Sam Farr says:

"I have an open record, and I'm very proud to stand by it."

On War

-Sam Farr will NOT support the call to "Bring The Troops Home Now!" [Oakland Tribune, 3/31/03] "I'm not ready to suggest that we should pull [the troops] out." On March 20, 2002 [Statement from Sam Farr], he says, "[M]y first concern is the safe return of all soldiers from abroad." -- What other action does he think would be more likely to guarantee their safe return?

- Sam Farr says [Farr Statement On War In Iraq, 3/20/03], "[T]he President has sent our troops overseas to enable the Iraqis to acquire the same democratic principles we enjoy." -- Does he really believe this? And if so, how does he square it with his April 7th, 2003 Town Hall statement of, "It was an unjust war last fall; it is an unjust war today."

-Sam Farr continually votes YES for bloated Pentagon war budgets.

United States' war related expenditures are greater than the next 10 largest nations' expenditures COMBINED.

*Voted YES on \$288.8 billion FY2000 Defense Authorization bill to increase the military authorization by \$18.3 billion over FY99. [H.R.1401 - 10-Jun-99] Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

*Voted YES on Department of Defense Appropriations for F.Y.2000 [H R 2561 22-Jul-1999] Among those voting NO were: Convers/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Waters.

*Voted IN FAVOR of more money for war. Stenholm (D-TX) [H CON RES 290] substitute amendment to the fiscal 2001 Budget Resolution calling for a \$15 billion increase in defense spending. [23-Mar-00] Among those voting AGAINST were: Convers/DeFazio/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Waters/Woolsey.

*Farr voted AGAINST reducing the war budget by 1%. Frank (MA) amendment to reduce the total authorization of the FY2001 Defense Authorization bill (HR4205) by 1%. No cuts could be made in the operations and maintenance and the personnel accounts. [18-May-00] Among those voting in FAVOR were:

Bonior/Convers/DeFazio/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

*Voted YES for (HR4205) that authorized \$309.9 billion for defense programs, a \$21.2 billion increase from the fiscal 2000 authorized level, and an increase of \$4.6 billion from the President's request. Of this increase, 57% went to buying unrequested weapon systems. Personnel accounts were not increased and only 22% of the increase above the President's request went for operations and maintenance (readiness). The bill provided \$62.3 billion for weapons procurement, \$39.3 billion for R&D, \$104.4 billion for operations and maintenance, \$8.4 billion for military construction and family housing and \$12.8 billion for the Energy Department. [18-May-00] Among those voting NO were: Conyers/DeFazio/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Sanders/Stark/Waters.

*Voted YES on H.R.5010, (Department of Defense appropriations for F.Y.2003), at the time the LARGEST MILITARY APPROPRIATIONS BILL IN HISTORY (27-JUN-2002) Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Stark/Woolsey.

*Voted YES on H R 4200, (DOD Authorization, Fiscal Year 2005) [\$422 billion; includes more money for fighting in Iraq, expands current troop levels and hold off military base closings for at least three years, & includes a provision that would let U.S. troops join with U.S. Border Patrol agents in guarding the nation's borders.] Among those voting NO were: Honda/ Kucinich/Lee/Rangel/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

*Voted YES on H R 4613, 22-Jun-2004 (Department of Defense Appropriations, FY 2005). [\$417 billion] Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Honda/Kucinich/Lee/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

-Voted NO on H.AMDT.421 to H.R.3289 (10/16/2003) [Emergency appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan] an Amendment which sought to delete language which authorized funds for military construction projects related to the Global War on Terrorism. Among those voting YES were: Conyers/Eshoo/Honda/Kucinich/Lee/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Waters/Woolsey.

-Farr voted NO on Defazio amendment [H.AMDT.80 to HR 2216] (June 20, 2001) to Defense Appropriations for 2001, which would have cut \$24.5 million from the Air force account designated for the purchase of 8 luxury 737 jets for admirals and generals. Among those voting YES were: Lee/Kucinich/Conyers/Honda/Stark/Woolsey.

