

Montana Peace Seekers



Ann Wright, Peace Seeker of the Year 2010

The Montana Peace Seekers Network is blessed and deeply privileged to name you, Ann Wright, as Peace Seeker of the Year 2010, as an expression of the deep respect, appreciation and honor in which you are held by the peace and justice community of Montana. This award represents a tribute to you for the courageous leadership, perseverance, and unshakable spirit that you have manifested by:

- resigning your position out of conscience as a Diplomat in the U. S. Department of State on March 19, 2003, the eve of the illegal U.S. invasion of Iraq, by cabling your letter of resignation to Secretary of State Colin Powell, stating that without the authorization of the UN Security Council, the invasion and occupation of the sovereign oil-rich country of Iraq would be a disaster.
- serving our country as an accomplished diplomat and as an honored veteran of our nation's military, spending thirteen years in the U.S. Army and sixteen additional years in the Army Reserves.
- breaking ranks with the unjust warmakers and joining the ranks of dozens of government insiders and active-duty military personnel who resigned, spoke out, or refused to deploy in protest of government actions they felt were illegal—men and women who risked careers, reputations, and even freedom out of loyalty to the Constitution and the rule of law.
- now serving our country as a revered leader of the military anti-war movement, by speaking out for peace ever since your resignation in March 2003—while many remained silent—showing that you are a true American Heroine, a woman of courage and conviction, who lives the words she speaks
- working ever since your own conscientious resignation to urge all Americans to participate actively in shaping the direction of the government of our nation toward a path of peace and justice
- urging our nation's leaders to turn away from the disastrous military and foreign policies behind the Bush and Obama wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and Pakistan
- working to resist the cruel and deadly Israeli blockade of the Gaza strip and the illegal Israeli occupation of and confiscation of Palestinian land and resources
- showing us with your life how to stand up and be counted where it really matters, by being an ambassador of peace, bringing your heart of compassion and justice into the wilderness of U.S. foreign and military policy—asking us, as you have done, not to follow those who would lead us and our sons and daughters and friends toward more killing and more destruction
- being a profoundly encouraging presence for all that you meet, so that every person leaves your presence with the belief that their opinions and beliefs can also make a difference in our world.
- possessing the quiet determination and rock steady leadership of our Montana's own historical opponent of war Jeannette Rankin, so that you will hold a place long into the future as one of America's greatest peacemakers
- being a vessel of love and compassion and courage, inspiring a wider and wider circle of peacemakers and justicemakers
- traveling across Montana from May 11-16, 2010 to inspire Montanans by your appearances to move to higher levels of peacemaking action and resistance to unjust wars
- helping us here in Montana to form a powerful community of gentle, strong people who cannot be turned back from the works of peace and justice, showing us how not to look the other way and how to refuse to keep quiet about the unjust wars of our time.

*Ann Wright, we see in your loving heart and hands
the light of peace and compassion and justice,
a light that shines and dances and makes us one with all life.
We pledge to go with you to light, life and love
rejecting the works of unjust wars, doing the works of mercy and justice and compassion.*

