many ills that plague our own society and helping to peacefully construct a better world based on social and economic justice and mutual understanding.

We urge all of our members to participate in the anti-war movement, to work as librarians to counter propaganda emanating from the war-hysteric mass media by assuring the provision of alternative viewpoints on the conflict and to oppose all manifestations of the anti-Arab racism which the intervention is generating.

We call upon all bodies of ALA to unite in condemnation of U.S. involvement in a Middle East war.

**MSRRT Persian Gulf Resolution, 1/91**

WHEREAS nearly half a million U.S. troops, a disproportionate number of them lower class and persons of color, are now deployed in the Persian Gulf; and

WHEREAS veterans hospitals in the United States are preparing to handle at least 40,000 casualties; and

WHEREAS the enormous cost of this military adventure threatens to severely worsen the budget deficit and scuttle the long-overdue “Peace Dividend”; and

WHEREAS the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, while a clear violation of international law, does not in any way justify the massive American mobilization and deployment of offensive forces; and

WHEREAS the internationally-approved economic sanctions and regional peacemaking efforts by the Arab League have not been given a chance to work by the Bush Administration; and

WHEREAS the United States displays a “double standard” in condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait while remaining silent or actually supporting Israel’s invasions and occupations of the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem, Golan Heights, and southern Lebanon; Syria’s intervention in Lebanon; Turkey’s invasion of northern Cyprus; Morocco’s occupation of Western Sahara; the oppression and slaughter of Kurds by Turkey, Iran, Iraq and other states; and the Reagan/Bush invasion of Grenada and Panama, as well as unprovoked bombing of Libya and covert war against Nicaragua; and

WHEREAS there has not yet been a full and open debate concerning U.S. goals and aims in the Persian Gulf; and
WHEREAS the American people receive information on the Gulf crisis that is largely precensored by Saudi and our own military authorities; and

WHEREAS the American library profession has mainly acquiesced in the censorship and mutilation of reading materials destined for Persian Gulf troops, thus violating its own basic canons of intellectual freedom:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association condemns the U.S. military response to the Kuwait invasion and calls for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from the region, including Iraqi soldiers from Kuwait and American forces from the Persian Gulf;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SRRT demands an embargo on arms shipments to all Middle East governments and urges the settlement of the Persian Gulf, Israeli-Palestinian, Kurdish, and other regional conflicts by peaceful, diplomatic means — such as economic sanctions and international conferences — that primarily involve the United Nations and Arab League;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SRRT calls upon the President and Congress to initiate an energy policy emphasizing reduced oil use, conservation, recycling, and development of non-nuclear, renewable power sources, as well as redirecting the massive sums now being squandered in the Gulf to end poverty, homelessness, hunger, and illiteracy in the United States;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SRRT invites all American librarians to promote — through programs, displays, bibliographies, and materials selection — a genuine national debate on the Gulf crisis, interventionism, and energy policy, necessarily including "alternative" viewpoints and analyses from such sources as the American Friends Service Committee, Women Against Military Madness, National Council of Churches of Christ, Military Families Support Network, War Resisters League, New Jewish Agenda, Daniel Ellsberg, and Noam Chomsky;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SRRT opposes the censorship and mutilation of books and magazines everywhere, including both the United States and Saudi Arabia.

Submitted to ALA/SRRT Action Council by Minnesota Social Responsibilities Round Table