Remember "Barbara Lee Speaks For Me"?

-Farr DIDN'T VOTE when Barbara Lee was the lone NO vote against the Use of Force authorization passed on Sept. 14, 2001 [H.J.RES 64 - Authorization for Use of Military Force.]

-Farr voted NO on prohibiting Colombian counter-narcotics funds to be used for a broader anti-terrorism campaign, thus allowing human rights abuses to continue unchecked. [5/22/02 - H.AMDT.496 to HR4775 (which would have forbid "counternarcotics funds provided for Columbia to be used as part of a wider campaign against terrorist groups in that country.")] Among those voting YES were: Conyers/Eshoo/Honda/Kucinich/Lee/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Woolsey.

-Voted YES to continue military terror and drug war in Colombia (H.AMDT.624 to HR 3908) - FY 2000 Supplemental Appropriations. Rep. Ramstad (R-MN) proposed an amendment that would eliminate \$1.7 billion, most of which was for military uses, for Colombia. [29-Mar-00] Amendment sought to delete \$1.7 billion provided for counternarcotics funding for Colombia. Among those voting AGAINST this funding were: Conyers/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/Pelosi/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

-Farr is quoted [Monterey Herald, 4/13/03] as saying, "I have worked hard to improve the quality of life for our troops around the world, and here at home at the DLI and the NPS. ... [M]ilitary service personnel in our region now have...special rates at .. golf courses. ... There can be no dispute that we owe our American troops a debt of gratitude and respect for winning the war." -- Does Sam Farr think we have WON this war? Will Sam Farr take actions to improve the quality of life for peace activists in his district? And will he issue a statement calling for a debt of gratitude to the peace activists that tried to stop the war?

-Farr voted YES on S.CON.RES.21 [28-Apr-99], which would have authorized the President of the United States to conduct military air operations and air strikes against Yugoslavia. [It failed.] Among those voting NO were: DeFazio/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Stark/Woolsey.

-Farr voted NO on H.R.1569, which prohibited funding of ground elements in Yugoslavia unless specifically authorized by law. Among those voting YES were: DeFazio/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Stark.

-Farr voted NO on H.AMDT.76 (to H.R. 1664) which attempted to "prohibit the use of funds for any invasion of Yugoslavia with U.S. ground forces except in time of war." Among those voting YES were: Convers/DeFazio/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Stark.

-Farr voted YES on HR 1664 (6-May-1999)which authorized funding for military operations in Yugoslavia, money which came out of Social Security funds. Among those voting NO were: Conyers/DeFazio/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

-In a letter distributed by Farr at the Del Mar Town Hall meeting, explaining his NO vote on H.J.RES.114 (authorizing use if force against Iraq), he stated, "..the bill went against the Constitutional mandate of the U.S. Congress to decide whether or not to commit this country to war." --- In light of his Yugoslavia votes under a Democratic administration, he is open to criticism that his vote against use of force in Iraq under a Republican administration is mere partisan politics, if not hypocrisy. Also note that depleted uranium was used and that civilians & communications were deliberately targeted.

-Farr co-sponsored a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to change the requirements for naturalization to citizenship through service in the Armed Forces of the United States. Period of Required Service Reduced to 2 Years (from 3). [H. R. 1275 - 3/13/03]

-Farr voted IN FAVOR of war on terrorism. Hunter (CA) motion (HR4547) to suspend the rules and pass the Cost of War Against Terrorism Authorization bill that would authorize \$10 billion for operations conducted as part of the war on terrorism in FY03. [24-Jul-02] Voting AGAINST were: Kucinich/Lee/McKinney

-Farr supported the Marine invasion of Monterey ("Urban Warrior")

-Farr has stated (Monterey Herald 1/8/04): "Nobody would vote in favor of a base closure in his own district." [presumably including Farr]

-California Peace Action, in their year 2004 Report Card gave 23 members of the California House Delegation an A+ --> These included Lynn Woolsey/Nancy Pelosi/Barbara Lee/Pete Stark/Anna Eshoo/Mike Honda/Maxine Waters, et al. -- Sam Farr however, only merited a B+. [In CA Peace Action's 2001 report card, Farr merited an overall C+, and earned an F in the wasteful military spending category.]

