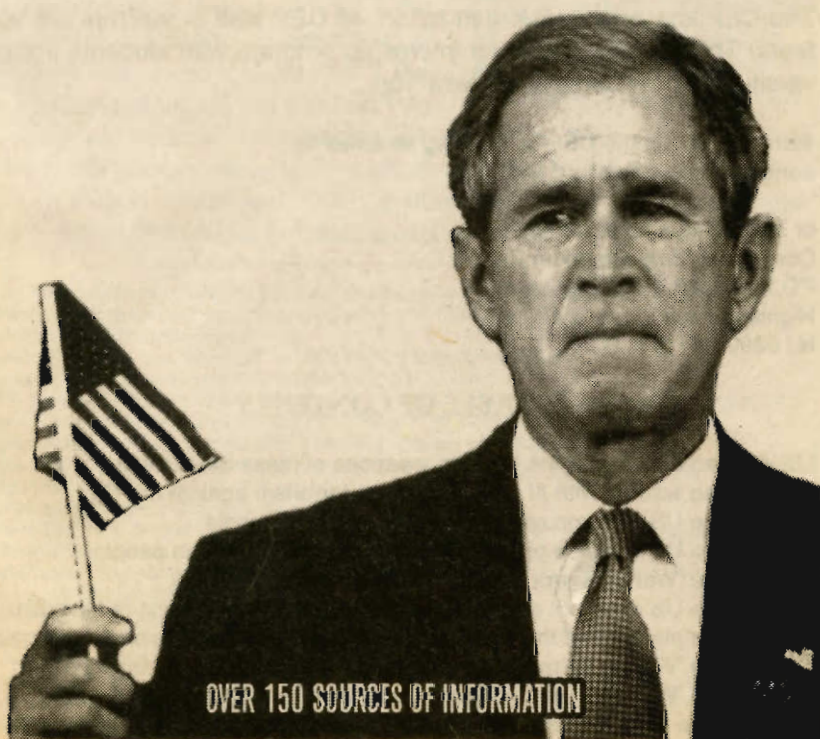


10 LIES YOU WERE TOLD ABOUT THE "WAR ON TERROR"

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS
NEVER ASKED ON TV



OVER 150 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

PREFACE

This pamphlet was researched, written and printed by the Community Empowerment Project (CEP). The CEP was founded in 2001 by alumni and students from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey with the help of community organizers from nearby communities. We campaign on a wide range of issues such as educational rights, police brutality, housing rights, women's rights, freedom of speech and assembly, right to a fair trial, government and business corruption, and more.

In all of our campaigns, we work with communities to gather the knowledge and means they need to defend their rights and to expand direct control by people over all aspects of their lives and society, from the neighborhood block to the workplace, from the township government to the national government, from the local community to the global community.

The Community Empowerment Project believes that in a democracy important information must be free and accessible to everyone. We have distributed over 15,000 anti-war pamphlets throughout the United States free of charge.

The CEP is a non-profit organization. All CEP staff organizers are volunteers. The CEP also runs an internship program with students from universities in New Jersey and New York.

You can contact the CEP by sending an email to:
contact@cep-news.org

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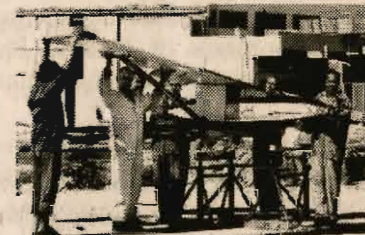
- LIE #1: Iraq threatened the US with weapons of mass destruction
- LIE #2: Iraq worked with Al Qaeda to wage terrorism against the US
- LIE #3: The US invasion of Iraq liberated the Iraqi people
- LIE #4: The US invasion of Afghanistan liberated the Afghan people
- LIE #5: The 'War on Terror' comes at limited costs to the US
- LIE #6: The US does not deal in weapons of mass destructions or terrorism
- LIE #7: The planners of the 'War on Terror' believe in freedom and democracy
- LIE #8: The 'War on Terror' does not serve the interests of big business
- LIE #9: The 'War on Terror' protects the rights of people in the US
- LIE #10: The 'War on Terror' makes the people of the US safer in the world

LIE #1: IRAQ THREATENED THE US WITH WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMDs)

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: In the months leading up to the US invasion of Iraq, the Bush Administration repeatedly accused the Iraqi government of Saddam Hussein of manufacturing and readying large quantities of biological, chemical and even nuclear weapons that threatened the security of the United States.¹

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS: In the months leading up to the war, the United Nations weapons' inspection teams found no evidence of any stockpile of remaining WMDs and no evidence of any program to build new ones.² In the six months since the US military has occupied Iraq, not a single weapon of mass destruction and not a single ongoing weapons program has been discovered.^{3 4}

Every specific claim of existing WMDs in Iraq made by the Bush Administration has been exposed as a fraud. Military and intelligence experts debunked the false claim that 2 vehicles found in April 2003 were "mobile biological labs",⁵ the false claim that metallic drums found in April 2003 had chemical residue,⁶ the false claim made before the war that Iraq had designed "drones" for chemical attacks,⁷ the false claim that Iraq maintained a nuclear weapons research program,⁸ and the false claim, based on forged documents, that the Iraqi government had tried to purchase uranium from Niger to build nuclear missiles.⁹



Iraqi drone: A threat to the US?

1. For an extensive list of misleading and false statements by the Bush Administration on Iraq's supposed weapons of mass destruction (including dates and media sources), go to <http://lunaville.org/WMD/Billmon.aspx>
2. "Inspectors Call US Tips 'Garbage'" by Mark Phillips, CBS News, 2/30/03 <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/01/18/iraq/main537096.shtml>
3. "1,200 Weapons Inspectors Spent 90 Days in Iraq. The Exercise Cost \$300m. And the Number of Weapons Found? 0" by Rupert Cornwell & Paul Waugh, The Independent, 10/3/03 http://news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/story.jsp?story=449413
4. For an exhaustive list of mainstream and expert sources debunking the Bush Administration claims of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, go to: <http://www.cooperativeresearch.org/wot/iraq/iraqwmd.html>
5. "Blow to Blair Over 'Mobile Labs'" by Peter Beaumont and Anthony Barnett, The Observer, 6/8/03: <http://observer.guardian.co.uk/iraq/story/0,12239,973195,00.html>
6. "False Alarm? Experts Believe Positive Tests for Chemicals Were Wrong" by David Wright and Bill Blakemore, ABC News, 4/28/03: http://abcnews.go.com/sections/world/Primetime/iraq_barrels030428.html
7. "Experts Debunk Drone Terror Threat", The Australian, 8/25/03 <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/printpage/0,5942,7058280,00.html>
8. "Scientist Says Iraq Never Revived Nuke Program", by Louis Charbonneau, Reuters, 9/16/03 <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=worldNews&storyID=3452610&fromEmail=true>
9. Numerous mainstream media sources on the "Niger Uranium" fraud are available at

Many military and intelligence experts –including former high-ranking CIA officials- accuse the Bush Administration of deliberately misleading the public about the threat of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.^{10 11 12 13 14}

LIE #2: IRAQ WORKED WITH AL QAEDA TO WAGE TERRORISM AGAINST THE US

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: In the months leading up the US invasion of Iraq, the Bush Administration repeatedly accused the Iraqi government of Saddam Hussein of working with Osama Bin Laden and Al Qaeda to wage terror attacks against the US.¹⁵

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS: No evidence exists to indicate the Iraqi government ever worked with Al Qaeda.¹⁶ In fact, evidence indicates that the secular (non-religious) government of Saddam Hussein and the religious fundamentalists of Osama Bin Laden's Al Qaeda fought one another bitterly.¹⁷



Hussein and bin Laden never got along.

