

WHY THIS WAR IS WRONG

WAR IS A FAILURE OF ALL ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS - it happens when one nation attacks another. We cannot be in the right if we are on the side of the aggressors. Article 2(4) and Article 51 of the UN Charter prohibit one nation from attacking another except in self defence. This war is illegal - it is NOT self defence and it sets a precedent for unprovoked attacks.

Wrong country, wrong reasons

There is no reason for us to be involved in this war. We have not been threatened or attacked, neither has anyone else in the last decade. Iraq was co-operating with the arms inspectors. The rate at which they disarmed and the heat of the desert in summer are an irrelevance, and Iraq was never known to support Islamic terrorists.

We stand virtually isolated, with the rest of the world in direct opposition to this war. We have seriously endangered the future of the UN, our position in Europe and our influence over future world policy.

We have been dragged into a massive show of force by the US against a small impoverished country whose only claim to fame is a large amount of oil and a leader who, in effect bit the hand that fed him.

This hand was America - America put him there, America armed him (with a little help from the rest of us) and America encouraged him.

Look elsewhere:

If we are looking for a threat to global stability, look at America:

America spends a massive amount on 'defence'. It has budgeted to spend \$500 billion a year by 2010, and already spends about as much as the next 20 leading countries combined.

This is just the start:

There will be more wars to follow - Mr Bush has set his sights on five more countries - Korea, Iran, Libya, Cuba and Syria, the 'axis of evil', and is 'watching' Somalia, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Who's next?

Possibly North Korea, or maybe Somalia, Sudan or Iran, yet Israel has been breaking UN resolutions for years, with the full support of the US, both financial and through the provision of arms.

Why you should be worried:

America's definition of defence is different to the rest of us - it believes in pre-emptive, or 'anticipatory' strikes, it says it will attack first against anyone it decides could possibly attack it in the future. It states it is prepared to use any weapons for this - even nuclear bombs.

America's new Star Wars 'defence' system will result in the earth being surrounded by a network of missiles in space, able to point at anyone, all controlled by America. But so what? we're safe - we're one of the 64 lucky countries to have US bases on our land. But if you're not, you might expect to encounter chemical weapons and toxic gas, biological weapons, depleted uranium or nuclear missiles (all weapons of mass destruction), or any one of a number of new tricks involving sound waves, radio and microwaves, bombs which kill people without destroying buildings, and genetically altered 'super-troops'. Of course we don't know how advanced their progress is, because they refuse to allow the inspectors in.

If you have US bases in your country already, you have their companies investing in your economy, you may be receiving aid or selling them oil, then you might have experienced their threat of withdrawal and sanctions if you disagreed with them. They have just said they will 'harm' Germany's economy for making a stand against the war.

Do something:

- Don't buy American products.
- Don't use Esso or Mobil petrol stations.
- Write to your MP.
- Write to Tony Blair and Geoff Hoon.
- Join a local group such as Friends of the Earth or CND.
- Contact the Stop the War Coalition (who are non-political) - visit their website www.stopwar.org.uk or ring: 020 7053 2153

A good example?

George Bush should not be in power - the elections were rigged and the recounts proved that the Democrats should have won the election. This was not just an accident, but a carefully calculated plan by the Republican party.

This self-declared police-force of the world executes children and the mentally ill. It has just imprisoned someone for 50 years for stealing videotapes. It tortures prisoners of war and refuses them access to legal representation.

America has refused to be bound by the International Criminal Court, which means it cannot be tried for war crimes. The agents who recently killed six people in Yemen because they suspected two of them of being terrorists are themselves beyond the law.

America refuses aid to countries who allow abortions, or will not take genetically modified grains. It refused to allow the sale of cheap life-saving drugs to third world countries and denies that global warming exists. It pulled out of the test ban treaty. It continues to sell arms to countries in conflict and with appalling human rights records.

Only American companies have been awarded contracts for reconstructing Iraq.