On Veterans' Issues

-Farr Voted YES to cut \$1.8 billion for the Veterans Administration [H.R. 2861 - 07/25/2003] Appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004. Among those voting NO were: Conyers/DeFazio/Honda/Kucinich/Lee/Stark.

On Impeaching Bush

-Farr does NOT support Bush impeachment. "[Farr] discouraged talk of impeachment, saying it would be impossible because the House Judiciary Committee is controlled by Republicans." [SJ Mercury News, 2/20/03]

On Labor and Fair Trade

- -Farr voted YES on the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act [14-Jul-2004] Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Frank (MA)/Kucinich/Lee/Paul/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.
- -Farr voted YES on NAFTA [17-NOV-1993 H.R.3450] after promising he wouldn't. Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Dellums/Gephardt/Mink/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Tauzin/Waters/Woolsey.
- -Farr voted YES on GATT. [HR 5110 11/29/1994] Among those voting NO were: Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Dellums/McKinney/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Woolsey.
- -Farr voted YES to extend fast track authority for GATT. [HR 1876 6/22/1993] Among those voting NO were: Bonior/DeFazio/Dellums/McKinney/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Waters.
- Farr voted AGAINST withdrawing from the WTO. [H J Res 90 6/21/2000] Vote on adoption of a joint resolution that would withdraw congressional approval from the agreement establishing the World Trade Organization. Among those voting IN FAVOR of withdrawal: Bonior/DeFazio/Kucinich/McKinney/Mink/Sanders/Waters.
 - -Farr opposed striking Teamsters at Basic Vegetable in King City and sided with management.
- -Farr voted AGAINST worker rights. Backed Provisions Exempting Millions of Workers From Minimum Wage and Overtime Protections. The inadequate minimum wage bill pushed by House GOP leaders also contained a number of "poison pill" provisions that would have exempted millions of workers from the minimum wage and overtime protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The UAW and other unions supported a [Clay] motion to recommit this bill to strike these anti-worker provisions. But the House rejected this motion. [9-Mar-00] Among those voting IN FAVOR were: Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Gephardt/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Mink/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.
- -Farr voted YES to sweatshops in Africa. In what was surely the most outrageous anti-worker vote of the 1999 Congress, this scheme will create a network of factory sweatshops throughout 48 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Corporate America has plans to move entire U.S. industries to these new sweatshop zones, beginning with garment and clothing assembly. To qualify for meager trade benefits, countries must rearrange their domestic policies to meet U.S.-imposed conditions benefiting foreign business interests but undermining most Africans' interests. For instance, African countries would have to cut local taxes on corporations and provide new rights for foreign oil, mining and telecommunications companies. The House of Representatives passed this bill. [16-Jul-99 HR434] Among those voting NO were: Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Kucinich/McKinney/Sanders/Waters/Woolsey.

On Government Spying

-Farr voted AGAINST an amendment to financial services legislation, which would have put banks out of the business of spying on their customers for the government. It would have prohibited regulators from requiring banks to adopt programs similar to those that would have been required under the discredited "Know Your Customer" regulations. The ACLU supported the amendment. [7/01/1999 - H.AMDT.249 to H.R. 10] "Amendment sought to eliminate the requirement that financial institutions file certain suspicious activity reports." Among those voting IN FAVOR were: Mink/Woolsey.

On Free Speech

- -Farr voted YES on the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act of 2004 [H.R.3717 11-Mar -2004] "Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that, ... such violator is determined by the FCC to have broadcast obscene, indecent, or profane language, the amount of forfeiture penalty shall not exceed \$275,000 for each violation or day of such violation, to a maximum of \$3 million for any single act or failure to act." Among those voting NO were: Honda/Kucinich/Lee/Stark/Waters.
- -Farr voted YES to ban raves. On April 10, 2003, the House passed S. 151 by a vote of 400-25. This legislation included provisions that would unfairly target property owners who host social gatherings such as raves by making them legally responsible for the acts of their patrons. The ACLU opposed this legislation because it contains provisions that threaten free speech and inhibited federal judges' sentencing discretion. Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Kucinich/Lee/Sanders/Stark/Waters.