Every specific claim of links between Iraq and Al Qaeda made by the Bush Administration has been exposed as a fraud: The supposed meeting between one of the 9/11 hijackers and an Iraqi secret agent in the Czech Republic,¹⁸ the supposed connections with the fundamentalist group Ansar Al Islam¹⁹ and the supposed confessions of Al Qaeda prisoners about links to Iraq.²⁰

http://www.cooperativeresearch.org/wot/iraq/forged_niger_documents.html

10. "WMD Reports Not Credible: Expert", The Age, 9/16/03 <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/09/16/1063625032413.html>

11. "Retired Diplomat: Iraq Intelligence Twisted by Administration", by Jennifer Kerr, AP, 7/6/03 <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/news/archive/2003/07/06/national1540EDT0520.DTL>

12. "Former CIA director says U.S. overplayed WMD issue" by Arno Schuetze, Knight Ridder Newspapers, 9/26/03 - <http://www.centredaily.com/mld/centredaily/news/6871311.htm>

13. "No President Has Lied so Baldly and so Often and so Demonstrably", by Andrew Gumbel, The Independent, 11/9/03 - <http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/story.jsp?story=461946>

14. "Case for War Confected, Say Top US Officials" by Andrew Gumbel, The Independent, 11/9/03 <http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/story.jsp?story=461953>

15. For an extensive list of misleading and false statements by the Bush Administration about supposed links between Iraq and Al Qaeda (including dates and sources), go to http://lunaville.org/WMD/ALQ_UGGAB.aspx

16. For an exhaustive list of media sources debunking the Bush Administration claims of ties between Al Qaeda and Iraq, go to: <http://www.cooperativeresearch.org/wot/iraq/allegedtiestoalqaeda.html>

17. "A link between Saddam and bin Laden? No way" by Brendan O'Neill, Spiked Online, 8/28/02 <http://www.spiked-online.com/articles/00000006D9F9.htm>

18. "No Iraq Meeting for Atta: Sept. 11 Hijacker Didn't Meet With Iraqi Intelligence Agent", Associated Press, 5/1/02 - http://abcnews.go.com/sections/world/DailyNews/atta_iraq020430.html

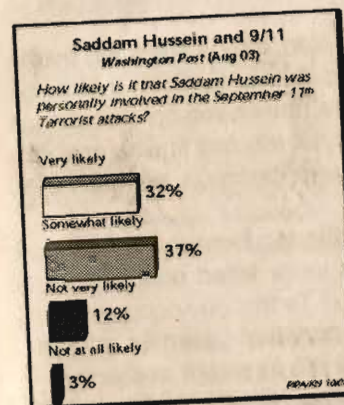
19. "Weak Link? Radical Islamic Leader Denies Powell's Link Between Al Qaeda and Iraq", by Brian Ross and Chris Vlasto, ABC News, 2/5/03

http://abcnews.go.com/sections/wnt/DailyNews/ansar030205_krekar.html

20. "No proof of Iraq, al-Qaeda links: analysts" by Julian Borger et al., Sunday Morning Herald (The Guardian), 1/31/03 - <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/01/30/1043804465839.html>

The former head of the CIA's counter-terrorism office, Vince Cannistraro, told the press on 9/10/02: "Is there any confirmed evidence of Iraq's links to terrorism? No."²¹ A secret report presented to George W. Bush on October 2002 (months before the war) stated that U.S. intelligence services all agreed that "no specific intelligence information" exists to link Iraq to any terrorist attack against the U.S.²²

THE PROPAGANDA MACHINE: HOW TV NEWS HIDES THE TRUTH AND SPREADS LIES



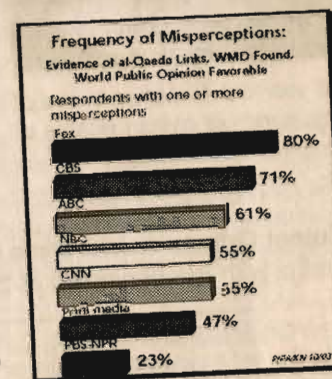
According to the August 3rd edition of the Washington Post 69% of Americans believed that it was likely that Saddam Hussein was involved in the 9/11 attacks even though no evidence was ever produced to prove it.

A study by the Program on International Policy Attitudes of the University of Maryland (PIPA) and polling and market research firm Knowledge Networks (KN) from September 2003²³ also found that:

-24% of Americans believed that Weapons of Mass Destruction have been found in Iraq even though none have been found.

-74% of war supporters believed that the majority of the world had supported the war against Iraq even though both Gallup International and Pew polls show that to be untrue.

-80% of Fox News viewers were likely to believe such incorrect information.



21. "U.S. Not Claiming Iraqi Link To Terror" by Dana Priest, Washington Post, 9/10/02 <http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A59403-2002Sep9¬Found=true>

22. "Secret Report Undercuts Iraq Connection to WTC" by Paul Sperry, WorldNetDaily, 7/23/03. http://www.wnd.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=33705

23. "Misperceptions, Media, and the War" http://www.pipa.org/OnlineReports/Iraq/Media_10_02_03_Report.pdf

LIE #3: THE US INVASION OF IRAQ LIBERATED THE IRAQI PEOPLE

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: In the months leading up to the US invasion of Iraq and throughout the occupation, the Bush Administration has repeatedly claimed that Iraq would become a democracy and that the lives of Iraqi people would improve.²⁴

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOES: The day-to-day life of the Iraqi people during the war and under the US occupation has gotten dramatically worse, with no democracy in sight:

No Democracy: Six months after the US invasion, Iraq is still ruled by the United States through the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) that holds all military, political and economic power. There have been no elections in Iraq. The interim Iraqi Governing Council was not elected (it was appointed by the US) and it still cannot make any decision without CPA approval.²⁵



12 year-old Ali Abbas is one of thousands of civilian victims of US bombs

Killings of civilians: Between 5,000 and 10,000 civilians were killed during the US invasion of Iraq.²⁶ To this day occupying US troops, facing constant guerrilla attacks, often panic and kill innocent civilians.^{27 28} According to Human Rights Watch, the US army rarely investigates killings of Iraqi civilians by US soldiers.²⁹ Additionally, the UN's Children Fund (UNICEF) estimates that over 1,000 Iraqi children have been killed or wounded by weapons and munitions abandoned during the war.³⁰

Violent Crime: Violent crime in Baghdad and the rest of Iraq spun out of control with the beginning of the US occupation, with gun gangs roaming

24. For an extensive list of misleading and false statements by the Bush Administration about supposed democracy and improving living conditions in Iraq under US occupation (including dates and media sources), go to <http://lunaville.org/WMD/Democracy.aspx>

25. "Governing Iraq", Report of the International Crisis Group, 8/25/03 <http://www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/2003/icg-ira-25aug.pdf>

26. "War May Have Killed 10,000 Civilians, Researchers Say", by Simon Jeffery, The Guardian, 6/13/03 <http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,976392,00.html>

27. "US Troops Risk Alienating Iraqis as They Kill More", People's Daily, 8/9/03. http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200308/09/eng20030809_121982.shtml

28. "Farah Tried to Plead with the US Troops but She Was Killed Anyway" by Peter Beaumont, The Observer, 9/7/03 - <http://observer.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,6903,1037081,00.html>

29. "Hearts and Minds: Postwar Civilian Deaths in Baghdad Caused by US Forces", Human Rights Watch, October 2003 - <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/iraq1003/>

30. "More Than 1,000 Children Killed or Wounded by Abandoned Arms in Iraq: UNICEF", AFP, 7/17/03 <http://www.spacewar.com/2003/030717165915.ss4dmm7u.html>

the streets at night.³¹ Soaring violence in Baghdad killed an additional 1,500 Iraqis between April and August 2003, as compared to 2002.³²

Loss of Women's Rights: The majority of women in Iraq now fear going out of their homes due to rampant street crime. They also fear participating in the political life of the country because of threats by religious fundamentalists that oppose women's involvement in politics.³³

Health and Environmental Damage: According to the UK health charity MedAct, "[b]etween 21,700 and 55,000 people died between March 20 and October 20, 2003, while the health and environmental consequences of the conflict will be felt for many years to come."³⁴

