



Franciscan Sisters of Allegany

*St. Elizabeth Motherhouse
115 East Main Street
Allegany, New York 14706
716/373-0200*

October 7, 2002

Dear Sisters, Associates and Friends,

On Friday, October 4, 2002, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we, the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, committed to the gospel stance of non-violence, approved the enclosed corporate statement.

We believe that all the alternatives to war have not been exhausted nor have peaceful means been tried.

As you know, Congress will be voting on this issue this week. Please join us in our non-violence stance by sending this message to everyone you can and by contacting your Congress people and the President of the United States.

We also ask you to join with us in our prayer for the Leaders of our Country and for a peaceful solution to all violence.

Peace and all good,

Margaret Mary Kimmins, OSF
General Minister
for the General Leadership Team

MMK/cjp

Enc.

**FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF ALLEGANY, NEW YORK
CORPORATE STATEMENT**

Feast of St. Francis, October 4, 2002

RE: MILITARY ACTION IN IRAQ

Because we are followers of Jesus who proclaimed in words and his life a gospel of peace, love and forgiveness-

Because we are followers of Francis of Assisi who challenges us “to heal wounds, and to bind what is broken.” –

Because we are sisters to all our brothers and sisters and to all of creation. -

Because we have committed ourselves to a gospel stance of non-violence. –

***WE, THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF ALLEGANY, NEW YORK, OPPOSE
MILITARY ACTION IN IRAQ.***

Because we believe military action will only cause further devastation to the suffering people of Iraq. –

Because we believe that military action will bring irreparable harm to our planet. –

Because we believe military action threatens to further destabilize the international community. –

***WE, THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF ALLEGANY, NEW YORK, OPPOSE
MILITARY ACTION IN IRAQ.***