral College and guarantee direct election of the President.

4. Make voting day a holiday and facilitate early voting.

5. All voting machines across the United States must have voter-verified paper trail that allows every voter to verify his vote, and random audits to be taken during the voting period, based on the paper trail.

6. Install technical equipment that incorporates a voter-verifiable trail for the vision-impaired voter.

7. To prevent fraud, voting machine source code must be open for public inspection before and after the election.

C. LOCAL/STATE GOVERNMENT Think Globally, Act Locally.

1. Give more power to lesser bodies, such as subpoena power to neighborhood councils, city and county councils and State legislatures, thus guaranteeing that each layer of government can inspect the governing level above it . Every jurisdiction should have a civilian complaint review board with subpoena power

2. Redistricting: Support a Constitutional amendment that removes the redistricting power from the state legislatures and gives it to the Census Bureau - a non-partisan agency whose assignment is to count the number of citizens in each state every ten years and is therefore best equipped to measure demography of the jurisdictions. .

3. The right of initiative, referendum and recall belongs to all citizens in all states. Also, ward councils within a jurisdiction should have the collective power to put an initiative on the ballot. The cost of collecting signatures cannot put petitions out of reach because of cost. 50% number of signatures necessary must be collected by volunteers.

4. If voted for in a jurisdiction, "none-of-the-above" will be put on the ballot.

5. We support statehood for the District of Columbia. Give DC the same voting rights as every other state.

6. Non-violent civil disobedience should be a legally protected practice under the first amendment right of citizens to assemble and petition their government.

7. Both federal and state enforcement laws are necessary to secure the practice of constitutional rights, civil rights and practices. This includes protection against intimidation, surveillance and retaliation by any government or non-government agency.

8. All persons convicted of felonies shall regain full citizenship rights upon completion of their sentence, and shall be granted the right to vote and to run for office [See section H. Prison Conditions on page 35, Chapter II.]

9. All educational institutions must facilitate student civic action groups. These groups of enrolled students may schedule debate forums and speeches within the property of the institution.

Demonstrations by enrolled students, that have been scheduled beforehand and are pledged to non-violence, must be permitted.

D. Community The process of Grassroots Democracy

Community is naturally generated by shared interests and needs on the neighborhood level. It is aggregated into advocacy groups who deliberate and shape policies which they lobby their local

government to enact and implement. Community goals are leavened by including the social diversity of young and old, rich and poor, and religious beliefs and ethnicity. These groups join together to achieve economic viability and prosperity within protected, sustainable ecosystems. Basic tenets of community depend on cooperation.

1. Community is sustained by strong local government.
2. It depends on locally generated business that is locally owned that employs local residents, serves local needs and re-invests in the same location. When local governments give tax breaks and other conveniences not enjoyed by small business to attract large corporations, they undermine the survival and financial strength of the community, and the profits gained by large business do not go back into the community.
3. Community thrives on non-profit public interest groups that serve the needs of citizens distinct from market capitalism. Community survival depends on local ownership of the media - print, radio, television and independent media. FCC licensing practices and granting permission to merge often undermine local ownership of media.
4. A basic income shall be provided to everyone, as a matter of right, sufficient for each person to purchase necessities, including shelter, food, utilities, transportation, and health care. This income guarantee covers families and individuals.

## CHAPTER I DEMOCRACY,

### E. FOREIGN AFFAIRS - MILITARY:

1) International Treaties; 2) UN Charter 3)War on "Terrorists"; 4) US Laws in Wartime; 5) Nuclear and Conventional Weapons, 6) Dept.of State - Dept of Defense; 7) Road to Peace in the Middle East

1) INTERNATIONAL TREATIES The US is the initiator and a primary author of the United Nations Charter, written after World War II, to create an international forum where nations resolve disputes by negotiation and mediation rather than war. This obligation is affirmed by the US Constitution which declares that Treaties, signed by the President and ratified by the Senate, are the supreme law of the land.

a) The United States must recognize the sovereignty of nation-states and their right to self-determination.

