

Thank You!

To these Presidential Candidates

For providing your straight-forward & truthful answers to our questions:



Senator Mike Gravel

What are the real and true reasons our country invaded Iraq, including the role AIB/CIA plays in influencing our Middle East policy, as well as our real and current objectives in the region?

The reasons the US invaded Iraq include oil, hubris, empire, will to power, abysmal ignorance, etc. The fact that strategic control of Iraq's oil resources was and is a prime objective was confirmed by Gen. Sanchez' recent revelations; Gen Sanchez was the Iraq war commander during much of the occupation. It was his stated belief that we invaded over oil. The other prime objective was the concurrent policy of the Neocons to do America's bidding with respect to bringing a substantial Israeli presence in the Middle East on a permanent basis.

If it were proven that VP Cheney fabricated the stories that Saddam had WMD's, or about his involvement with terrorism as pretexts for invading Iraq, would that type of fraud against the US (which is a felony under 18 U.S.C. Section 371) be an impeachable offense, in your opinion?

It would be considerably more than an impeachable offense but, at present, there is little inclination on the part of the Democratic Congressional leadership to proceed with impeaching the President or the Vice President. I have taken the position that upon becoming President, I will empanel an independent commission to investigate these issues. It will have subpoena powers and require all witnesses to testify under oath and, if criminality is discovered, with regard to the origins of the Iraq war, and/or with respect to 9/11, those individuals will be prosecuted. If there is any perjury that takes place, the people who perjure themselves will be prosecuted and that includes the President of the United States, the Vice President and any cabinet officers. They'll be prosecuted as ordinary citizens and they'll serve time in jail as an ordinary citizen would.

All summer we've heard from candidates about a grab-bag of technologies and timetables with regard to fighting global warming. But will you commit to a comprehensive climate action plan that takes full advantage of the Office of President, and commit to implementing that plan within six months of your inauguration? And if so, what will be in your plan?

Never has there been a more critical time for instituting a comprehensive environmental policy capitalizing on our leadership for a global environmental policy that focuses upon the three seminal pillars of the global environment threat: global warming, fresh water scarcity and loss of biodiversity.

Environmental policy should be based upon: (1) Reducing greenhouse gases and CO2 emissions, (2) protecting and cleaning up fresh water resources and (3) protecting and enhancing ecosystems that are significant "carbon sinks".

Immediately upon taking office, I would press to enact a carbon tax and invite other nations of the world to join us with a carbon tax. The pooling of that wealth would be used to unify a global engineering effort to get us off carbon within a decade. I feel that we can get us off gasoline in the US within five years. The lack of leadership in this country on the whole issue of global warming is appalling, and in many respects, rises to the level of criminal neglect. Regarding transportation CO2 reduction: We should enact Euro IV - CAFE standards and increased hybridization, as well as a crash program for hydrogen-powered vehicles, mass transit, high speed intercity rail (Maglev), and electrification of rail trunk lines for freight. Concerning power generation: We should create a super grid to distribute hydrogen and electricity; connect solar, wind, geo-thermal generators to this grid; and explore nuclear fusion with China's Tokamak.

In a Gravel Administration, which would be 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in priority as criteria for executive and departmental appointments: Loyalty, Ideology, Competence, and Experience?

First, competence; second, experience; the other two would not be major considerations.

Do you believe that publicly revealing the name or identity of a covert CIA agent by government officials or journalists is permissible under any circumstances?

No, it is treasonous because it goes to the issue of the order of battle secrecy, which is vital. I suspect that the White House was guilty of treason in revealing and "outing" Valerie Plame's identity. And that issue is not over at all; it will be pursued in my administration.

The Fifth Amendment contained in the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution states in part: No person shall...be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

You've proposed a national initiative program which grants citizens the right to put measures on the national ballot. But with all the recent talk of election rigging and fraud, how can you assure us that all such votes will be properly counted?

The National Initiative will be conducted by an independent agency called the Electoral Trust-not by a representative government which has a stake in the outcome, which obviously would be a corrupting influence on vote-counting. Please visit my campaign website <http://www.gravel2008.us> for more complete information.



Senator Joe Biden

You've proposed an Iraq solution of dividing the country in 3 distinct federalized regions. Have you contacted with the Iraqis about any of this? What do a majority of them want?

First, the plan I proposed - and that 75 Senators, including 26 Republicans endorsed - is not partition, or rigidly dividing the country. To the contrary, it would hold Iraq together by bringing to life the federal system enshrined in its constitution. A federal Iraq is a united Iraq, but one in which power, responsibility and resources devolve to regional and local governments, with a limited central government responsible for common concerns like protecting Iraq's borders and distributing its oil revenues... *for Senator Joe Biden's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

The genocide in Darfur is horrific. But should America be the world's policeman? The world is filled with wars, tyranny, disease, and poverty. Why help one and not the other? Maybe we should start with New Orleans and fixing our crumbling infrastructure here at home first before wading into more foreign adventures?

