

8 April 2016
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Fellow Citizens,

It is federal tax season, which gives me an opportunity to think about how we as a nation support war by paying for it. I am a conscientious objector to war and cannot participate in it in any way. I can only support that which promotes peace and takes away the occasion for war. Paying for war is participating in it. I want to pay taxes, and feel that many types of tax support my life and are important for the running of the country. Unfortunately there is currently no *legal* way for me to follow my conscience, but I do not allow the law to turn me away from where my conscience leads me. I am diverting the portion of my tax payment that would go towards war. The diverted portion will go into a special account (not controlled by me) with a charter specifying that the money is to be used only for purposes other than war. The government can have this diverted money when there is a way for it to be paid without going towards war.

My calculation on how much to divert is based on the War Resisters League pie chart www.WarResisters.org/resources/Federal-Pie-Chart-Flyers-Past-Years You can see the percentage calculation below.

$(\$786 \text{ billion Current Military} + \$364 \text{ Billion Interest on war portion of national debt}) / \$2887 \text{ Billion spending from income tax} = 40\%$

Based on my calculation from Form 1040 I am required to pay \$618

Diverted portion will be $(\$618 \times 40\%) = \246

The money I will send to the IRS will be $(\$618 \times 59\%) = \372

I have chosen to withhold all current military spending, and also withhold the portion of interest costs on the national debt, which was previously used to finance war. I want to pay for veteran's benefits, because I find it conscionable and important to supporting these fellow citizens who are victims of war. I am paying all state and local taxes because they are not used for military spending.

Sincerely,

Nicholas C. Rozard