

FIRE THIS TIME

Movement for Social Justice



Update on War

#1

www.fire-this-time.org

FREE

STOP THE WAR ON THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ! STOP THE WAR NOW! US, UK OUT OF THE MIDDLE EAST! CANADA TROOPS HOME NOW!

STOP THE RACIST WAR AT HOME AND ABROAD!

People of the world, people of Canada, People of BC, People of Vancouver: All out against this immoral, unjust, brutal, criminal, bloody war against the people of Iraq and all of us.

All-Region Anti-war Meeting

Sunday March 23rd at 7 PM
Queen's United Church
529 Queen Avenue
(Queen and 6th)
New Westminster
For more information contact
hajon@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:

Friday March 21st 5 PM

Saturday March 22nd 12 Noon

At the Peace Camp (US Consulate, 1095 W. Pender)

Monday 5 PM March 24th	Tuesday 5 PM March 25th	Wednesday 8 PM March 26th	Thursday 5 PM March 27th	Friday 5 PM March 28th
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**Saturday March 29th at 12 Noon
Rally at Vancouver Art Gallery**

People of the World Respond to Criminal War

At approximately 6:30 PM on Wednesday, March 19th, 2003, the world changed. The United States initiated an unprecedentedly unpopular attack on the people of Iraq. Within minutes, people around the world thronged the streets in opposition to the war.

By eight in the evening, over 2,000 people had gathered in Vancouver before the fountain at the Georgia Street side of the Vancouver Art Gallery to take over the streets of Vancouver against the US led war on Iraq, against the American move for control of the world's oil supply, against the US move for domination of the world.

The paralyzed depression that came from hearing that the US had begun their murderous assault was replaced with the unified anger, rage and power of 2,000 people coming together to oppose the war. They left the Art Gallery chanting, "US OUT! US OUT!" They demanded the US get out of the Middle East, out of the third world and out of the world. The demonstrators demanded an end to American intervention worldwide and for self-determination for all.

The march wound through the streets of Downtown Vancouver and stopped at the US Consulate. Derrick O'Keefe of Stopwar.ca reminded the crowd that the Canadian Government is complicit with this war; providing intelligence and warship escorts through the Persian Gulf for American troops. Today, Thursday, March 20th, Canadian Prime Minister, Jean Chretien reminded us all of this when he said that Canadian Troops are continuing their battle against "terrorism" in the Middle East alongside the US.

By 3 PM, the San Francisco jail has reached its maximum



Anti-war demonstration in Vancouver on Wednesday, 1 hour after the bombing of Iraq started. *jeremy sean williams*

capacity with anti-war protesters and mobilizations heating up there and all around the world. Peace is not at hand, neither from the US government who insist upon destroying anyone who gets in their way, nor from the protesters all around the world who cry, "No Justice, No Peace!"

At 1 PM in Vancouver, 400 students walked out of class and marched downtown to surround the Canadian Forces office. By 3pm, their numbers had swelled to well over 600 and expected to swell still as the advertised 5pm Art Gallery mobilization approaches.

The US Army, faced with this widespread international opposition, have not been able to proceed with their horrifying "Shock and Awe" strategy. Before the war started, Bush had bragged that the US would cripple the infrastructure, hearts and minds of the Iraqi people with this two day massive barrage of bombings. Clearly, this attack was meant to murder hundreds of thousands of Iraqi people and deal out "shock and awe" to the dissident people of the world with a clear lesson; if you cross the US, you will be destroyed. The people of the world have heard this ultimatum and have risen up fighting.

The anti-war movement has not been able to stop the war from

starting, but it has been able to keep the US from following its shock and awe strategy out of the fear that this strategy would have the opposite effect. Bush is afraid that rather than silencing opposition, this military strategy would further turn the people of America, the people of Canada and the people of the world against him and against US imperialism. As an NBC reporter said on a broadcast at 3:30pm, "instead of a shock and awe campaign as the US promised, what we have is 'shock and pause'."

We must continue the mobilizations with the increasing anger, the increasing determination and the increasing power that we are feeling here in Vancouver as a very important part of the increasingly unstoppable international movement against this war.

This War Update was published by the
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PEOPLE PROTESTING THE WAR WORLDWIDE

Canada

Vancouver: 2000
Halifax: 2500
Other Cities: Thousands

USA

Washington, LA, New York: Thousands

San Francisco: Thousands on the street, thousands arrested so far

South Korea

Over 10,000 people tried to take over US Embassy

Egypt

Over 20,000 people tried to take over US Embassy

Jordan, Syria, Libya, Iran, Pakistan, India:

100,000+

Australia

10,000+

Greece

100,000+

Germany

100,000+

France, Holland

100,000+

Italy

80,000

Other countries where people took to the streets:

Austria, Spain, Switzerland, Ireland, Malaysia, Indonesia

There were also demonstrations in many cities and towns throughout **Palestine**, including one in the Rafah refugee camp in Gaza, where about 1,000 Palestinian women and children marched.

**Get involved with
STOPWAR.CA!**

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