Collapsed Economy: The United Nations and World Bank estimate that the Iraqi economy will decline by 22% in 2003 and could fall below the 2001 level in 2004. 50% of the population is unemployed or under-employed.³⁵ Three out of five Iraqis depend on food aid from the US occupation government and relief agencies. Only 60% have access to safe drinking water, compared to 85% before the war. Infant mortality has nearly doubled.³⁶



Iraq's children: victimized by years of US sanctions and war

Corruption and Theft: Reconstruction projects are disorganized and proceeding very slowly, marked by waste, fraud and rampant bribery, according to an in-depth investigation in the November 2003 issue of Newsweek.³⁷

Ethnic and Religious Sectarianism: The decision by the US occupying force to appoint a governing council of Iraq divided along religious and ethnic lines is increasing the danger of sectarian violence, according to a report by the International Crisis Group that states: "Ethnic and religious

31. "Gun Gangs Rule the Streets as US Loses Control" by Ed Vulliamy, The Observer, 5/25/03. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,963166,00.html>

32. "Postwar Violence Kills 1,500 in Baghdad" by Andrew Cawthorne, Daily Mirror, 9/26/03. <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/24by7panews/page.cfm?objectid=13451029&method=full&siteid=50143>

33. "Iraqi Women No Better Off, UN Official Says", by Sue Fleming, Reuters, 9/23/03 http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/nm/20030923/wl_nm/iraq_women_dc_1

34. "Continuing Collateral Damage: The health and environmental costs of war on Iraq", MedAct, 11/5/03.

<http://www.medact.org/tbx/pages/sub.cfm?id=775>

35. "Iraq's Economy Declines by Half" by Steve Schifferes, BBC News Online, 10/10/03. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/3181248.stm>

36. "Iraq, Six Months On", The Independent, 10/10/03. http://news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/story.jsp?story=451740

37. "The \$87 Billion Money Pit" by Rod Nordland and Michael Hirsh, Newsweek, Nov. 3, 2003 Issue. <http://www.msnbc.com/news/985304.asp?vts=102720031700>

conflict, for the most part absent from Iraq's modern history, is likely to be exacerbated as its people increasingly organize along these divisive lines."³⁸

Iraqi Prisoners: As of September 2003, the US army kept over 10,000 Iraqis as prisoners. More than 4,000 of them had not been allowed to see a lawyer or their families for months.³⁹

Iraqi Soldiers Killed: The number of Iraqi soldiers killed during the US invasion of Iraq remains unknown. The Pentagon estimates that between 2,000 and 3,000 Iraqi soldiers died in the few days it took for Baghdad to fall. Some military analysts estimate Iraqi military deaths could reach 10,000 over the whole war.⁴⁰

Lasting Damage of the Economic Sanctions: The people of Iraq are still reeling from the devastating impact of 12 years of economic sanctions enforced by the US that destroyed the country's economy and caused the death of over half a million children from malnutrition and preventable diseases.⁴¹

LIE #4: THE US INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN LIBERATED THE AFGHAN PEOPLE

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: In the months leading up to the US invasion of Afghanistan and throughout the occupation, the Bush Administration repeatedly claimed that Afghanistan would become a democracy and that the lives of Afghan people—especially women—would improve.⁴²

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS:

Insecurity & Violence: Two years after the US invasion, there have been no democratic elections in Afghanistan. The US set up a new regime that is incapable of ensuring security in the country and instead plunged Afghanistan back into the chaos and warlordism that preceded the rule of the Taliban. The US-appointed Interim Government only maintains control

around the capital, Kabul. Vast other regions are controlled by warlords, each with their own armies to impose their will on the local Afghan people.⁴³ Amnesty International and other human rights groups have spoken out strongly about the need for better policing in areas where rapes and other violent crimes are on the rise.^{44 45}

Hunger & Drug Traffic: The complete breakdown of the Afghan nation's social system has dramatically worsened the hunger crisis and fostered the expansion of the drug trade. According to a report by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization on 9/25/03, 70% of the population is undernourished.⁴⁶ Another report by the International Monetary Fund warns that Afghanistan is on the brink of becoming a "narco-state" as opium production (used to make heroin) now accounts for up to 60% of the country's gross domestic product.⁴⁷

Violations of Women's Rights: Amnesty International has documented numerous reports of armed groups committing rapes and other acts of sexual abuse. Women have little legal remedies to stop these attacks because the same warlords who control their communities are often directly connected with the lawless armed bands committing the crimes. Many women live in extreme poverty and have to resort to prostitution, which leaves them susceptible to arrest. Women can be still arrested for any number of violations, including running away from their husbands. In tribally controlled villages, a woman must still defer authority to her husband, and failure to do so can result in immediate arrest. Following arrest, women often face physical and sexual abuse while in prison.^{48 49 50}



*Afghani women:
Still living in fear*

Killings of Civilians: Researchers estimate that between 3,000 and

38. "Governing Iraq", Report of the International Crisis Group, 8/25/03.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/2003/icg-ira-25aug.pdf>

39. "US Admits Holding 10,000 Iraqi Prisoners", ABC News Online, 9/17/03.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/s947282.htm>

40. "Iraqi Military Death Toll a Mystery", by Deb Riechmann, Assoc. Press/Anchorage Daily News, 4/8/03 - <http://www.adn.com/24hour/world/story/845251p-5936488c.html>

41. For numerous sources on the devastating impact of the sanctions on Iraq, go to: <http://www.casi.org.uk/>

42. For example, see: "Remarks by Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman for the Opening Ceremony of Women's History Month", Washington D.C., 3/5/02

<http://usembassy.state.gov/tokyo/wwwhse1145.html>.

43. "Now We Pay the Warlords to Tyrannize the Afghan People" by Isabel Hilton, The Guardian, July 31, 2003 <http://www.rawa.org/isabel.htm>

44. "Killing You is a Very Easy Thing For Us", A publication of Human Rights Watch, Vol. 15, No. 05 (C), July 2003 <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/afghanistan0703/>

45. "Afghanistan Police Reconstruction Essential for the Protection of Human Rights" A publication of Amnesty International, March 12, 2003 <http://web.amnesty.org/library/index/engasa110032003>

46. "Hunger Worsens in Many Lands, UN Says" by Somini Sengupta, New York Times, 9/25/03.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/26/international/africa/26FOOD.html?hp>

47. "Afghanistan On Brink Of Becoming 'Narco State,' IMF Warns", UN Wire, United Nations Foundation, 9/22/03 - http://www.unwire.org/UNWire/20030922/449_8648.asp

48. "Afghanistan: No Justice and Security for Women" A publication of Amnesty International, October 6, 2003 <http://rawa.fancymarketing.net/ai-women2.htm>

49. "Afghanistan: 'No One Listens to Us and No One Treats Us as Human Beings': Justice Denied to Women" A publication of Amnesty International, October 6, 2003

<http://www.web.amnesty.org/library/index/engasa110232003>

50. "Beaten, Abused, Chained. This is one Afghan woman's 'liberation'" by Yola Monakhov, October 5, 2003 Observer.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,6903,1056148,00.html

3,400 civilian were killed during the US invasion of Afghanistan. This high number of deaths suggests that the US military bombed heavily populated areas.⁵¹ Taliban guerrilla fighters remain all over the country and attack both US troops and foreign aid workers,^{52 53} and US military operations continue to cause innocent civilian deaths.⁵⁴

LIE #5: THE 'WAR ON TERROR' COMES AT LIMITED COSTS TO THE US

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: The Bush Administration repeatedly underestimated the human and financial cost of the war, promising that security in Iraq would quickly be turned over to a new Iraqi government and that war and reconstruction expenses would not affect the US economy.^{55 56}

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS: The human and financial cost of the war in Iraq grows everyday, adding to the costs of the continuing occupation of Afghanistan and of US troops deployed worldwide.

