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Press Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AFSC TO CONDEMN PENTAGON SPYING OF LAWFUL PEACE ACTIVITIES AT
FEDERAL BUILDING ON MONDAY**

The Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) will hold a press conference on Monday, December 19 to condemn being spied on by the Department of Defense (DOD) for its lawful and peaceful march and rally in Akron in March, 2005. The press conference will be held at 11:00 AM in front of the Federal Building, corner of Main and Market streets, in downtown Akron.

Recently, it was learned that the Pentagon possesses a 400-page database of peaceful and lawful activities sponsored by anti-war and peace groups from across the country. To date, only 8 pages has been publicly released, containing 43 "incidents." Among these was the Northeast Ohio AFSC-sponsored march and rally in Akron on March 19, 2005 to commemorate the second anniversary of the beginning of the war and occupation in Iraq. A second spied-on activity was a meeting planned by an AFSC staff person in coalition with others in Cleveland in November, 2004 to plan for a local counter-recruitment action and a bus trip to demonstrate at the Presidential Inauguration.

AFSC will condemn both Pentagon actions at the press conference and will call on area Congressional representatives and both Ohio Senators to take specific actions. The Northeast Ohio AFSC will also release a statement from its national office condemning the Pentagon spying.

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