

Participate

- Contact Us
 - Feedback Form
 - About Us
 - Web Links
 - Enter your email address to get regular PA-readers updates
- Enter your email
-

/Archives - Dates and Topics /Online Edition
Archive

Print | Send to friend

Take Action

Take a Stand
(10/01/2003 18:49)

Republican Congressman Breaks Ranks, Joins Demand for Documents on Downing Street Memos

By David Swanson



Support Political Affairs today

Current issue

August

- August 2005 (editorial comment and table of contents)
- Labor in the Era of Globalization
- Feeling the Heat: Is Global Climate Change Here to Stay?
- Let My People Go: US Labor Fights the Travel Ban
- Cracking the Nest Egg: The Privatization of Alaska's Retirement System
- Mindstorm

Browse

- Archive by Date
- by Author
- Site map

Hot deals

1-year individual subscription



1-year subscription
(11 issues)
\$ 18.00

1-year subscription



Special Internet Sale:
1-year sub for new subscribers – \$18 (11 issues) 18% off cover price.
\$ 18.00

Adopt your library



Purchase a gift subscription for your library.
\$ 15.00

Gift for a prisoner



Give a prisoner *Political Affairs* today.
\$ 15.00

Related stories: antiwar

8-24-05, 10:58 am

Congressman Jim Leach (R, Iowa) has informed Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D, California) that he will co-sponsor her Resolution of Inquiry into Bush Administration communications with the U.K. about Iraq at the time of the Downing Street Memos. Leach is the first Republican member of Congress to publicly support a demand for an inquiry into the Bush Administration's pre-war claims. The 131 congress members who have signed Congressman John Conyers' letter to the President about the Downing Street Memo are all Democrats. The 11 Senators who have asked the Senate Intelligence Committee to do the investigation it committed to in February 2004 but never did are all Democrats.

The Resolution, H. Res. 375, is a privileged resolution which must be brought to a vote in the House International Relations Committee by September 16th, or Lee is permitted to demand a vote of the full House. Fifty-two Democrats, including Lee, have co-sponsored the Resolution. Leach is the first Republican to join them, and he is a member of the International Relations Committee..

The International Relations Committee has 27 Republican members and 23 Democratic members. Thus far 10 of the Democrats have co-sponsored the Resolution. If the other 13 vote for it as well, then along with Leach, one more Republican vote will be needed for a tie, or two more for passage.

Leach has questioned Bush's war policies for years and was one of five Republicans in May to vote for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's amendment requiring an exit strategy. Another of those five, Congressman Ron Paul of Texas, also serves on the International Relations Committee.

"Congressman Leach has broken the silence of the Republican Party on the Downing Street Minutes," said John Bonifaz, Co-Founder of the After Downing Street Coalition. "His willingness to co-sponsor Congresswoman Barbara Lee's Resolution of Inquiry is bound to make the White House nervous. It is not possible for the President to paint this demand for documents as coming solely from his opponents. This is a demand for the truth. Did the president deliberately deceive and mislead the United States Congress and the American people about the basis for going to war against Iraq? We as a people -- from Crawford to Des Moines to Washington, DC, regardless of our political persuasion, deserve to know the answer to that basic question."



click for more info



Act Now to Block Bush's Extremist Judges

[End the Occupation of Iraq](#)

Other Action:

Take e-Action [HERE](#). (updated 5-24-05)

Current Campaigns:

- [Don't Let GOP Rob Social Security](#)
- [Protect Affirmative Action](#)
- [Protect Immigrant Workers from Unfair Employers](#)
- [Stop Abstinence-only Programs](#)
- [Support H.R. 676 - national health program](#)
- [Oppose Federal Marriage Amendment](#)
- [Support Right to Unionize](#)
- [Take Back Medicare](#)

Poll

What should happen to Karl Rove

- prison
- nothing, leaking classified information isn't a big deal
- kick him to the curb
- court order to be Hillary Clinton's maid

Vote

- Results
- Polls

"Congress returns to Washington from its summer break on September 6," said David Swanson, Co-Founder of the After Downing Street Coalition. "The first 10 days will test the Democrats' ability to stand together and challenge the Bush Administration, as well as Republicans' willingness to break ranks on an issue where public opinion has diverged widely from White House policy."

The text of the Resolution, H. Res. 375, a list of current co-sponsors, and what you can do to help:
<http://www.afterdowningstreet.org/?q=node/902>

From AfterDowningStreet.org

[» PA Home](#) [» PA Online Edition](#) [» August Print Edition](#) [Subscribe to PA](#)



click image to learn more



click image for more info

Comment List

Topic:	Author:	Time:
Where is my clear and present danger?		08/25/2005 09:41

The 'truth' may not necessarily set us free, but it may ruffle many a feather. I hope Congressman Leach's actions bring just that. I appreciate an individual who makes choices with a complete understanding of the consequences, not just for that one individual, but for the populace.
Go Leach Go!

[Reply](#)

About Time	Jamie Holly	08/24/2005 21:38
----------------------------	-------------	------------------

Glad to see we finally have more from the GOP standing up and wanting to find the truth to the causes for this war. It is a much needed inquiry.

Jamie
[Intoxination](#)

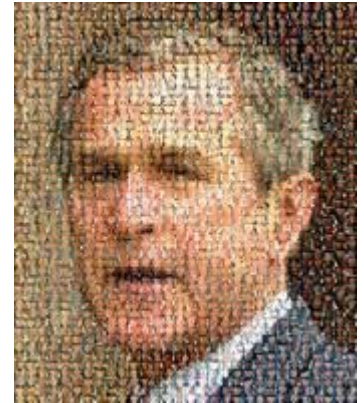
[Reply](#)

This is BIG -- VERY VERY BIG!!!	Charlie L	08/24/2005 21:07
---	-----------	------------------

This is the first Republican to show his CONSCIENCE rather than his unquestioning support of his party! This is HUGE!!!

I just called my Representative (Earl Blumenauer (D) Oregon 3rd) who also sits on the committee this will be referred to and told him his time had run out. He could be on the fence and trying to avoid the issue, but when a REPUBLICAN signs on, it's time for him to declare.

I said that at this point, he was either a Democrat who was with us or a Democrat who was with "them" and if he didn't sign on within 24 hours, it would be time to start lining up "loyal opposition" to him as the Democratic candidate. He has never had any opposition in the primaries, and I would hate to



What is this? click image



click to purchase post cards with this image

have to make him spend his money, but if he won't do what's right, then he has to go, just like all the other Republicans-in-Democrats-clothing.

This is VERY BIG!!! It's time to call your Democratic AND Republican congresspeople and ask them where THEY stand and tell them they have only a few days of "summer vacation" from their repsonsilbity to protect this form of goverment.

Charlie L
Portland, OR
CLL2001@gmail.com

[Reply](#)

[New comment](#)



Support Political Affairs today

● [Read more](#)

POWERED BY
 eZ publish