US Casualties:

-US soldiers killed in combat in Iraq:	298	(as of 11/27/03)
-Total US soldiers who died in Iraq: (including accidents, suicides, etc.)	434	(as of 11/27/03)
-US soldiers wounded in Iraq:	2,442	(as of 11/27/03)
-Total evacuated from Iraq ⁵⁷ : (due to accidents, illness, etc.)	9,000+	(as of 11/14/03)
-Total US soldiers killed in Afghanistan and other theaters since 2001:	89	(as of 11/27/03)

An updated count of US casualties in Iraq can be found at:
<http://www.antiwar.com/ewens/casualties.html>

An updated count of US fatalities in Afghanistan can be found at:
<http://lunaville.org/OEF/default.aspx>

51. "A Dossier on Civilian Victims of United States' Aerial Bombing of Afghanistan" by Marc W. Herold, March 2002" http://www.cursor.org/stories/civilian_deaths.htm
 52. "Afghanistan Insecure Two Years After Taliban Ousted" by Mike Collett-White, Reuters, November 11, 2003 <http://news1.iwon.com?world/article/id/152239world/11-11-2003::14:44?reuters.html>
 53. "Afghanistan Grappling With Ever Escalating Instability" by Will Dunham, The News International, June 6, 2003, http://www.jang.com.pk/the_news/oct2003-daily/06-10-2003/world/w14.htm
 54. "US Admits 11 Civilians Dead in Bombing Raid on Afghanistan" BBC, April 9, 2003 <http://rawa.fancymarketing.net/us-killed-11.htm>
 55. "Wolfowitz Criticizes 'Suspect' Estimate Of Occupation Force" by Rowan Scarborough, The Washington Times, 2/28/03 - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MewNews/message/10606>
 56. "The \$87 billion Question", by Terry Neal, [washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A50631-2003Sep9¬Found=true), 9/10/03
 57. "US Casualties From Iraq War Top 9,000" by Mark Benjamin, UPI <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20031113-074311-4128r>

War Budget: The Bush Administration requested \$87 billion from Congress for war-related spending in 2004 which includes \$71 billion for Iraq (with \$20 billion for reconstruction and \$51 billion for occupation) and almost \$12 billion for Afghanistan (\$0.8 billion for reconstruction and \$11 billion for occupation.⁵⁸ The White House had also requested \$70 billion for the invasion of Iraq in 2003⁵⁹, bringing the total for 2003 and 2004 to \$141 billion. The total estimated cost for the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan and Iraq keeps mounting with every month that goes by. The occupation of Iraq costs \$4 billion per month⁶⁰ and the Pentagon recently stated that it plans to keep at least 100,000 US soldiers in Iraq through 2006⁶¹. Military analysts also point out that the toll of the prolonged occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan on troops and equipment will require higher spending on the US military for years to come.⁶²



The "Spent-a-gone"

As of March 2003, the US kept 253,000 troops in over 100 countries around the world (not including Afghanistan), in addition to 269,000 troops mobilized for the invasion of Iraq.⁶³ A study by the Defense Department's inspector general found that the Pentagon couldn't properly account for \$1 trillion (\$1,000,000,000,000) that it spent.⁶⁴ The U.S. government spent a record \$396 billion on the 2003 military budget, not including the cost of the invasion of Iraq and continued occupation of Afghanistan. In comparison, the US spent \$52 billion on education and \$29 on housing assistance.⁶⁵ Over 43 million Americans did not have health insurance in 2002, up from 41.2 million in 2001.⁶⁶ In the same year, median income fell and

58. The 9/17/03 report from the US Office and Management for 2004 war-related spending is available at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/amendments/supplemental_9_17_03.pdf

59. The 3/25/03 report from the US Office and Management for 2003 war-related spending is available at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/amendments/supplemental_3_25_03.pdf

60. "Site Details Cost of Iraq War" by P. Mitchell Prothero, UPI, The Washington Times, 7/16/03 <http://www.washtimes.com/upi-breaking/20030716-033745-7392r.htm>

61. "100,000 Troops in Iraq to 2006", Reuters, 9/22/03. <http://www.msnbc.com/news/996886.asp?0sl=-12>

62. "Iraq War Costs Escalate Sharply" by Jonathan Weisman et al., the Washington Post, 9/13/03 Article archived at: <http://www.flash.net/~rhmjr/c0915.html>

63. "Active Duty Military Personnel Strengths by Regional Area and by Country (309A)", Dept. of Defense, 3/31/03 - <http://www.dior.whs.mil/mmid/M05/hst0303.pdf>

64. "Military Waste Under Fire" by Tom Abate, San Francisco Chronicle, 5/18/2003 Article archived at: <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article3435.htm>

65. War Resisters' League, www.warresisters.org, based on data from the center for defense information. This figure refers to discretionary spending, which is the part of the budget which Congress decides on every year. (source: national priorities institute, www.natprior.org)

66. Robert Mills, Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2002, Current Population Reports P60-223, U.S. Census Bureau, September 2003. For the March 2003 Current Population Survey (CPS), being uninsured means that a person did not have any insurance coverage during 2002. Having Medicaid or private coverage means a person had that form of health insurance for at least some part of the year. This data can be accessed from the Center for budget and policy priorities at <http://www.cbpp.org/9-30-03health.htm>.

the number of Americans living in poverty increased by 1.7 million.⁶⁷ The US budget deficit reached a record high of \$374 billion in 2003.⁶⁸

Condition of the US Soldier:

-Hundreds of sick and wounded soldiers languished in hot cement barracks while waiting –sometimes for months- to see doctors.⁶⁹ Wounded troops are being charged for their hospital meals at a daily rate of \$8.10 to the shock of many as they receive large bills upon leaving the hospital.⁷⁰

-The Pentagon is investigating an outbreak of pneumonia-like symptoms that struck over 100 soldiers in Iraq, killing at least 2,⁷¹ as well as an unusually high rate of suicides⁷² in Iraq and a string of spousal murders by soldiers returning from Afghanistan.⁷³

-The Pentagon cut an approved pay increase of \$75 dollars a month for "combat danger pay and \$150 a month in "family separation allowances" for 148,000 troops, causing much anger among veterans groups and military families.⁷⁴

-The Dept. of Defense has begun forcing National Guard and Reserve soldiers, both forces that are traditionally only called into duty in emergencies, to remain on Active Duty for up to a year beyond their expected discharge, leading to angry protests from soldiers and military families.⁷⁵

-On March 21, 2003, House Republicans cut \$14.6 billion in veterans' benefits over the next 10 years, threatening medical care, education benefits, disability benefits, vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs for service-disabled veterans. An average of 200,000 veterans already have to wait six months or more for an appointment at a Veterans

67. "More Americans in Poverty in 2002, Census Study Says," Lynette Clemetson, New York Times, September 27, 2003.

68. "US Budget Deficit Hits Record \$374.2B", World AP, 10/21/03

Article archived at: <http://asia.news.yahoo.com/031020/ap/d7ua6dsg0.html>

69. "Sick, Wounded US Troops Held in Squalor" by Mark Benjamin, UPI, Washington Times, 10/17/03 <http://www.washtimes.com/upi-breaking/20031017-024617-1418r.htm>

70. "Bush Scandal: Wounded US Troops Forced to Pay for Hospital Meals," Sandra Jontz, Stars and Stripes, European edition, Friday, September 12, 2003. Stars and Stripes is a newspaper for American troops overseas. <http://www.estripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=17483>. Rep. C.W. Bill Young, R-Fla., chairman House Appropriations Committee has introduced a bill to repeal the law.