Helping stop a genocide in Darfur and rebuilding New Orleans are not mutually exclusive propositions. We have the resources and, I believe, the responsibility, to do both. I don't want the United States to be the world's policeman, but I do want us to take the lead in pushing the world to better polices itself. I believe strongly that the United States should be leading the international community to a new understanding of state responsibility, when countries without democratic checks systematically abuse the rights of their own people, or when they harbor terrorists and seek weapons of mass destruction, they forfeit their sovereignty... *for Senator Joe Biden's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

We haven't heard much from the other candidates on education. It does not seem to be an important issue in this campaign. But you've made it a centerpiece of yours. At this point in our nation's history, with terrorism, immigration, health care, and Iraq on the front burner, why try to focus on such a mundane issue as education right now?

Education is not a mundane issue - it is critical to our national security and economic security. That's why I have made education a top priority of my campaign... *for Senator Joe Biden's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

The Congress, led by VP Cheney and Senator Rockefeller, is set to grant retroactive immunity from prosecution for the major telecom companies who repeatedly violated the 4th Amendment of the Bill of Rights and other civil liberties laws in exchange for a pay-off of fat government contracts. This new FISA law will also have the effect of protecting the Bush Administration from the risk of disclosure in the Courts of any of their other possible related acts of law-breaking and corruption. Where do you stand on this issue?

We solved this problem back in 1978 when I and a number of my Senate colleagues drafted the original Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. The law was crystal clear on two fronts: first, that wiretapping was not authorized by law was illegal; second, that the government must obtain a warrant from a court before it spied on Americans. The law struck the right balance, protecting both national security and civil liberties. When an Administration willfully violates a law like FISA, as this Administration has, they should be held to account. If a court determines that telecommunications companies also violated the law, they too should be held to account.

The Congress has the sole power to raise armies and declare war. So is the hiring of mercenaries and/or subcontractor soldiers by the Executive branch either Constitutional or lawful, in your opinion?

The Constitution grants Congress the power to "raise and support Armies," "provide and maintain a Navy," and make "[r]ules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces." Article I, § 8, Cls. 12-14. Acting under that authority Congress has enacted many of the laws that govern our military. And of course, Congress, not the President, has power to initiate and fund. But the Constitution does not prohibit the Executive Branch from hiring civilian contractors to accompany the military in an armed conflict... *for Senator Joe Biden's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

The Fourth Amendment contained in the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution states: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

Yes.

For more information, complete candidate answers, or to contribute ideas, comments, financial or other support, visit: www.NHasks.org

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Congressman Ron Paul

The Congress, led by VP Cheney and Senator Rockefeller, is set to grant retroactive immunity from prosecution for the major telecom companies who repeatedly violated individual civil liberties. This new FISA law will also have the effect of protecting the Bush Administration from the risk of disclosure in the Courts of any of their other possible related acts of law-breaking and corruption. Where do you stand on this issue?

I have opposed the Patriot Act since its inception, for fear of inexcusable government encroachment upon our civil liberties. The Fourth Amendment clearly prohibits the government from permitting major telecom companies to eavesdrop on the American citizens, and the Bush administration's wiretapping authorization is a flagrant violation of our Constitutional liberties. We must drastically limit the government's ability to collect and store information on citizens' private matters, and oppose all measures protecting the Bush administration and the telecom companies that violated citizens' individual civil liberties. They cannot claim carte blanche and elude their constitutional obligations. We must not be complacent on this issue, and we must demand the administration face the full justice of the law. I therefore oppose the new FISA law and all other attempts to strengthen the surveillance state and weaken government accountability.

Article One Section 9 of the US Constitution states that the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public safety may require it. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

I absolutely 100% pledge to uphold Article One, Section 9, as I take my marching orders directly from the US Constitution. There are very few circumstances under which the Constitution would expressly authorize a suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus, as our lives and liberties are not the government's for the taking.

The Fourth Amendment contained in the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution states: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

I absolutely pledge, without exception, to uphold the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution. When the Founders drafted the Constitution, they could not have imagined the abuses and usurpations of privacy that would be committed in the name of security. We must oppose state control of the media, and demand freedom from unreasonable search and seizure.

The Congress has the sole power to raise armies and declare war. So is the hiring of mercenaries and/or subcontractor soldiers by the Executive branch either Constitutional or lawful, in your opinion?

The Constitution states that Congress has the sole power to raise armies and declare war, but I support allowing the US State Department to issue Letters of Marque and Reprisal. Article I, Section 8, paragraph 11 of the Constitution authorizes Congress to "grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water," and in 2001 I introduced legislation to allow Congress to authorize the President to specifically target terrorists by permitting private citizens to track down Osama Bin Laden and his associates.

Do you believe that publicly revealing the identity of a covert CIA agent by government officials or journalists is permissible under any circumstances?

I believe that covert CIA operations flout the Constitution and violate the privacy of the government secrecy when possible, making the government fully accountable for its actions to we, the people. Therefore, I do believe it is legal and practicable for journalists and program officials to publicly reveal the identities of covert CIA agents, especially when engaged in extrajudicial affairs.

