



The resulting body of work was originally displayed at the Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery in 2008 in an exhibition entitled; *Transitive Space: Afghanistan Series* and subsequently some of these works formed part of the artists two part project entitled *Speak Up Speak Out*, which was initially enacted on May 10, 2012 as a protest on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. The *Gift of Conscience*, the second part of the project, was initiated on October 30, 2012. Both elements constitute a protest against the Harper Government that continues to abuse and dismantle Canada's position as a progressive and effective liberal democracy.



Writing about the reasoning behind his actions Allan states: "As a war artist previously contracted by the Department of National Defense in Somalia (1993) and Afghanistan (2002), I undertook the destruction of five original works based on these two zone assignments on May 10, 2012 in an event entitled, *Speak Up Speak Out*. This 'citizen action' took place within view of the Parliament Buildings in the Nation's Capital. The destruction of the art works, constituting aspects of Canada's contemporary military heritage, symbolized a much larger destruction of Canada's values relating to national governance. The values of openness, justice, honesty, fairness and unfettered participation by all MP's is being held hostage by a government that holds the Parliamentary System in deliberate contempt and fashions abusive policies impacting, but not limited to, Veterans Rights, First Nations Rights, Workers Rights, Privacy Rights, Protection of the Environment, Immigration and Foreign Aid/Diplomatic initiatives. Clearly exercising an abuse of parliamentary traditions, this majority government shamelessly utilizes the tactics of stealth, deception, suppression and untruths to further its own minority interests. Recent Supreme Court decisions have pushed back against breaches of the constitution contained in legislation fashioned by the Conservative Government under Stephen Harper's leadership.