

MOBILIZATION AGAINST WAR & OCCUPATION

#6

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US-UK OUT OF IRAQ!

Imperialism sinks deeper into a Quagmire:

A quagmire is a sinking sand, a leg-hold trap that pulls tighter against your skin, cuts you deeper the more you struggle against it. A famous quagmire in American history was the war in Vietnam, where US imperialism poured countless dollars and countless gallons of agent orange and lit endless fields on fire. All their desperate energies disappeared into the jungles of South East Asia, fed upon by the tireless Vietnamese resistance who left the exhausted and demoralized US army with no choice but to take the one way road back out of the cul de sac quagmire. The US met the demands of the anti-war movement and brought the troops home.

About the quagmire in Iraq retired US military General and former head of the National Security Agency, William Odom has said, "this is far graver than Vietnam." And W. Andrew Terrill, Army War College strategic studies institute professor agrees, "I don't think that you can kill the insurgency. The insurgency has

do not have jobs and are refusing to work for the occupation, refusing to scab when the oil workers strike, and taking up the still-growing resistance to the occupation instead.

Far from being 'liberated' by the guns and bombs of the US, people in Iraq have had their homes destroyed and their schools and factories closed while their electricity flickers and their water pipes sputter undrinkable liquids. An honest person must wonder what 'sacrifices' Allawi credits the US with. The only sacrifice the US has made are the some 15,000 to 45,000 (depending on the source) Iraqi lives that have been slaughtered like lambs on the altar of imperialist rivalry for the control of the wealth and territory of the Iraqi people.

Put simply, the Iraqi resistance will not stop fighting the US, and this resistance will continue to grow for as long as Iraq is occupied. The US cannot solve the material problems that the occupation has created with its theft and plunder of Iraq, and they cannot kill enough people to stop the resistance from growing. Like a mythology, for every Iraqi they kill, ten sisters, brothers, mothers, cousins, lovers spring up to fight against the murderous occupiers.

Like in Vietnam, the only road open to imperialism out of their quagmire is retreat. And as in Vietnam, the demands of the anti-war movement must be shouted louder, and more effectively by an ever more internationally united voice against the occupation and in support of the unconditional self-determination of the Iraqi people to strengthen and further this quagmire against imperialism.

U S - U K
O U T
O F
I R A Q !
B R I N G
T H E
T R O O P S
H O M E
N O W !



One, Two, Three,
Many Vietnams

The Intifada Lives!

The second Intifada, which began in September 2000, elevated the Palestinian struggle for liberation and self-determination to a level of resistance unseen in the history of the world.

The Intifada (uprising) is a legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to more than 50 years of suppression and humiliation since the formation of the Zionist State of Israel in 1948. Since the 1920's, Palestinians have been the subject of brutal repression, massacres, poverty, terror and ethnic cleansing. Following the 1948 formation of Israel on Palestinian land, this situation has gotten more severe. Just after 1948 the Israeli government expelled more than 750,000 Palestinians from their homes, lands, villages, towns and cities.

In the 1967 war Israel annexed more land from historic Palestine including all of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the complete city of Jerusalem. The growing opposition and consequently, the consciousness of Palestinians against the occupation of their land by the repressive Israeli regime and the deterioration of their living conditions under this occupation resulted in the formation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). This formation brought about the organized struggle of Palestinians for their rights and their land.

The first Intifada in 1987 was the response of mainly young Palestinians to ever increasing Israeli expansionist policies and wide spread atrocities by the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) in the West Bank and Gaza. Frustration, lack of basic living conditions, and



shown an ability to regenerate itself because there are people who are willing to fill the ranks of those who are killed. The political culture is more hostile to the US presence. The longer we stay, the more they are confirmed in that view."

The problem is that the occupation is the problem:

"Thank you, America. (APPLAUSE) We Iraqis know that Americans have made and continue to make enormous sacrifices to liberate Iraq, to assure Iraq's freedom. I have come here to thank you and to promise you that your sacrifices are not in vain. The overwhelming majority of Iraqis are grateful."

-Iraqi PM Iyad Allawi in a speech to the US joint congress, September 23, 2004

In the above quote, Allawi is lying. The majority of people in Iraq are far from 'grateful' to the US. In fact, the majority of the Iraqi people



JUSTICE FOR WAR RESISTERS

Bring the Troops Home Now! - This is the unified call of hundreds of thousands of anti-war protestors all around the world as well as friends and families of US soldiers in Iraq and a growing number of U.S. soldiers who are refusing to fight an unjust war in Iraq.

