

FIRE THIS TIME

Movement for Social Justice



Update on War **#4**

www.fire-this-time.org

FREE

CANADIAN SHIPS OUT OF THE GULF! ***CANADIAN TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ!***

“Operation Iraqi Freedom”



An Iraqi boy in front of his burning house as a result of a US missile, March 27th 2003.



An Iraqi girl walks through the rubble of a building which was destroyed during a US-British air raid on Baghdad.

2nd All-Region Anti-War Meeting

Sunday March 30th at 7 PM
Queen's United Church
529 Queen Avenue
(Queen and 6th)
New Westminster

For more information contact
hajones@sfu.ca

A meeting to coordinate the expansion of Stopwar.ca throughout the lower mainland to include all regions and communities.

All Out Against the War on Iraq!

At the Vancouver Art Gallery:

Saturday April 5th

12 Noon

STOP THE WAR NOW!

US, UK, CANADA, OUT OF THE MIDDLE EAST!

The Moment of Truth

"It was an outrage, an obscenity. The severed hand on the metal door, the swamp of blood and mud across the road, the human brains inside a garage, the incinerated, skeletal remains of an Iraqi mother and her three small children in their still-smouldering car.

Two missiles from an American jet killed them all – by my estimate, more than 20 Iraqi civilians, torn to pieces before they could be 'liberated' by the nation that destroyed their lives." - Robert Fisk, prominent British journalist. Report from Baghdad, March 27th 2003

Lies and Hypocrisy

The people of the world are reading, listening, watching news about the destruction of Iraq and the killing of Iraqi people every day. They know that the US and UK's 'reasons' for the invasion of Iraq, **Iraq has weapon of mass destruction, Iraq is security threat to US and its neighbours, Iraq is linked to Al Qaeda, Iraq refused to be disarmed**, were all lies and fabrications. People of the world are finding out more and more that those accusations were all excuses and pretext to attack and occupy Iraq for the interest of US and UK corporations. That this war is about who is setting the political and economic agenda for the people of Middle East; for further exploitation of them and plundering their resources and wealth. This is about starting to divide the world in US terms. This is a new era of wars and destruction of poor nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Growing Pain, Growing Solidarity

People of the world are becoming more aware that there is nothing to legitimize this assault and killing of Iraqi people. The growth of consciousness of people around the globe their sympathy and solidarity with people of Iraq, brought millions

to the streets of more than 75 countries. Since March 19, when this criminal war started, people have joined in mass scale to the protest movement all around the world. In Middle East, the anger, rage, anti-imperialist sentiment and consciousness are growing so rapidly that it has the ruling classes in many regions worried about their safety and security. Due to this, many of these governments have started to demand a stop to the war and an end to the occupation of Iraq by US and UK. Just in last three days Anti-US war on Iraq demonstrations erupted all over the **Middle East**. Hundreds of thousands of people have protested in several cities in **Egypt**, thousands demonstrated in **Bahrain** with a large contingent of women, hundreds of thousands marched and rally in **Iran, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine**. Besides continued demonstrations in western hemisphere, there were large protest demonstrations in **Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Philipines, South Korea and Bangladesh**. The protest movement has become the reality of every day life for people all around the world.

Movement Building

Engaging in the battle against war requires that we have clear goals. Our goals as the opposition to this war must be: 1-Stop this war, 2- Build a long term antiwar movement.

The strategies used in order to be successful in stopping the war and building a long term movement take form in three parts and require that four truths be recognized. These truths; One - An antiwar movement must have confidence; believing that we can stop the war is necessity. Two- An antiwar movement must recognize the timeliness and urgent nature of the situation and act accordingly. Three- An antiwar movement needs to expand politically. Four- An antiwar movement can not simply register opposition to war,



Bahraini women demonstrating against the war with a sign that says: "Palestine, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq. What's in Common?"

it must *be* an effective opposition to war. After this, our three part strategy then takes form; first with mass action, secondly with the development of independent antiwar politics and three with the demand of self determination for Iraq. Through this we must create solidarity between Iraqi oppressed people and working people in Canada to build an effective resistance. Now that the bombing is underway, it is our responsibility to go to the streets in opposition, we must be consistent and confident to maintain momentum and to grow. And now is the time to mobilize stronger, as the US-UK are in trouble more and more in Iraq

Setback for US-UK War Machine

The US-UK victory was supposed to be a fast, but we are seeing now that that is simply not happening.

It is a basic truth that these powers have the ability to take Baghdad, to take Basra, to take the entire country of Iraq if they so choose. The slowdown and pause that we are seeing is due to a combination of Iraqi resistance and global antiwar sentiment. The resistance in Iraq is ensuring that if cities are taken, the US-UK will suffer great losses. Already there was a suicide bombing early Saturday morning and casualties are building constantly. Bush and Blair must factor in that cost. They cannot afford to lose 4000+ soldiers in the taking of Baghdad; their own public will not stand for it. The strength of antiwar resistance is such that the superpowers of the world must not do anything to encourage people to speak out against war. We can now see the effect we have when taking to the street. The war may not have been stopped yet, but we cannot deny that the superpowers are feeling our challenge.

*This Update on War was
published by the*

**Fire This Time
Movement for Social
Justice**

www.fire-this-time.org

March 29th 2003 Issue 4

Phone/Fax: (604) 322-1764

Email: info@fire-this-time.org

Mail: PO Box 21607

Vancouver BC

V5N 5T5

**Get involved with
STOPWAR.CA!**

**General Meetings
Every Wednesday
5:30 PM
Maritime Labour Centre
1880 Triumph St
(Triumph & Victoria)
Vancouver**