Chicago Filmmakers, Chicago Media Action, and Not In Our Name present:

“Afghan Massacre: Convoy of Death”

This is the documentary the pentagon (and PBS) did not want you to see.

Guest speaker: John Heffernan, Senior Communications Associate
Physicians for Human Rights (PHR was co-winner of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize)

Thurs. Aug. 14th 7PM
Open to the public/$7 donation suggested
Skokie Public Library
5215 Oakton, Skokie

Fri. Aug. 15th 8PM
Admission $7 - Ferguson Theater
Columbia College
600 S. Michigan

Award-winning director Jamie Doran’s “Afghan Massacre: Convoy of Death” (UK–2002, 50 m.) screens in these special Chicago screenings. This unsettling documentary tells of the horrific forced journey undertaken in November of 2001 by thousands of Taliban prisoners of war who surrendered to America’s Afghan allies after the siege of Kunduz. Packed into metal shipping containers and driven by truck through the desert for up to four days, with no air, food or water, a grotesque mass killing of many of the POWs - an estimated 2 to 3,000 - resulted. The bodies were then dumped into large, bulldozed pits. Why have official international investigations been stymied? What has been the U.S. role? “Afghan Massacre: Convoy of Death” raises troubling and unanswered questions.

Present will be guest speaker John Heffernan, Senior Communications Associate Media Relations for Physicians for Human Rights, the group which discovered the mass graves near Dasht-e-Leili in northern Afghanistan. Heffernan continues the call for a full, independent inquiry. He will tell of his personal experiences in Afghanistan and his major role in the August, 2002 Newsweek magazine cover story that resulted in the UN’s theoretical acceptance of an investigation. The article concluded, “There is no real moral justification for the pain and destruction of combat if it is not to defend the rule of law.”

“Afghan Massacre” was created over ten months in extremely dangerous circumstances: eyewitnesses were threatened and subsequently killed, the film crew were forced into hiding and the film’s researcher was savagely beaten to within an inch of his life. He was recently awarded the 2002 Rory Peck Award for Hard News and the SONY Award. The film has been nominated for a Royal Television Society Award for Current Affairs. It has been broadcast in numerous countries, but not in the U.S. - Chicago public station WTTW-TV has not aired “Afghan Massacre”.

The Skokie Public Library is 1 block west of Lincoln & Oakton; take #97 bus. Directions: call 847-673-7774. Columbia College is 2 blocks east of the Harrison red line stop.

Event co-sponsors:
For additional program information: 847-679-8032

Chicago Filmmakers programs are supported in part by grants from The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts, A City Arts 3 Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Alphawood Foundation. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.