71. "Unknown Illness Sweeps US Troops" by Ian Bruce, The Herald, 10/2/03 <http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/1773.html>

72. "Army Studying High Suicide Rate Among US Soldiers in Iraq", AFP, Sydney Morning Herald, 10/14/03 - <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/10/13/1065917350950.html?from=storyrhs>

73. "Killing by Elite Soldiers Hits Home", by Patrick Jonsson, Christian Science Monitor, 8/5/02 <http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/0805/p03s01-usmi.htm>

74. "Troops in Iraq face pay cut" Edward Epstein, San Francisco Chronicle <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2003/08/14/MN94780.DTL>

75. "Protests Grow Over Year-Long Army Tours," Vernon Loeb, Washington Post, Saturday, September 20, 2003; Page A13 - <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A37292-2003Sep19.html>

Administration hospital.⁷⁶

LIE #6: THE US DOES NOT DEAL IN WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTIONS OR TERRORISM

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: The Bush Administration ever since the attacks on the World Trade Center on 9/11/01 has portrayed the US as the foremost opponent of Weapons of Mass Destruction and terrorism in the world.⁷⁷

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS:

Where are the Weapons of Mass Destruction? The US military owns the largest and most expensive arsenal of nuclear weapons in the world⁷⁸, the second largest arsenal of banned chemical weapons after Russia (with 31,000 tons of US chemicals) and large stocks of biological agents that can be used to make biological weapons. The US army currently uses and develops potentially deadly chemical weapons that are not specifically banned by the Chemical Weapons Convention such as depleted uranium, military smoke agents and Napalm.⁷⁹

The US is the only country in the world ever to use nuclear weapons in war, killing an estimated 200,000 Japanese civilians in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during WWII.⁸⁰ Germany, France, England and the United States were responsible for the worst acts chemical warfare during World War I (1914-1918), using a total of 124,000 tons of chemicals, killing 91,000 and injuring 1.2 million.⁸¹ In June 2003, the Pentagon admitted it conducted 50 secret tests using chemical and biological agents on U.S. troops, involving 5,842 soldiers between 1962 and 1973.⁸²

What Constitutes a "Terrorist"? The Bush Administration and major media outlets continually use the word "terrorism", however no interna-

76. "Promises made, broken to soldiers, families," Rep. James Oberstar, Guest Columnist, Forest Lake Times, September 3, 2003. <http://www.forestlaketimes.com/2003/September/3oberstar93.html>. Democrats are currently fighting to restore some of these cuts to the FY 2004 budget.

77. Fox News, any day of the week.

78. "The U.S. Nuclear Weapons Cost Study Project", Report by The Brookings Institution.

<http://www.brook.edu/dydocroot/fp/projects/nucwcost/weapons.htm>

79. "Chemical and Biological Weapons: Use in Warfare, Impact on Society and Environment" Gert G. Harigel, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2000.

www.ceip.org/files/Publications/Harigelreport.asp

80. City of Hiroshima website at: <http://www.city.hiroshima.jp/index-E.html>

81. "Chemical Warfare in World War I: The American Experience, 1917 - 1918 by MAJ (P) Charles E. Heller, USAR - Combat Studies Institute U.S. Army Command and General Staff College Fort Leavenworth, Kansas September 1984

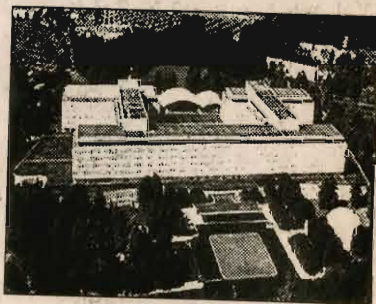
www-cgsc.army.mil/carl/resources/csi/Heller/HELLER.asp

82. "US Admits to 50 Secret Tests of Bio Weapons on Troops", Assoc. Press/Sydney Morning Herald, 7/1/03 - <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/07/01/1056825376086.html>

tional definition of what constitutes terrorism exists. A 1999 UN resolution referred to "criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons."⁸³ By this definition, the US government's support of paramilitary and military death squads that targeted civilians in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Chile, Congo, etc., would make it a dangerous sponsor of terrorism worldwide.⁸⁴

Who Sponsors Terrorists? For decades, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has provided funds, weapons and training to violent political and religious groups that undermine governments opposed to US policies. Some of these deadly mercenaries are then labeled "terrorists" when they grow beyond the CIA's control, which has happened so often that a code-name exists for it: "blowback". The CIA aided and abetted Osama Bin Laden and his group of religious zealots when they went to Afghanistan to fight the Soviet army in the 1980's, handing billions in US tax dollars to fundamentalist groups such as Bin Laden's organization, the Maktab al-Khidamar (MAK). Bin Laden used these funds, weapons and training to form Al Qaeda and then attack the United States.⁸⁵

The rise of Saddam Hussein in Iraq is another case of blowback. Iraq in the late 1950s was called "the most dangerous spot in the world," by CIA director Allan Dulles after Iraqi Prime Minister Abd al-Karim Qasim sought close ties with the Soviet Union and with Iraqi communists. The CIA assisted the young Saddam Hussein in a botched assassination attempt of Qasim on Oct. 7th, 1959, then helped him escape to Egypt, paying for his apartment in Cairo. There, Hussein made numerous trips to the American Embassy, meeting CIA agents Miles Copeland and Jim Eichelberger. In 1963, the Baath Party -to which Hussein belonged- successfully assassinated Qasim and took power. Shortly after, the CIA gave the Baath Party lists of suspected Iraqi communists who were promptly arrested and executed. Hussein presided over these killings, with the CIA's approval, and eventually became the head of the Iraqi secret intelligence agency of the ruling party.



CIA Headquarters: The agency's policies have "blown back" to hurt people in the US

83. UN General Assembly Resolution 51/210: "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" <http://www.odccp.org/odccp/terrorism.html>

84. "US Wars of Aggression and Intervention" <http://www.cpa.org.au/campaign/ushistory.pdf>

85. "Bin Laden Comes Home to Roost" by Michael Moran, MSNBC, 8/24/98, <http://www.msnbc.com/news/190144.asp>

The relationship between the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and Saddam accelerated after the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war in September 1980. They provided Hussein with battlefield intelligence and blinded the Iranian radars for three days in February 1988 during an Iraqi assault on Iranian positions. It wasn't until Iraq's invasion of Kuwait that Hussein was declared an enemy after he challenged the domination of the Middle-East by the US and big oil companies.⁸⁶

LIE #7: THE PLANNERS OF THE 'WAR ON TERROR' BELIEVE IN FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: The Bush Administration has repeatedly claimed that the 'War on Terror' is a response to the 9/11 attacks to defend and promote democracy all over the world.⁸⁷

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS: The plans to invade Afghanistan and Iraq were made long before the September 11 attacks. Three of the main planners of the 'War on Terror' -Vice resident Dick Cheney, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz- belong to the Project For A New American Century (PNAC), a right-wing think tank that has pushed for an invasion of Iraq since 1998. Another administration official tied to the group is Abraham Shulsky, who directs the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans, which was created to find information to justify the war on Iraq.⁸⁸ Richard Perle, who is also closely associated with PNAC, served as Chairman of the Defense Policy Board, but was forced to resign when it became known that he was a manager of a venture Capital Firm that stood to profit from the war in Iraq.⁸⁹ Other PNAC members include Scooter Libby, who serves as Dick Cheney's Chief of Staff, and Douglass Feith, the Undersecretary of Policy at the US Department of Defense. Critics of PNAC in the military and intelligence communities claim that the large number of PNAC members and supporters working in top positions in the White House and the Department of Defense have hijacked the US government by quieting dissent and imposing their warmongering vision of foreign policy.⁹⁰

Founded in 1997, PNAC promotes the idea that the US should "lead the

86. "Exclusive: Saddam key in early CIA plot" Richard Sale, United Press International (UPI) <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article2849.htm>

87. For example: "Bush: Freedom Will Prevail", BBC News, 12/8/01

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/1698444.stm>

88. "Neo-Cons Lead the US Into a Phony War" by Eric S. Margolis, Big Eye, June 9, 2003 <http://www.bigeye.com/060903.htm>

89. "Top Pentagon Official resigns under fire" by Jamie McIntyre, CNN, March 28, 2003 <http://www.cnn.com/2003/US/03/27/perle.resigns/>

90. "Cheney's Hawks 'Hijacking Policy'" by Ritt Goldstein, Sydney Morning Herald October 30, 2003, www.smh.com.com.au/articles/2003/10/29/1067233251576.html

world" through increased military strength and action. The group openly advocated "regime change" in both Iraq and Afghanistan long before the 9/11 attacks and outlined US foreign policy proposals for "regime changes" throughout the rest of the world. They have called for the ouster of Yasser Arafat, and for toppling the governments of North Korea, Iran and Syria, through the use of US military force if needed. Every one of their foreign policy plan aims directly to increase US domination of the world.⁹¹

The members of this group are often referred to as Neo-Conservatives. Their ideology takes root in the writings of Leo Strauss, the "Philosopher King" of the neo-conservative movement. In his writings, Strauss stated that human beings are by nature aggressive and wicked, and that it takes a powerful state based on nationalism to govern over them. The people being governed must be united behind an external threat, and if such a threat does not exist, it must be manufactured and then fought against. Only in a perpetual state of war can rulers truly govern the people.⁹² In practice, Strauss advocated that it is often necessary for an elite few to tell "noble lies" to the uncomprehending masses in order to lead effectively. These "noble lies" create a false threat for the people to unite under and a justification for an aggressive foreign policy to meet that threat.