b)The US is prohibited under international law and under the UN Charter, from pre-emptive or preventive invasion of another nation. The invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003 is illegal.

c) The claim that US territory, off-shore bases or ships are threatened by another Nation is not sufficient cause to declare war or take punitive action against another nation without first submitting a complaint to the United Nations. The unprovoked US bombing and/or invasion of Grenada, Panama, and Haiti in the nineties was illegal.

d) Threatening invasion of Iran when it has committed no aggressive act against the US violates international law. Negotiations to resolve disagreement between sovereign nations must be submitted to the UN forum.

e) The US has no legal or moral right to undermine or dominate a foreign government, a nation or a region outside the US either by military force, covert action or economic exploitation.

f) Under our constitution only the Congress may declare war. The President may not secretly engage in military or subversive action in another nation because only Congress can vote the funds necessary for action. The undisclosed funding of guerrilla warfare in Nicaragua in the nineteen eighties was illegal.

g)\_The Green Party demands:

1) Immediate cessation of US combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

2) Complete withdrawal of US military forces and mercenaries under safe conditions and under UN

supervision.

- 3) The US may not maintain military bases in Iraq or Afghanistan.
- 4) Given the scale of destruction by the US military and its civilian contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan, the US must recognize and honor its obligation to fund the reconstruction and rebuilding of infrastructure and institutions in those nations.
- 5) As the invading nation, the US must secure the return of displaced refugees in Iraq and Afghanistan and repair their infrastructure and rebuild their homes.

## 2) UN CHARTER OBLIGATIONS

a) We recognize and support:

- 1) The right of the U.N. to intervene when a nation state engages in genocidal acts or in persistent violation and denial of the human rights of an ethnic or religious group within its boundaries; and the right to protect the victims of such acts;
- 2) The authority of the U.N. General Assembly to act in a crisis situation by passing a resolution under the Uniting for Peace Procedure when the U.N. Security Council (UNSC) is stalemated by vetoes;
- 3) The US obligation to render military assistance or service under U.N. command to enforce a U.N. Security Council resolution;
- 4) The right of a people to exist in a sovereign state within historic and UN recognized boundaries, including such peoples as Palestinians, Tibetans and Chechynans;
- 5) Eliminate the veto power enjoyed by any one of the 5 permanent members of the UNSC and enlarge the SC to twenty nations;
- 6) universal collective security through the rule of international law under the auspices of the United Nations, regional international treaties and the international courts.
- 7) US signature to the International Criminal Court and acceptance of its judicial authority over US citizens who are accused and indicted for international war crimes.

## 3) WAR ON TERRORISTS - Those who put security above liberty will have neither.

- a) A terrorist act is one that causes serious bodily harm or death to civilians or non-combatants, when the agent intends to compel a government or an international organization to do or refrain from doing any act.
- b) An act of resistance is the right of citizens of a state to struggle against imperial or illegal foreign occupation that seeks to enforce its military or economic control. Resistance may include violent acts against combatants, against covert operatives or military targets.
- c) We repudiate US militarism, especially in the form of our "global war on terror." used to justify and legitimize foreign occupation, acts of aggression, support of puppet governments, dictatorship and economic exploitation.
- d) We advocate that the US government form a war crimes tribunal to investigate, indict and prosecute past US war crimes. We advocate reparation to those that the court determines are injured parties.

## 4) US LAWS PASSED IN WAR TIME & THEIR REPEAL

- a) We demand repeal of the Patriot Act, Patriot Act II and the Military Commission Act.
- b) We oppose passage of the Patriotic American Act (PAA).
- c) We demand restoration of the right of Habeas Corpus.
- d) We demand repeal of any law or executive order that permits detention, imprisonment, abuse and torture of human beings which are prohibited by the Human Rights Convention signed by the US and prohibited by the US Constitution.