On Reagan

-Farr voted YES to "celebrating" Ronald Reagan's "leadership in promoting the cause of freedom for all people of the world." [H RES 664 - 9-Jun-2004] -- *Sixty* House members chose to boycott this resolution and didn't vote. --

On Prisons

-Farr voted YES to limit judicial discretion on prison conditions. Sponsored by Rep. Tom DeLay, R-TX, this legislation continued the trend toward restraining the role of the federal judiciary by limiting the ability of federal judges to correct unconstitutional conditions in prisons. The ACLU opposed the bill, which was approved. [H.R. 3718 - 5/19/1998] Among those voting NO were: Bonior/Conyers/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Stark.

-Farr voted YES to the Drug War [H RES 412 - 4-Mar-2004] "Honoring the Men and Women of the Drug Enforcement Administration on the Occasion of its 30th Anniversary." *These are the thugs who raided WAMM and other medical marijuana providers!*

-Farr voted YES to keep sentencing disparities in place between crack & powdered cocaine. [H.R. 2259 18-OCT-1995] In a groundbreaking act, the U.S. Sentencing Commission found that there was no justification or sound scientific basis for the disparity in sentencing between those convicted of selling and using crack cocaine compared to those who sell or use powder cocaine and recommended that Congress end the 100-to-1 disparity in sentencing. For the first time in the history of the Commission, Congress (and the House) rejected the Commission's recommendations. Among those voting NO were: Bonior/Conyers/Dellums/Jackson-Lee/Mink/Pelosi/Sanders/Waters.

On Separation of Church and State

-Farr voted YES to support the display of the 10 Commandments in courtroom. This "sense of the House" resolution was designed to support an Alabama judge who continued to post the Ten Commandments on his courtroom wall despite a federal court ruling that doing so was unconstitutional. The ACLU opposed the resolution, which was adopted. [H Con Res 31 - 3/05/1997] Among those voting NO were:

Abercrombie/Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Dellums/Gephardt/Kucinich/McKinney/Mink/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Tauscher/Waters/Woolsey.

On Immigrants

-Farr voted YES to deny benefits to immigrants. [H.R. 2202 21-Mar-1996] Seeking to capitalize on a wave of anti-immigration initiatives, both the House and Senate passed bills that represented the most draconian and divisive immigration proposals in decades. Included were provisions that would strip the courts of jurisdiction over illegal and abusive INS actions and erect enormous and virtually insurmountable barriers for most people seeking political asylum. The House even approved a bill that would have effectively denied public education to American citizen children of undocumented immigrants. The Senate voted 97 to 3 to accept one version of the legislation; the House approved a harsher version by a vote of 333 to 87. The President signed the immigration legislation in September. Among those voting NO were: Bonior/Conyers/Dellums/McKinney/Mink/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Woolsey.

On Health Care

-Farr voted AGAINST allowing prescription drug imports. [June 13, 2004] The Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on agriculture passed a measure that prevents the FDA from spending funds to bar imports such as those from Canada, where government price controls have made many prescription drugs cheaper than they are in the United States. The measure was introduced by House Agriculture ranking member Rep. Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio, who said that the amendment would allow people "to access safe prescription drugs." *Rep. Sam Farr of California was the only Democrat to vote against the proposal.*

