

STOP THIS WAR!

Nothing can justify the monstrous war which has been unleashed by the United States, the Australian government and other countries against Iraq. War has never been and is not now a solution to international problems. Peace has not been given a chance in the Middle East. The Iraqi occupation of Kuwait was not a solution to Iraq's problems either.

The demand for a peaceful solution is universal. Hundreds of thousands of people are marching and demonstrating against war. In the U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Canada, Pakistan and many other countries huge demonstrations and rallies are taking place. We are not alone.

Generations of hatred

This war will tear the Middle East to pieces. Hundreds of thousands will be killed and maimed — men, women, children and the servicemen and women of all the countries involved. They are the victims of the bombers above the clouds and the distant rocket launchers whose crews do not hear or see the results of their inhuman work. Generations of hatred will be born from this war against the Arab people.

We reject the double standards which are being applied.

This is not a war for principles, or a stand against aggression as the U.S. leaders and Bob Hawke pretend.

In December 1989, the U.S. invaded Panama to keep their control of the Panama Canal. Panama is still occupied. The U.S. vetoed UN resolutions criticising the U.S. invasion. The UN did nothing.

In 1983 the U.S. invaded Grenada, a tiny island with a population of about 120,000. Nothing was done by the UN or other nations.

The Israelis invaded Lebanon in 1982 and still occupy south Lebanon. Israel has occupied the Syrian Golan Heights for years. The Israelis occupy the Gaza strip and the West Bank and are expelling Palestinians every day. The U.S. vetoes almost every UN resolution that is in any way critical of Israel and nothing effective has been done to implement the resolutions adopted.

In 1975 Indonesia invaded and annexed East Timor. Nothing has been done. The Australian Government, which is so vocal now against Iraq, has done nothing about East Timor, or Palestine, or Panama or Grenada or Lebanon.

The rules of international law must be applied equally.

**NO
BLOOD
FOR
OIL**

The U.S. aim in the Middle East is to maintain and strengthen the control of the region's oil by the U.S. and British oil companies. If they succeed they will dictate oil supplies and prices to the rest of the world — to Europe, Japan, the Soviet Union and the poor third world countries.

The people of Australia and other countries are already paying as the war machines are built up, robbing the funds for schools, houses, hospitals and social services. But for war, billions can be found over-night. The oil companies and arms manufacturers laugh all the way to the bank as the profits roll in. Esso, BHP, Caltex, Shell, BP are all in this cruel game — fleecing huge profits out of the people of all countries.

Keeping the Middle East safe for feudalism

To do their bidding in the region they need corrupt and compliant governments. What better than the absolutely undemocratic, despotic and feudal sheiks as in Saudi Arabia and the Sabah family of Kuwait.

Anyone who stands up to oil companies and the US leaders has to be exterminated — Rambo style. That's what the US is trying to do by smashing Iraq.

Control over oil and the installation of puppet governments to do the bidding of the United States is the real meaning of Bush's New World Order.

The governments have failed the people.

The major governments of the world have failed the people in their responsibility to preserve the peace. The people of the nations of the world do not want war, but governments have failed to preserve peace. It is up to the common people now to take a decisive stand and act for peace, even if this means acting against their governments.

The United Nations has also failed.

The United Nations was set up to protect the rights of all nations both big and small, and its charter imposes on it the obligation to settle disputes peacefully. But in the Middle East dispute, the UN has been turned into an organisation for the justification and authorisation of war.

The governments of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in particular, carry the main responsibility for letting the people of the world down. The United Nations has become a vehicle for the pursuit of the narrow national interests of those countries and especially those of the US.

The Middle East conflicts cannot be isolated from each other. They should be considered together, as different aspects of the same conflict. Nothing less than a comprehensive settlement will solve the Middle East problems and eliminate the source of new wars in the future. The refusal of the US government to allow consideration of all the problems of the Middle East has been the main stumbling block to a peaceful solution.

Stop this madness.

No blood for oil!

Millions are marching against war now. Keep up the pressure on our government to bring the frigates home.

Act now! Demonstrate!

Lobby your parliamentarian!

**Go to Canberra next Monday and Tuesday
when the Federal Parliament is to meet!**

Join one of the peace organisations!

Help distribute leaflets and posters!

Support your church's efforts for peace!