Many soldiers are like Brandon Hughey and Jeremy Hinzman, two young men who have fled the US military and filed for refugee claims in Canada. Hughey and Hinzman are like many young people recruited into the military on the promise of a college education and a viable future in a time of high unemployment and poverty in the US. Many of these soldiers are returning from duty in Iraq, speaking of the widespread killing of civilians and depression about what they had seen and done in Iraq. These soldiers have condemned everything from the initial reasons for invading Iraq to the completely brutal occupation today. These war resisters refuse to take part in the continued oppression of the people of Iraq under occupation.

As the number of American soldiers that have died since the beginning of the war increases well beyond the current thousand, the voices of soldiers in Iraq and their friends and families in the US against the occupation will continue to grow

Free,Free Palestine!

(cont'd from front page)

seeing no future brought hundred of thousands of young Palestinians to the streets of Palestine in hopes of bringing change to their lives.

The first Intifada finished by 1993 but established young Palestinians as a powerful force in resisting and struggling against Israeli occupation. The second Intifada started as a result of the killing and injuring of Palestinians who were protesting against a provocative visit of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon at Al-Haram Al-Sharif, the most holy mosque for Muslims. However, the foundation of the second Intifada was the Israeli state's abuse of Palestinian human rights and the growing Palestinian frustration and dissatisfaction with 'peace' talks between the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli government. On top of these frustrations was the aggressive Israeli government policy of expanding Jewish settlements into the West Bank and Gaza.

Since September 2000, more than one thousand Palestinians have been killed, more than 15 thousand injured, and more than a thousand Palestinian homes demolished. To this day, the continuation and ongoing momentum of the second Intifada against Israeli imperialist policies shows the growing consciousness of Palestinians, especially young Palestinians, and their heroic determination for freedom and justice.

Palestinian people have once again proved that they are the vanguard of working and oppressed people around the world in fighting for justice, dignity and national self-determination.

MAWO Newsletter #6 created by: Alison Bodine, Ali Yerevani, Ivan Drury, Brennan Luchsinger

stronger.

Every soldier who refuses to fight in Iraq weakens the occupation in the favor of the Iraqi people. During the Vietnam War era more than 30,000 war resisters choose Canada as a haven for refuge against the draft. Today, the anti-war movement in Canada must demand that the Canadian Government allow American war resisters refugee status as they flee persecution (up to five years in prison and worse) for



Brandon Hughey

their opposition to the war in Iraq.

In September 2004, Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO) decided to take on a campaign to defend the rights of American war resisters within Canada and to demand that they all be granted refugee status. As part of this campaign, MAWO has launched an education and petition campaign throughout the Lower Mainland.

For more information contact:
warresister@mawovancouver.org

For information on the cases of Brandon Hughey and Jeremy Hinzman, see their websites:

www.brandonhughey.org

www.jeremyhinzman.net

www.resisters.ca

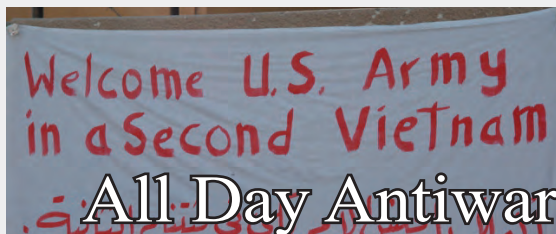


Jeremy Hinzman

MAWO ACTION CALENDER:

Iraq, Quagmire for US/ UK

Is There an Alternative to Imperialist War & Occupation?

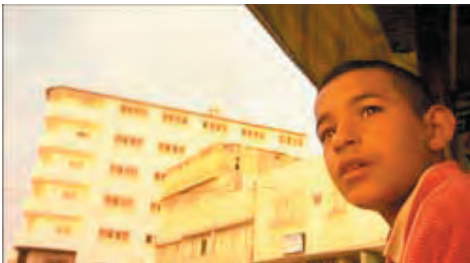


Saturday
November 27th

All Day Antiwar Conference

10:30am-4:30pm Britannia Community Center (Commercial dr. @ Napier)

Dec. 18th Second Annual Antiwar Film Festival



check MAWO website for film listings

RYTHMS OF RESISTANCE

Sunday
November
28th

A Cultural Night
& Fundraiser



El Cocal

1037 Commercial Drive

Doors at 8:30 pm | Show at 9 pm

Sliding Scale: \$3 to \$10

January 20th International Day of Action

On the day of the inauguration of the US president, demand:

End the Occupation of Iraq! Bring the Troops Home Now!

**March and Rally
5:30 PM Vancouver Art Gallery**

For updated information see www.mawovancouver.org

Mobilization Against War and Occupation

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GET INVOLVED WITH MAWO!

Meetings Every Wednesday 6:30pm

Britannia Community Centre (Commercial Dr. at Napier St.)

ALL WELCOME!