On Palestine

-Farr voted YES on H CON RES 460 (23-Jun-2004) "Regarding the security of Israel and the principles of peace in the Middle East", which endorses right-wing Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's efforts to colonize and annex large sections of the Palestinian West Bank, seized by Israel in the June 1967 war. In supporting this resolution, Congress has effectively renounced UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, which call on Israel - in return for security guarantees from its Arab neighbors - to withdraw from territories seized in the June 1967 war. All previous U.S. administrations of both parties had seen these resolutions as the basis for Arab-Israeli peace. More fundamentally, Congress' effective endorsement of an Israeli annexation of land it conquered in the 1967 war is a direct challenge to the United Nations Charter, which forbids any country from expanding its territory through military conquest. The resolution also insists that supporting the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes in Israel - or even in the occupied territories to be annexed by Israel under the Bush-Sharon plan - would not be "just" or "fair." Among those voting NO were: Conyers/Kucinich/Lee/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

On Corporations

-Farr is a millionaire who owns stock in several large corporations. [June 21, 2004] Personal financial disclosure statements show Rep. Sam Farr, D-Carmel, owning more than \$1 million in stocks and other assets. Farr's assets: \$1.28 million to \$2.96 million. Most of Farr's assets are held in property in Big Sur and Carmel as well as an apartment building. He also has a stock account worth between \$281,000 and \$815,000. Interest, dividend and rent income: \$23,600 to \$70,900. The statements don't require Congressmembers to list the value of their primary residence or congressional salary, which was \$154,700 last year.

-Farr voted YES to a pharmaceutical industry handout. [H.R. 2887 - 11/15/2001] Gave drug companies a sixmonth monopoly patent extension if they test the safety of their drugs in children. The cost to consumers was \$14 billion over 20 years in higher drug prices. Public Citizen opposed the bill as a handout to the most profitable industry in the nation and instead proposed that drug companies test the safety of their drugs in children as a condition of getting drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Among those voting NO were:

Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Mink/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

-Farr voted AGAINST auditing large public companies. [H.AMDT.457 24-Apr-02] Investor, Shareholder, and Employee Protection Act of 2002. Introduced by Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), the bill would have created a Federal Bureau of Audits, a government agency to perform audits on all large U.S. public companies. Offered as an amendment to H.R. 3763 (Oxley/Republican accounting bill), it was defeated. Among those voting IN FAVOR were: Bonior/Convers/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Stark/Waters/Woolsey.

On the Environment

-Farr voted AGAINST humane wildlife control. [8-Jun-99] LETHAL PREDATOR CONTROL. Reps. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Charles Bass (R-NH) offered an amendment to H.R. 1906, the FY2000 agriculture appropriations bill, that would have reduced funding for the euphemistically named Wildlife Services program that annually slaughters almost 100,000 coyotes, foxes, bears, badgers, and other animals by using steel-jaw leghold traps, poisons, and other inhumane methods. This taxpayer subsidy for western ranchers has proven to be costly and ineffective in protecting livestock and has discouraged the use of nonlethal methods such as guard dogs and special fencing. During consideration of the Fiscal Year 2000 Agriculture Appropriations bill, Representatives Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Charles Bass (R-NH) offered an amendment to cut \$7 million from the \$28 million Wildlife Services operations budget. This cut would still have allowed other programs in this budget to go forward, including programs to prevent bird strikes at airports and to protect endangered species; however, the amendment stipulated that no funds be used to kill predators for livestock protection. This amendment was defeated. Among those voting IN FAVOR were:

Bonior/Conyers/DeFazio/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Pelosi/Rangel/Sanders/Stark/Tauscher/Woolsey.

-Farr voted AGAINST protecting the Delaware River From Environmentally Damaging Dredging. Representative Andrews (D-NJ) offered an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2001 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, H.R. 4733, that would have prohibited money from being spent on an environmentally damaging dredging project in the Delaware River. The dredging project could threaten the Delaware's water quality as well as wildlife. The Andrews amendment to H.R. 4733 was supported by the Sierra Club. [27-Jun-00] Among those voting IN FAVOR were: Conyers/Eshoo/Kucinich/Lee/McKinney/Sanders/Tauscher/Woolsey.

-Farr supports TOXIC BURNING at Fort Ord.

-Farr continually votes for extended use of methyl bromide.

Had enough?

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