Leo Strauss taught the Bush Administration how to tell "noble lies"

The fraudulent "Weapons of Mass Destruction" argument used to justify the war against Iraq is an example of such "noble lies." Many members of PNAC—some of them top officials in the Bush Administration—were students of Strauss at one time or another. They developed his theories by stating that the United States has been the primary source of "good" in the world and thus must do everything in its power to protect its position as the sole superpower. To do this, it must a) have a powerful military capable of defeating any foe, b) constantly anticipate new threats to US power and c) be willing to preempt these threats. At all times the American people must be constantly appeased with "noble lies" since they do not have the foresight to know what is best for them.⁹³

91. Project for a New American Century. This is the website for the group, which has all their published writings since 1997: <http://www.newamericancentury.org/>

92. "Neocons Dance a Strauss Waltz" by Jim Lobe, Asia Times, May 9, 2003 www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/EE09Ak01.html

93. "What is a Neo Conservative Anyway?" by Jim Lobe, Asia Times, Aug 13, 2003 http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Front_Page/EH13Aa01.html

LIE #8: THE 'WAR ON TERROR' DOES NOT SERVE THE INTERESTS OF BIG BUSINESS

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: The Bush Administration has repeatedly denied that the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq had anything to do with oil or that companies connected to the administration received sweetheart deals for post-war reconstruction projects.⁹⁴

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS:

Sweetheart Deals: The Bush Administration awarded 8 billion dollars for post-war reconstruction projects in Iraq and Afghanistan to companies that made major donations to Bush's election campaign: The 70 companies and individuals that won the contracts contributed more money to George W. Bush than to any other politician in the previous 12 years. A report by the Center for Public Integrity⁹⁵ states:

"Kellogg, Brown & Root, the subsidiary of Halliburton—which Vice President Dick Cheney led prior to being chosen as Bush's running mate in August 2000—was the top recipient of federal contracts for the two countries, with more than \$2.3 billion awarded to the company. Bechtel Group, a major government contractor with similarly high-ranking ties, was second at around \$1.03 billion. However, dozens of lower-profile, but well-connected, companies shared in the reconstruction bounty. Their tasks ranged from rebuilding Iraq's government, police, military and media to providing translators for use in interrogations and psychological operations. Nearly 60 percent of the companies had employees or board members who either served in or had close ties to the executive branch for Republican and Democratic administrations, for members of Congress of both parties, or at the highest levels of the military. (...) Because of inconsistent and scarce information, the total value of contracts awarded for reconstruction work in Iraq and Afghanistan may be greater than what is publicly known. (...)The difficulty in obtaining contract amounts and the contradictory information coming from within government departments raise questions about management and oversight of the reconstruction effort."

Oil Control: Iraq possesses the second largest proven oil reserves in the world.⁹⁶ In 1972, the Iraqi government nationalized oil production and

94. For example, see: "Bechtel Awarded First Major Contract to Rebuild Iraq", Online NewsHour, 4/18/03 - http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/bechtel_04-18-03.html

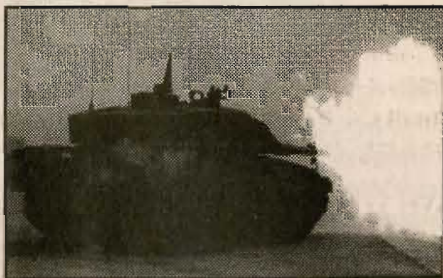
95. "Winning Contractors: US Contractors Reap the Windfalls for Post-war Reconstruction", Report by the Center for Public Integrity, 10/30/03 <http://www.publicintegrity.org/wow/report.aspx?aid=65>

96. "Iraq Acquires Long-Term Oil Contracts", by Bruce Stanley, Washington Times, 7/24/03 <http://washingtontimes.com/business/20030723-093908-1399r.htm>

largely cut out the big multinational oil companies, keeping oil profits inside Iraq.⁹⁷ Since the US invasion, the Iraqi state oil company has come under the control of the US government and is now offering lucrative deals to Halliburton, an energy company previously run by Vice-President Dick Cheney, and Chevron, a multinational oil company that kept National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice on its Board of Directors.⁹⁸

In Afghanistan, a giant oil consortium (CentGas) led by the US-based oil company Unocal had for years tried to build a pipeline to carry oil from the Eurasian regions of the former Soviet Union. After the US invaded the country, it appointed Hamid Karzai, a former top adviser to Unocal, as the new Afghan president.⁹⁹ Karzai quickly pushed the pipeline project forward.¹⁰⁰ With increasing US control over large quantities of oil reserves, US-based oil companies have been able to pressure Saudi Arabia to open its oil fields for them to exploit.¹⁰¹

War Business: The US military has privatized many of its operations and now hands billions of dollars in contracts every year to private corporations such as Halliburton, DynCorp and Northrop Grunman.¹⁰² Many of these companies made huge contributions to Bush's election campaign and now earn greater profits from military contracts, war after war. The US military and weapons manufacturers also export more arms than any other country in the world (45% of total world arms exports in 2002). Such conventional weapons are responsible for the death of over half a million people worldwide every year.¹⁰³



"Killing is my business... and business is good." - MegaDeth

Imperialism: Several policy analysts state that the invasions of

97. "History of Iraq", Countryreports.org. Teaching Resources.
<http://www.countryreports.org/history/iraqhist.htm>

98. "Analysis: Oil and the Bush Cabinet" by Katy Kay, BBC News, 1/29/01.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/1138009.stm>

99. "The US and the Taliban: A Done Deal" by Pierre Abramovici, Le Monde Diplomatique, January 2002 - <http://www.globalpolicy.org/wtc/analysis/2002/0102lmd.htm>

100. "Afghanistan Plans Gas Pipeline", BBC News, 5/13/02.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/1904459.stm>

101. "Suddenly, the Saudis Want to Close Some Deals" by Stanley Reed, Business Week, 8/4/03.
http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/03_31/b3844080_mz015.htm

102. "The War Business" by Nelson Schwartz, Fortune Magazine, 3/3/03
http://www.sandline.com/hotlinks/pentagons_private_army.htm

103. "Control Arms Campaign Launch" by Rachel Stohl, Center for Defense Information, 10/9/03
http://www.cdi.org/program/document.cfm?DocumentID=1772&Start:Row=1&ListRows=10&appendURL=&Orderby=D.DateLastUpdated&ProgramID=73&from_page=index.cfm

Afghanistan and Iraq (following the US war with Yugoslavia in 1999) fit in a master plan to benefit the oil industry by imposing US control over vast regions in the Middle-East and Eurasia that hold most of the oil reserves still available in the world.^{104 105 106 107 108}

Illegal Seizures: According to numerous international law experts, the chief administrator of the US occupation of Iraq, Paul Bremer, broke international law when he announced the privatization of 200 Iraqi state firms in September 2003. The decision by a military occupying force to allow foreign ownership of a conquered nation's assets up violates the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Hague regulations of 1907.¹⁰⁹

LIE #9: THE 'WAR ON TERROR' PROTECTS THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE IN THE US

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: According to President Bush, "The more threatened we are here at home, the more we love freedom."¹¹⁰ The USA Patriot Act, passed on October 26, 2001, is supposed to give law enforcement more powers so that they can investigate terrorists and "provide the security that ensures liberty."¹¹¹

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS: Analyses by the American Civil Liberties Union and other civil rights groups shows that the Patriot Act is eroding fundamental constitutional rights.

