

2002 Annual Conference Resolution

STATEMENT AGAINST THE JOINT DEFENCE FACILITY PINE GAP

The 34th Annual Conference of the PHAA:

- Recognising that the JDFPG is violating the sovereignty of the Arrernte nation
- Recognising that the JDFPG is involved in the National Defence Initiative that is militarising space and introducing a new round to the nuclear arms race
- Recognising that the operations of the JDFPG are secret to the Australian parliament and people
- Recognising that the JDFPG will be involved in any war against Iraq, and
- Noting the existing PHAA Policies on Nuclear Weapons and on Public Health and War

asks that the PHAA:

- Supports the efforts of this campaign to have the operations of the JDFPG made public
- Express this support to the Pine Gap Protest group in Alice Springs this week
- publicise this resolution to the Australian public through the media

NOTE:

The Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap (JDFPG) is a US base that is situated near Alice Springs in Central Australia. It is involved in signals intelligence gathering. As such it has a role in US war fighting. It also has a role in the new National Missile Defence (NMD) "Star Wars". It may also have a role in arms control monitoring, but this is secret and so is inaccessible.

Aboriginal Comprehensive Primary Health Care

That \$400 million extra funding be provided for Aboriginal Comprehensive Primary Health Care as a matter of urgency in order to assist the process of closing the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal health status AND THAT one possible source for such funding could be found by redirecting only 20% of the private health insurance rebate to Aboriginal comprehensive primary health care.

Pat Anderson
2 October 2002

NO WAR AGAINST IRAQ

- Recognising the inhumanity of the current economic sanctions against Iraq
- Recognising the current negative impact of the Iraqi regime on the health of the Iraqi people
- Recognising that further military action will worsen the suffering of the people of Iraq and cause many more civilian injuries and deaths.

- Believing that military action will increase the number of refugees and asylum seekers, and
- Noting the existing PHAA Policy on Public Health and War
- deplores the negative impact of the current economic sanctions against Iraq
- strongly opposes any military action planned or threatened by the US and its allies whether under or without a United Nations Security Council resolution to support it
- strongly opposes any Australian involvement in any such military action

and so asks the Board of the PHAA to:

- urgently call on the Australian Government and the Opposition not to commit Australia to any military action against Iraq
- urge the Australian government to support weapons inspectors and other non-military means to resolve the current situation
- publicise this resolution to the Australian public through the media