- e) All agencies of the US government, including the CIA, must abide by the Manual for Military Justice in the treatment of all prisoners.
- f) No agency of the US government may spy on or invade the privacy of an unidentified collection of names gathered by trolling by the National Security Agency without a FISA warrant.
- g) No non-military person may be detained and imprisoned without being charged; told what the charges are; allowed a lawyer and allowed to gather evidence to present in court.
- h) The U.S. gov't. must prohibit all covert actions used to destabilize, subvert or usurp the governments of another nation.
- i) The US must renew its prohibition on assassination, or assistance, in any form, for the assassination of citizens of a foreign nation or officials of a foreign government.
- j) The Homeland Defense Dept. may not engage in domestic spying and intruding into the legal and private lives of citizens in the US without a proper warrant from a court.
- k) Support for the military in all services:
  1. We support increased pay to servicemen in combat zone, and a set term of service not to be extended.
  2. We support guaranteed medical and health care to all veterans for any illness or disease.
  3. We support counseling, housing and job protection for servicemen returning to civilian life.
  4. We support a re-introduction of the G. I. bill to enable veterans to enter college or technical school.

#### 5) NUCLEAR WEAPONS and CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

- a) The reduction of our nuclear arsenal and the abolition of nuclear weapons must be the irreversible policy of the United States. The following steps necessary to fulfill that goal are:
  - b) Declare a no-first-strike policy.
  - c) Declare a no-pre-emptive strike policy.
  - d) Declare that the U.S. will never threaten or use a nuclear weapon, regardless of size, on a non-nuclear nation.
  - e) Ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Our pledge not to test will bring us into conformity with international agreement to reduce our nuclear arsenal and to desist from testing new weapons or versions of old weapons.
  - f) Bring down to storage and begin dismantling all deployed (hair-trigger alert) nuclear weapons.
  - g) Separate all nuclear warheads from delivery systems and schedule their demolition.
  - h) US withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty opened the door for the US to pursue missile defense research and to negotiate the installation of missile launch pads on foreign territory, despite their unproven operational status. Missile defense research profits military contractors, not the American national interest.
  - i) We oppose the research, testing and stockpiling of all nuclear weapons of any size. We support complete defunding of the RRW - Reliable Replacement Warhead.
  - j) We oppose the continued use of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratories for nuclear weapons research and bomb building, now labelled the Complex Transformation.
  - k) Sign the Toronto treaty banning the production, stockpiling, use and sale of land mines, and assist other nations in unearthing and disabling land mines buried in their lands.
  - l) Sign a UN agreement not to produce, stockpile, use or sell cluster bombs or depleted uranium in any form.
  - m) End all stockpiling of chemical and biological weapons and all research, use, and sale of such weapons; and sign the convention that establishes UN inspection and reduction of all nations' stockpiles of such weapons
  - n) Sign Agreement to annual, unscheduled inspection of research and nuclear weapons plants by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency).

## 6) DEPT. of STATE and DEPT of DEFENSE and DEFENSE SPENDING

- a) Restore the State Dept. to its historic, statutory place and rightful role of representing US foreign policy abroad, conducting diplomacy and negotiating agreements. Our ambassadors and foreign service officers are the envoys for our foreign policy in relations with their counterparts in foreign governments.
- b) US DoD spends more on weaponry, military surveillance and readiness than the rest of the world combined. The DoD budget is out of all proportion to any realistic military threat, or security need of the United States.
- c) The militarization of our society has elevated funding of the Dept.of Defense above domestic needs. The Congress has succumbed to lobbying by private military contractors as though there were no limits to our needs and to our funds.
- d) We oppose renewal of the military draft or any extension of the militarization of our society by the DoD or the Dept. of Homeland Security..
- e) We support enlargement of Ameri-corps and other organizations that bring youth into domestic social work for social/environmental improvements that will earn for them most of their college or technical training.
- f) Military spending by definition is non-productive. It uses our labor and our resources and returns nothing useful to our economy or our society.
- g) The U.S. has over 700 foreign military bases. We demand a fixed schedule for the closure of these bases and return the base property to the host country.
- h) The US Guantanamo base in Cuba is a prison. It must be closed and the whole base returned to Cuba. The prisoners in Guantanamo must be released and returned to their families. They have never been charged with a terrorist act nor has evidence been produced against them.
- i) The Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly known as the School of the Americas, in Ft. Benning, Georgia must be closed in 2008..
- j) The U.S. is the largest arms seller and dealer in the world. Our government should prohibit all arms sales to foreign nations. Furthermore grants and loans to impoverished and undemocratic nations is prohibited unless the money is targeted to domestic, non-military needs. In addition, grants or loans to other nations may not be used by those nations to release their own funds for military purposes.
- l) The U.S. must not license or subsidize defense contractors who market their products abroad and must shift our export market from weapons to peaceful technology, industrial and agricultural products, and to education and technical training.