-The F.B.I. no longer has to show probable cause of crime to investigate anybody for criminal matters if they say it is for "intelligence purposes."¹¹² This includes forcing anyone at all - including doctors, libraries, bookstores, universities, and Internet service providers - to turn over records on their clients or customers, forbidding them from ever talking about the investigation.

104. "The New Great Game" by Lutz Kleverman, The Guardian, 10/20/03
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/oil/story/0,11319,1066600,00.html>

105. For an account of US oil interests in the Caspian Region dating from 1997, read: "A New Stage in US-Caspian Sea Basin Relations" by James McDougal, Center for Social and Political Studies, Central Asia #5 (11) 1997 - http://www.ca-c.org/dataeng/st_04_dougall.shtml

106. "The Myths and Propaganda Used to 'Justify' War Against Saddam Aim Only to Distract Attention from Bush and Blair's Real Prize: Iraq's Rich Reserves of Oil" by John Pilger
<http://pilger.carlton.com/print/123925>

107. "The New US-British Oil Imperialism" by Norman Livergood
<http://www.oilcompanies.net/oil1.htm>

108. "Caspian Sea's Oil Reserves" by Michel Collon - <http://www.iacenter.org/warcrime/mcollon.htm>

109. "Iraq Is Not America's to Sell", by Naomi Klein, The Guardian, 11/7/03
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,1079601,00.html>

110. Interview with President Bush for "Talking with David Frost/ PBS-BBC," Nov 12, 2003.
http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2003/11/16/bush_frost_int/index.html

111. Prepared Remarks of Attorney General Ashcroft in Boise, Idaho August 25, 2003. http://www.lifeandliberty.gov/subs/speeches/patriotactroadspeech_boise_082503.htm

112. <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=11813&c=207>

-The F.B.I. can now search people's homes or offices while they are away, take pictures and even seize property without telling the person until long afterwards.

-By using an overly broad definition of "domestic terrorism," many forms of peaceful civil disobedience such as marching without a permit, disrupting traffic, or having a sit-in could be considered terrorism, thereby opening up peaceful political or religious groups to phone and internet surveillance, wiretapping, and harassment.¹¹³

The F.B.I. has already begun using these expanded powers to target dissenting political groups. Claiming that this is part of a terror investigation, "[t]he Federal Bureau of Investigation has already collected extensive information on the tactics, training and organization of antiwar demonstrators," even though the Bureau admits that it "possesses no information indicating that violent or terrorist activities are being planned as part of these protests."¹¹⁴ Agents have also been using Patriot Act powers in many criminal investigations that have zero connection to terrorism, such as drugs, swindling or political corruption cases.¹¹⁵

In addition to the Patriot Act, the executive branch has increasingly used executive orders and other actions to make policies that threaten civil liberties without the approval of Congress, circumventing the "checks and balances that are hallmarks of US democracy."¹¹⁶

-Under special orders from the executive branch, two American-born citizens, Jose Padilla and Yaser Esam Hamdi, were declared "enemy combatants" and are still held incommunicado in US military bases without access to attorneys or their families. After months of detention neither has been charged with a crime, much less tried.¹¹⁷

-Under both the Patriot Act and other government actions, over 1,200 immigrants (non-citizens) -almost all of whom are Arab, South Asian

113. For a complete discussion of surveillance under the USA Patriot Act, read the ACLU's analysis at <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=12263&c=206>

114. "F.B.I. Scrutinizes Antiwar Rallies," by Eric Lichtblau, The New York Times, November 23, 2003. <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/23/national/23FBI.html?hp>

115. "U.S. Uses Terror Law to Pursue Crimes From Drugs to Swindling," Eric Lichtblau, The New York Times, September 28, 2003.

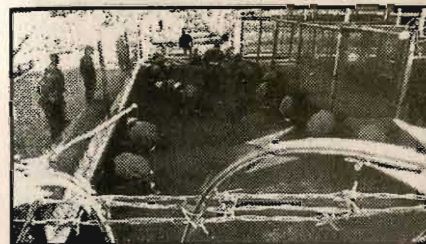
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F30A1EFD3B590C7B8EDDA00894DB404482>
"Opposition to USA Patriot Act Swells," by Ken Ritter, Associated Press Writer, November 15, 2003. http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20031115/ap_on_re_us/patriot_act_nevada

116. Center for Constitutional Rights <http://www.ccr-ny.org/v2/reports/report.asp?ObjID=nQdbIRkDgG&Content=153>. This website contains a detailed discussion of civil liberties.

117. For a more information on these cases and other detentions, read the Amnesty International Report, "The United States of America: The Threat of a Bad Example- Undermining International Standards as 'War on Terror' Detentions Continue"
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR51142003>

and/or Muslim- have been held in secretive federal custody for weeks and sometimes months without any charges filed against them.¹¹⁸ "Most have been deported or allowed to leave the country... [A]n internal review released by the Department of Justice on June 2, 2003... acknowledg[ed] that some detainees had been abused."¹¹⁹

- Over the last year, immigration officials began a program of registering Arab and Muslim non-citizens, focusing on men from Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Syria and Lybia. Over 85,000 men were required to be photographed, fingerprinted, questioned and report annually to authorities, solely on the basis of their nationality and gender. Only 11 of those questioned were said to have alleged links to terrorism.¹²⁰



Guantanamo: Hundreds of captives are kept in cages by the US without a trial. Would we want US POWs treated this way?

precedent entitles non-citizens to equal protection under the law when accused of a crime.¹²¹

-Prisoners allegedly captured in Afghanistan and being held in the US base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba have been given the status of "unlawful combatants" and are not being afforded the protections of the Geneva Conventions (which the U.S. has signed) that govern the treatment of prisoners of war.¹²²

Patriot II: Attorney General John Ashcroft has drafted new legislation, named the "Domestic Security Enhancement Act," or Patriot II. If passed, this law would go even further than the first Patriot Act, giving government even more access to sensitive personal information without a connection

118. <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=11813&c=207>

119. <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=13079&c=207>

120. "Special Registration for Arab Immigrants Will Reportedly Stop," Rachel L. Swarns, the New York Times, November 22, 2003. <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/22/politics/22REGI.html>

121. For a more detailed discussion of military tribunals, visit <http://www.aclu.org/NationalSecurity/NationalSecurity.cfm?ID=10150&c=111&Type=s#6>.

122. Center for Constitutional Rights <http://www.ccr-ny.org/v2/reports/report.asp?ObjID=3v8FHA6u7N&Content=119>

to terrorism, including sampling and cataloguing of genetic information, without a court order and without the person's consent. The law would also include certain protections from prosecution for federal agents engaging in illegal surveillance.¹²³

What rights are being threatened?: The Patriot Act and other recent government actions threaten the Fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth and fourteenth amendments that guarantee our most basic rights to freedom of speech, the right to privacy, equal protection under the law, and trial by jury.¹²⁴

History:

-The U.S. has often used times of war as an excuse to clamp down on legal political dissent. During the 1950s, 60s and 70s, the F.B.I. enacted an illegal program called COINTELPRO to infiltrate, spy on and attempt to disrupt and neutralize thousands of individuals and groups that were engaged in anti-war activism or other political activity.

-There is also a history of targeting immigrants and ethnic minorities during wartime. In 1942 under an executive order signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 110,000 men women and children of Japanese descent - three-fourths of whom were American citizens- were interned in camps for over three years under prison conditions.



The frontline in Ashcroft's war on your privacy: The local library.

Resistance to the Patriot Act:

-Currently, Alaska, Hawaii, Vermont, and 210 communities including Philadelphia have passed resolutions urging either restrictions or complete repeal of the USA Patriot Act.¹²⁵

-Librarians nationwide are resisting the law by keeping fewer records, buying shredders and regularly cleaning their hard drives.¹²⁶

-Rep. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., proposed new legislation to limit some of the

new powers of government to monitor library and bookstore records. The "Freedom to Read Protection Act" currently has the support of over 140 bipartisan Members of Congress, over 20 newspapers nationwide, and over 50 national book, library, publishing, civil liberty, religious, and priva-

123. For more information about Patriot II and how to get involved, go to <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=11904&c=206>.

