

# American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations



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## Statement by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney On the Tragic Death of Rachel Corrie March 21, 2003

On behalf of the 13 million working men and women of the AFL-CIO, I want to express my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Rachel Corrie. At such a young age, Rachel was steadfast in her belief and commitment to social and economic justice for workers at home and abroad. Rachel's effort to alleviate suffering and her belief in fundamental human rights extended into countless struggles, both domestic and abroad. Through her own union, SEIU Local 1199 NW, and in her solidarity work with the USWA and the Labor Center at Evergreen State College, Rachel was a proud advocate of working families, and the labor movement is sincerely grateful for her contributions.

Rachel refused to accept a world where people live in fear and without dignity.

With great sadness and sympathy, we offer our prayers to Rachel's parents, her family and her community during this unspeakably difficult time.