

**Minute on the United States Government's Engagement in Drone Warfare, Adopted by Kendal Monthly Meeting on April 10, 2014, Revised and Presented for Adoption by Western Quarterly Meeting on July 15, 2014.**

As Friends (Quakers) we believe there is "that of God" in everyone and that every life is sacred. We are therefore deeply concerned about the proliferation of lethal unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly known as drones. In this new form of warfare, pilots from U.S. bases kill men, women, and children thousands of miles away by remote control. The United States is at the forefront of the use of lethal drones, which have become the weapons of choice in warfare due to the lack of direct risk to the lives of U.S. soldiers. Drone strikes have caused the deaths of people in rapidly increasing numbers, world-wide. Lethal drones have been employed in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia, where the United States has not even formally declared war. We urge our government to put an end to this secretive, remote-controlled killing and, instead, to promote foreign policies that are consistent with the values of a democratic and humane society. We also call on our government to initiate, via the United Nations, an international treaty controlling the development and use of lethal drones.