EXITING IRAQ: HOW? -- 5 STEPS TO SUCCESS

The question is no longer whether to get out of Iraq, but how. Peace Action and the Progressive Democrats of America have identified a workable plan based on *five simple steps* that the US government can take to end the quagmire.

We are petitioning Congress to take these five steps now.

1. NO PERMANENT BASES.

Declare that the U.S has no interest in permanent military bases or controlling Iraqi oil or other resources

2. MONTHS, NOT YEARS.

Set goals for ending the occupation and bringing all our troops home, in months, not years, beginning with an initial withdrawal of troops by the end of this year

3. U.N.-MONITORED PEACEFUL RECONSTRUCTION.

Request that the United Nations monitor the process of military disengagement and de-escalation, and organize a peaceful reconstruction effort.

4. INDEPENDENT PEACE PROCESS.

Appoint a peace envoy independent of the occupation authorities to underscore U.S. commitment to an entirely different mission—a peace process ending the occupation and returning our soldiers home.

5. COOPERATIVE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

Empower the peace envoy to encourage and cooperate in talks with Iraqi groups opposed to the occupation, including insurgents, to explore a political settlement. The settlement must include representation of opposition forces and parties, and hold power-sharing and the protection of women's rights as core principles of

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governance and economic and energy development.