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CPT statement: March 10, 2006

We mourn the loss of Tom Fox, who combined a lightness of spirit, a firm opposition to all oppression, and the recognition of God in everyone.

In response to Tom's passing, we ask that everyone set aside inclinations to vilify or demonize others, no matter what they have done. In Tom's own words: "We reject violence to punish anyone. We ask that there be no retaliation on relatives or property. We forgive those who consider us their enemies. We hope that in loving both friends and enemies and by intervening nonviolently to aid those who are systematically oppressed, we can contribute in some small way to transforming this volatile situation."

Even as we grieve the loss of our beloved colleague, we stand in the light of his strong witness to the power of love and the courage of nonviolence. That light reveals the way out of fear and grief and war.

Let us all join our voices on behalf of those who continue to suffer under occupation, whose loved ones have been killed or are missing. In so doing, we may hasten the day when both those who are wrongly detained and those who bear arms will return safely to their homes. In such a peace we will find solace for our grief.

Your actions matter

As a response to the love and courage shown by Tom, Norman, James and Harmeeet, take your own next step as a peacemaker. For ideas, see www.MennoniteUSA.org/peace.

If you want to send condolences to families, send them to
Family of "name" c/o Christian Peacemaker Teams,
P.O. Box 6508
Chicago, IL 60680-6508
Telephone: 773-277-0253, Website: www.cpt.org

Only love and courage will stop the violence



"...If I understand the message of God, we are here to take part in the creation of the peaceable Realm of God....And that is to love God with all our heart, our mind and our strength and to love our neighbors and enemies as we love God and ourselves." —Tom Fox

14,600 Iraqis are being held without trial by occupation forces. Often families do not know where their members are held or if they are alive. Left to right: Harmeeet Singh Sooden, Mohammed Abbas Fraiyh Abd al Dulaimy L., Norman Kember, Wisam Adnan Hameed Ismaeel Hussain, James Loney, Arras Hadi Turkey Hussein



On November 26, 2005, two members of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) and two members of a CPT visiting delegation were taken in Baghdad. Tom Fox's body was found in Baghdad on March 10, 2006. We plead for the safe release of Harmeeet Singh Sooden, Jim Loney and Norman Kember. Each has responded to Jesus' prophetic call to live out a nonviolent alternative to the cycle of violence and revenge.

(continued on back)

Litany of Resistance

One: Let us pray—You have learned how it is said

All: Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

One: But I say this to you who are listening

All: Love your enemies.

One: Do good to those who hate you.

All: Bless those who curse you.

One: Be compassionate.

All: Judge not.

One: Do not condemn.

All: Grant pardon.

One: Because the amount you measure out

All: Is the amount you will be given back.

One: Let everything you do

All: Be done in love.



One: For our scorched and blackened earth

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: For the scandal of billions wasted in war

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: For our leaders who wage war in our name

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: For the men and women in battle

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: For the arms dealers and the merchants of death

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: For our taxes that fund the evil of war

All: Forgive us for we know not what we do.

One: Deliver us, O God.

All: Guide our feet into the ways of peace.

One: In humility, we ask

All: Hear our prayer. Grant us peace.



One: From the arrogance of power

All: Deliver us.

One: From the poverty of violence

All: Deliver us.

One: From the tyranny of greed

All: Deliver us.

One: From the ugliness of racism

All: Deliver us.

One: From the politics of hypocrisy



All: Deliver us.

One: From the hysteria of nationalism

All: Deliver us.

One: From the cancer of hatred

All: Deliver us.

One: From the seduction of wealth

All: Deliver us

One: From the addiction of control

All: Deliver us

One: From the avarice of imperialism

All: Deliver us.

One: From the idolatry of national security

All: Deliver us.

One: From the despair of fatalism

All: Deliver us

One: From the violence of apathy

All: Deliver us.

One: From the filth of war

All: Deliver us.

One: From the necessity of war

All: Deliver us

One: From the madness of war

All: Deliver us

One: From the blasphemy of war

All: Deliver us.

One: Deliver us, O God.

All: Guide our feet into the ways of peace.

One: In humility, we ask

All: Hear our prayer. Grant us peace.

One: With the help of God's grace

All: We will struggle for justice.

One: With the compassion of Christ

All: We will stand for what is true.

One: With God's abiding kindness

All: We will love even our enemies.

One: With the love of Christ

All: We will resist all evil.

One: With God's unending faithfulness

All: We will work to build the beloved community.

One: With Christ's passionate love

All: We will carry the cross.

One: With God's overwhelming goodness

All: We will walk as pilgrims of peace.

One: With Christ's fervent conviction

All: We will labor for truth.

One: With God's infinite mercy

All: We will live in solidarity with all people.

One: In the end there are three things that last

All: Faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.

One: Let us abide in God's love.

All: Thanks be to God.

This litany was written by James Loney