## 7 The ROAD to PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- a) In 1948, the Jewish immigrants to Palestine declared the Jewish state of Israel within the Palestinian territory appropriated by Israelis up to that date.
- b) Since 1948, the UN Security Council has passed many resolutions to guarantee the human rights of Palestinians, their right of self-determination and right of return to their homes (now within Israeli boundaries)
- c) Israel must abide by international law, end its occupation of Palestine and halt the spread of Israeli settlements on Palestinian land. Israel has set up an apartheid state both within Palestinian territories and within Israel, where the non-jews are second-class citizens, or have no rights at all.

- d) The elected governments of Palestine and Israel must each declare the right of the other to exist.
- e) We oppose the US practice of vetoing UN Security Council decisions that pertain to the boundaries of Palestine, the water rights and the freedom of movement of Palestinian citizens and all other rights that citizens of a nation state enjoy which are denied them by Israel.
- f) We oppose the US annual grant of around \$3 billion to Israel.
- g) We support US divestment from Israel and boycott of imported Israeli products.
- h) We oppose the imposition of a one-state or two-state solution by outside powers. The resolution of their conflict, whatever form is finally decided, must be arrived at by the Palestinians and Israelis.
- i) We support the appointment of a Reconciliation Board to compensate the Palestinians who have been denied their rights, have had their property destroyed and have been harmed by the confiscation of their goods and property by Israelis.

#### F - FOREIGN AFFAIRS - TRADE

“Free” Trade is not fair trade. Free trade is market capitalism for the profit and advantage of investment capital, commercial banks and hedge funds.

- 1) US corporations, protected by the US government, and given license by trade agreements (e.g.) NAFTA, CAFTA, and AAFTA extract resources, exploit labor and degrade the environment in underdeveloped countries with no requirement to restore the spoiled and drained territories.
- 2) As advertised, “globalization” claimed it would serve all participant nations. (a rising tide lifts all boats). It was investment capital at its most beneficent. Instead, it has profited international corporations without upgrading the economy of developing nations.
- 3) “Globalization” denotes trade in the world marketplace whereby investors set the terms and demand repayment of their loans regardless of the inability of debtor countries to repay the loans.
- 4) The Green Party seeks the following policy changes:
  - a) Review all international contracts and agreements on trade and commerce, including those currently held by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), (Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank (WB), and the nascent Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).
  - b) Re-formulate trade agreements according to Fair Trade with terms set that protect labor, human rights, local business, and the environment, including local agriculture, forests, rivers streams and wet lands.
  - c) Cancel the debts of recipient nations; re-formulate the rules on capital investment and install strict standards in the IMF/WB that control the use of grants or loans; prevent fraud, misuse, and subversion of funds by recipient, dictatorial governments.
- 5) Restore and protect the rights of citizens to public ownership of their resources and the use of its benefits against the intrusion of corporate control, under any guise.
- 6) Prohibit US investment or corporate investment and operation of industries in foreign countries unless: Labor’s right to organize, to create unions and to negotiate with management is built into the contract, and included or implied in any subcontracts.

6) Import Restrictions or Permits:

a) Restrict the import of foreign goods to the US that come from nations that lack protection equivalent to US standards for labor, health, safety, and the environment and that are legally enforced.

b) Individual states must be allowed to set higher standards than the federal gov't and to refuse sub-standard imports that were imported from non-compliant foreign states.

c) Secure the right of states and municipalities to refuse to invest in foreign businesses that do not abide by their standards for imported goods, fair trade, and environmental protection.

d) Prohibit U.S. corporations from avoiding or evading payment of their taxes by basing their charters abroad in off-shore islands.

