

Senator Daniel Inouye
300 Ala Moana Blvd. Rm 7-212
Honolulu, HI 96850-4975

Dear Senator Inouye,

I write to ask for your leadership in support of Lt. Ehren Watada, a local boy who has become the first commissioned officer to publicly refuse deployment to the unlawful Iraq war and occupation. Along with tens of thousands of my fellow Americans, I support Lt. Watada's principled stance against this war.

Lt. Watada exemplifies true courage in his decision of conscience to refuse to participate in a war that violates the U.S. Constitution and international law. He is now being court-martialed for his act of moral conscience challenging government leaders on the war in Iraq through conduct consistent with his conscience, for stating what we now know about the war. For the first time since 1965, the military is prosecuting an objector for expressing his opinions, a particularly disturbing trend.

In the fear and hysteria of war, disastrous decisions are sometimes made in flagrant disregard of the Constitution -- like the Executive Order incarcerating Japanese Americans during World War II, and the current illegal war in Iraq. As our history teaches, and Lt. Watada reminds us, the Constitution must be protected, and not ignored, in times of war. Through his loyal dissent, Lt. Watada fulfills his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

I urge you to support Lt. Watada's case and his cause in your capacity as a member of Congress. Please join the growing number of Americans who are deeply distressed at the wrong course our nation has taken, and stand with Lt. Watada in his principled defense of the Constitution.

I ask you to make a Congressional request to Lt General James Dubik and to Secretary Francis Harvey to accept Lt. Watada's resignation with full discharge.

Mahalo for your support.

Respectfully,