

# **SAY NO TO COKE - Stop Murders of Union Workers at Coca-Cola Plants in Colombia**

*Resolution adopted at Veterans For Peace National Convention in San Francisco, California on August 9, 2003*

**WHEREAS:** U.S. taxpayer dollars are spent on Plan Colombia, an aid program; 90 percent of the U.S. aid to Colombia is military aid increasingly channeled to the non-governmental, right-wing paramilitaries; and,

**WHEREAS:** These paramilitary groups operate unhindered by the government as an anti-union and anti-people military force in the country; and,

**WHEREAS:** 4,000 unionists have been assassinated by the paramilitary death squads since 1985, and 192 of them in 2002 alone but no one has ever been brought to justice; and,

**WHEREAS:** Such actions deny Colombian workers the most basic internationally recognized rights to organize into unions and to collectively bargain; and,

**WHEREAS:** Coca-Cola is one of the top companies trying to bust union organizing in Colombia; eight of the local union's officials have been murdered and many others have been tortured, kidnapped, jailed, raided, or received death threats to themselves and their families; and,

**WHEREAS:** The Colombian unionists have launched an international campaign to stop consuming Coca Cola products until the company calls off the paramilitaries and bargains fairly with the workers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That Veterans for Peace demand that Congress end the funding of Plan Colombia and all US military aid to Colombia; and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That Veterans for Peace support the "Stop Killer Coke" campaign, behind the slogan "Unthinkable! Undrinkable!" — asking people to stop consuming Coca-Cola products — including Sprite, Fanta, Nestea, Minute Maid, Powerade, Swerve dairy drink and Dasani water — until the terror against workers in the Coke bottling plants in Colombia ceases.