7) Every day over \$1 trillion dollars circles the globe in currency trade and temporary investment capital. Financial speculators are free to invest and withdraw at will.

a) Greens seek to restrict the unfettered flow of capital and currency trade, by levying the Tobin tax of .05% on cross border currency transactions.

[See section E. 2. Fair Taxation on page 62 in chapter IV of 2004 Platform]

8) We support the funding and expansion of non-government organizations (NGOs) that work in undeveloped countries:

a) to educate and train people to create and maintain a local business.

b) to expand and fund health care clinics and make family planning, contraception and abortion available wherever local communities ask for it. (ref. II Social Justice, A, 1. Women's Rights)

9) We oppose the US pressure, favoring Monsanto, Cargill, ADM et al., to force genetically modified seed and seed products on farmers in foreign nations. The peasants must be allowed to plant, grow, harvest and market the products of their local seed.

10) We oppose absolutely the privatization of water in foreign countries and in the US

11) We demand an immediate end to the U.S. embargo of Cuba and the restoration of normal diplomatic relations, respect for national sovereignty and re-installation of fair trade.

12) We demand that the U.S. government end its veto of U.N. resolutions pertaining to Cuba, and cease any and all covert action by the CIA or its hired help, in Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia or any Central or South American Nation.

G) DE- MILITARIZATION OF SPACE

OUTER SPACE - COMMERCIAL, EXPLORATORY, MILITARY

Our technological entrance into outer space happened after WW II, and Satellites became fundamental to the functioning of our society. Broadcast television, the internet, ATM machines, banking transfers, telephone service, credit card validation, weather prediction, terrestrial and oceanic mapping, atmospheric and natural disaster monitoring, urban planning and navigation - all rely on the use of satellites.

1) There are some 600 to 800 operational satellites currently in orbit; of which the majority were launched by the United States.

2) Aside from satellites, at present, there are around 40,000 bits of debris circulating the Earth. The space environment is over-taxed by space pollution from this orbital debris and saturation of radio-frequency. An international treaty for scheduling a launch, for tracking and for surveillance of space objects is imperative.

3) We oppose the use of space robots in any military or espionage capacity.

- 4) For years, space was a zone of cooperation as civil society and commercial industry increased their use and dependence on space systems. Despite tacit and expressed agreement among nations not to militarize space, the United States government, despite international treaties, pursues the militarization path. In effect, it has become the threat it feared from others.
- 5) We oppose militarization of space in any form. We reject the US argument that it needs to militarize space to protect its satellites
- 6) The line between land-based and space-based weapons has faded from sight as the US Air Force and the Missile Defense Agency researched and developed space-weapon technologies. These weapons, launched from land or space, target orbiting assets or other space weapons and potentially enable the US to foil or destroy any threat to our satellites, our nation or our foreign bases and allies.
- 7) While multiple efforts have been made to hold conventions, and forums to ban space weapons, and to build trust among nations, they are futile without US agreement. Meanwhile, the US expands its space power.
- 8) We oppose testing and deploying anti-satellite weapons (ASAT) from the land or the air. We oppose the development and basing of interceptor missiles (SDI) in the US or other countries; we oppose debris-creating weapons. In effect, we demand that the US take the initiative to create an international treaty that totally reverses the militarization of space.
- 9) In 1952, President Eisenhower tried to set our government on a path to transform nuclear weapons into nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, to no avail. In his turn, Pres. Kennedy pursued the same goal of abolition of nuclear weapons, and President Reagan attempted the same thing. The only way to discourage other nations from seeking to build or possess nuclear weapons is for the US to take the lead, and begin the public dismemberment of its nuclear arsenal.
- 10) We support the continued exploration of space carried on by NASA, teamed up with other nations. The knowledge and understanding gained by this exploration should be deposited under UN supervision and should be shared with all members of the United Nations.