

A Resolution Approved And Adopted By the United States Veterans Group Called –

VETERANS FOR PEACE (VFP)

At their 2004 Annual Convention in Boston Massachusetts
On 24 July 2004

Support for Endangered Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution

Whereas one of the five goals in Veterans For Peace's (VFP) "Statement Of Purpose" is -- "To abolish war as an instrument of national policy."

Whereas the world's most significant legal expression of this goal exists as Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, "... the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes." Article 9 abolishes war for Japan.

Whereas the Japanese and the United States governments have been overtly and covertly, in Orwellian ways, working for the past half century to destroy Article 9 and make it easier for the USA to harness Japan's so-called "Self-Defense-Force" (SDF) to be America's surrogate military force in "situational" (not geographical) areas surrounding Japan.

Whereas millions of Japanese people who love Article 9 and wish to keep it alive – are growing tired and discouraged by these massive efforts to rid the world of this treasure. These dear people are losing hope and desperately need our encouragement.

Therefore, be it resolved that Veterans For Peace proclaim to Japanese people – "We as a body share your love for the wisdom and ideal that is Article 9. We encourage you in your non-violent efforts to keep your and the US government from killing it. We join you in seeing Article 9 as having arisen like a Phoenix out of the ashes and holocausts of World War II, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki – and as humanity's cry for an end to the obscene brutality that is war. We share with you, dear Japanese friends, your vision that Article 9 is Earth's living model for 'rules-of-law' to replace 'rules-of-war.' "

Submitted by -- Chuck Overby, WW-II and Korean War veteran (combat pilot in Korea),
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Overby, a frequent country-wide lecturer in Japan, will seek to disseminate this resolution widely to Article 9 Society groups across Japan, to many other Japanese peace and justice groups, and to Japanese media -- so as to encourage them in their fight to restore Article 9's integrity and health.