If it were proven that VP Cheney fabricated the stories that Saddam had WMD's, or about his involvement with terrorism as pretexts for invading Iraq, would that type of fraud against the US (which is a felony under 18 U.S.C. Section 371) be an impeachable offense, in your opinion?

If it were proven that Vice President Cheney had colluded with others to fabricate stories that Saddam Hussein possessed WMD's or was involved with terrorism, which is a crime against the United States, I would certainly be a supporter of such a prosecution. 18 U.S.C. § 371 describes conspiracy to commit offense or to defraud the United States, and if found to have engaged in dishonest practices in connection with a program administered by a government agency, Vice President Cheney would have committed a felonious act, and would need to be held accountable for defrauding the American people.



Congressman Dennis Kucinich

Your campaign slogan is "Strength through Peace". But another candidate's slogan is "Peace through Strength". Don't you think we need to face our global competition from a position of strength to avoid being taken advantage of in a dangerous world? Isn't your view overly optimistic and risky?

"Strength Through Peace," emphasizes diplomacy over aggressive warfare. If America is attacked by terrorists again, we'd go after them, no question about it; anyone who thinks because I'm working for peace I wouldn't defend America is mistaken... *for Congressman Dennis Kucinich's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

You advocate universal single-payer health care - in fact you've even introduced a bill in Congress (Kucinich-Conyers HR76) to make it happen. We already have single-payer health care in this country for veterans, seniors and politicians. Are these existing programs a model for your proposal? Are you in fact satisfied with the quality of coverage in our current veterans and Medicare programs?

The bill proposed is House Resolution: 676 Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act. It would revamp the Medicare system to eliminate the insurance companies and place a not for profit, single payer system in its place... *for Congressman Dennis Kucinich's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

It's been said that there are no good solutions to the Iraq fixation. But you have introduced a comprehensive plan (House Bill HR1234) to end the war, correct the problems, and bring the troops home immediately. Sounds too good to be true. Even your Democratic opponents say it would take 9-12 months more to move all of our employed personnel & material under ideal circumstances. Is this Iraq plan of yours realistic?

This plan is realistic. It is also the only plan that takes into account an honest reconstruction of Iraq to repair the damage done by the occupation there. It would only take about 10 billion dollars to get out of Iraq, according to the Congressional budget office. The plan goes like this:

- 1) The US announces it will end the occupation, close military bases and withdraw.
- 2) Use existing funds to bring the troops and necessary equipment home.
- 3) Order a simultaneous return of all US contractors to the United States and turn over all contracting work to the Iraqi government.
- 4) Convene a regional conference for the purpose of developing a security and stabilization force for Iraq.
- 5) Prepare an international security and peacekeeping force to move in, replacing US troops who then return home.
- 6) Develop and fund a process of national reconciliation between all sides. In order for there to be peace all sides must have a say in the peace process.
- 7) Ensure reconstruction and jobs for the Iraqi people.
- 8) Make honest reparations for the lives lost.
- 9) Allow for Iraq to have political sovereignty.
- 10) Set forth a plan to stabilize Iraq's cost of food and energy, on par to what the prices were before the US invasion and occupation.
- 11) Work with the world community to restore Iraq's fiscal integrity without structural readjustment measures of the IMF or the World Bank.
- 12) Establish a policy of truth and reconciliation between the people of the US and the people of Iraq.

The Fourth Amendment contained in the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution states: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

Yes. It's time to stand for the repeal of the PATRIOT Act. As a member of the US House of Representatives, I spoke against it. I voted against it, and I introduced legislation for its repeal. It is unconstitutional for the government to have the ability to search without warrant or cause... *for Congressman Dennis Kucinich's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

The Fifth Amendment contained in the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution states in part: No person shall...be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. As President, do you pledge to uphold this provision 100% and without exception?

Yes. These freedoms are essential to democracy. Guantanamo bay needs to be closed, Habeas Corpus reinstated fully, and torture abolished. The amount to which we have slid as a country is quite distressing and needs to be halted in its tracks. The Constitution is a shield on which our democracy lies behind, one which needs to be polished and protected from self serving politicians... *for Congressman Dennis Kucinich's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

The Congress has the sole power to raise armies and declare war. So is the hiring of mercenaries and/or subcontractor soldiers by the Executive branch either Constitutional or lawful, in your opinion?

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution clearly states that "the Congress shall have power to declare War." It was the intent of the Founders that war powers should be under the command of the people through their representatives, rather than in the hands of a single executive. As it is the sworn duty of the President to preserve and uphold the Constitution... *for Congressman Dennis Kucinich's complete answer, please visit www.NHasks.org or contact us.*

Despite repeated advertising and official requests the following candidates have refused to answer the tough, but fair questions of the citizens of NH:

HILLARY CLINTON • RUDY GIULIANI • JOHN EDWARDS
 MITT ROMNEY • BARACK OBAMA • FRED THOMPSON
 CHRIS DODD • JOHN MCCAIN • BILL RICHARDSON
 DUNCAN HUNTER • MIKE HUCKABEE

These candidates apparently all think that we will vote for them anyway next Tuesday, January 8th. We'll soon know if they are right!