

Statement of the Sudbury Democratic Town Committee regarding acts of war by the U.S. against Libya:

The Sudbury Democratic Town Committee opposes the involvement of the United States in air attacks against the government and armed forces of Libya on grounds that:

- The engagement comprises interference in a civil war within a sovereign nation;
- Congressional approval was neither sought nor gained for this commitment to war;
- The decision to war was made precipitously, upon a sudden and poorly explained reversal of policy, without urgent or foreseeable military danger to the United States;
- Little effort was made to examine the issues and win national approval for war before military action commenced;
- The United Nations resolution encouraging war on Libya (UNSCR 1973 (2011)) does not override or replace lack of constitutional authority;
- The attacks are a national expenditure without appropriated funds;
- It is unclear whether the Libyan rebels, whom we now seem to support, have the ability to form a government of national unity.

The Sudbury Democratic Town Committee therefore believes that President Obama has overstepped his authority in leading the military attack on Libya, and agrees with the statement of candidate Obama of 2007:

"The President does not have power under the Constitution to unilaterally authorize a military attack in a situation that does not involve stopping an actual or imminent threat to the nation." Barack Obama - December 20, 2007.

24 March 2011