124. For more information on the rights at stake, go to <http://www.aclu.org/SafeandFree/SafeandFree.cfm?ID=11813&c=207>

125. "Opposition to USA Patriot Act Swells," by Ken Ritter, Associated Press Writer, November 15, 2003. http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20031115/ap_on_re_us/patriot_act_nevada

126. "Libraries Rally Against USA Patriot Act," Fox News, May 7, 2003, <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,86167,00.html>

"Reader Beware: Patriot Act Riles Unlikely Group: Nation's Libraries" by June Kronholz, The Wall Street Journal, October 28, 2003. <http://bernie.house.gov/documents/articles/20031028094541.asp>

cy organizations.¹²⁷

LIE #10: THE 'WAR ON TERROR' MAKES THE PEOPLE OF THE US SAFER IN THE WORLD

THE LIE YOU WERE TOLD: The premise of the 'War on Terror' is that it will protect the safety of Americans and prevent future terrorist attacks.

WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS:

The 'War on Terror' is making the US more feared and hated worldwide: According to data released by the Pew Institute in June 2003, over the past year and a half, "favorable opinions of the U.S. have slipped in nearly every country for which trend measures are available." There are only seven countries left in the world where majorities have a favorable view of the U.S.: Kuwait, Canada, Australia, Italy, Great Britain and Nigeria. Majorities in five of seven NATO countries surveyed believe Western Europe should have a more independent relationship with the U.S. on diplomatic and security affairs. People in most predominantly Muslim countries are overwhelmingly opposed to the U.S., and in some cases the fall has been dramatic. In Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country, favorable ratings for the U.S. have fallen from 61% to 15% since the summer of 2002. In addition, populations worldwide fear a potential U.S. military threat. "Majorities in seven of eight Muslim populations surveyed express worries that the U.S. might become a military threat to their countries."¹²⁸

All of this unrest and anger at the United States provides a breeding ground for terrorist groups. Al Qaeda is (predictably) using the occupation of Iraq as a rallying cry for Islamic jihad. Senior intelligence officials say hundreds of young militants have gone to Iraq to fight the US occupation.¹²⁹ Since September 11 2001, Al-Qaeda-inspired terror attacks hit Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, Morocco, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey and Iraq. Further plots have been disrupted in Europe, the Arab world and possibly the U.S.¹³⁰ "Solid majorities in the Palestinian Authority, Indonesia and Jordan – and nearly half of those in Morocco and Pakistan – say they have at least some confidence in Osama bin Laden

127. http://bernie.house.gov/civil_liberties/index.asp

128. The Pew Global Attitudes Project, "Views of a Changing World, June 2003," published by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. "The Pew Global Attitudes Project surveyed: 16,000 people in 20 countries and the Palestinian Authority in May, 2003 more than 38,000 people in 44 nations in 2002." <http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=185>

129. "Calls to Jihad Are Said to Lure Hundreds of Militants Into Iraq," New York Times, November 1, 2003 - <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/01/international/middleeast/01RECR.html>

130. <http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=185>

to 'do the right thing regarding world affairs.'"¹³¹

The 'War on Terror' has weakened the international rule of law: The United Nations and its precursor, the League of Nations, were created in response to the world wars with the intention of strengthening international cooperation in order to prevent war and increase the safety of people worldwide. The member nations all agree to resolve disputes peacefully and in cooperation, without the use of force or even the threat of the use of force.¹³² Military action is only justified if a country has been actually attacked or is facing an immediate and unavoidable military threat, or when authorized by the Security Council, which the war against Iraq was not.¹³³ By invading Iraq unprovoked and unilaterally, the U.S. violated the U.N. Charter and therefore its own treaty obligations, which constitute "the supreme Law of the Land" under the U.S. Constitution.¹³⁴ President Bush has claimed that attacking Iraq was necessary as "preemptive" self-defense, however the Nazis used the same argument at the Nuremberg Tribunal in 1946, and were rejected. The panel ruled that, "To initiate a war of aggression, therefore, is not only an international crime; it is the supreme international crime differing only from other war crimes in that it contains within itself the accumulated evil of the whole."¹³⁵ Even top defense advisor Richard Perle has admitted that the invasion of Iraq was illegal.¹³⁶ These actions by the U.S. set the example that "might makes right;" a precedent that is extremely dangerous for the safety of the entire world.

US Bombing of the World:

In the past six years, the US military has bombed 13 different nations: Iraq (1991-2003), Sudan (8/20/98)¹³⁷, Afghanistan (1998-2003), Yugoslavia (1999), Yemen (11/3/02)¹³⁸ and "accidentally" a Chinese embassy (5/7/99)¹³⁹, Pakistan (8/20/98)¹⁴⁰, Vieques, Puerto Rico (4/19/99)¹⁴¹,

131. <http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=185>

132. United Nations Charter, Chapter 1 Article 1 <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/index.html>

133. "Law Groups Say US Invasion Illegal," by Jim Lobe, March 21, 2003 <http://www.commondreams.org/headlines03/0321-10.htm>. For information on the Bush Administration's claim that the use of force was authorized in the UN Resolution 1441 and other information regarding the legality of the Iraq war, see <http://www.robincmiller.com/iraq6-fr.htm>

134. U.S. Constitution, Article VI, Clause 2 <http://www.house.gov/Constitution/Constitution.html>

Law Professors for the Rule of Law <http://www.the-rule-of-law.com/IraqStatement/>

135. Center for Economic and Social Rights

<http://www.cesr.org/index.cfm?bay=content.view&catid=538&cpid=402&pressview=1>

136. "War Critics Astonished as Pentagon Hawk Admits Iraq Invasion Illegal," by Oliver Burkeman and Julian Borger, The Guardian UK <http://www.notinourname.net/war/perle-20nov03.htm>

137. "US Missiles Pound Targets in Afghanistan, Sudan", CNN, 4/21/98

<http://www.cnn.com/US/9808/20/us.strikes.02/>

138. "Sources: US Kills Cole Suspect", CNN, 11/5/02

<http://www.cnn.com/2002/WORLD/meast/11/04/yemen.blast/>

139. "Families Grieve Victims of Chinese Embassy Bombing as NATO Air Campaign Continues", CNN, 5/10/99 - <http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/europe/9905/10/kosovo.01/>

140. "Another Critical Lapse in Judgment by US President", Pakistan News Service, 8/25/98

http://paknews.com/aug98/pns_aug25.html

Bulgaria (4/29/99)¹⁴², Iran (3/21/03)¹⁴³, Turkey (3/24/03)¹⁴⁴, Kuwait (3/28/03)¹⁴⁵ and Saudi Arabia (3/29/03)¹⁴⁶. In Iraq, the US military additionally killed Syrian civilians (3/24/03)¹⁴⁷ and shot at Russian (4/6/03)¹⁴⁸ and Italian diplomats (9/20/03)¹⁴⁹.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT TERRORISM?

Since the attacks of 9/11/01, people in the US have had legitimate concerns about the dangers of terrorism. But the Bush Administration's "War on Terror" is not the answer. The bombing and invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq killed over 10,000 innocent civilians -many of them children- and angered populations worldwide. The "War on Terror" has created an environment that spawns instability, unrest and more terrorism while endangering the fundamental rights of people in the US.

Evidence shows that Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein both got to their positions of power with the support of the CIA which tried to use them as pawns in wars to benefit gigantic oil, military and banking multinationals. These corporations require the US to defend *their* Empire, which is why hundreds of thousands of US troops remain stationed in over one hundred countries and yet we are not safe at home.

If we want to end the vicious cycle of war and terror, we must lead by example: Bring home all the troops, stop our government from approving worldwide sales of murderous weapons and cut the US's outsized weapons budget to invest in education, social equality, justice and democracy at home and abroad. The US government cannot tell other nations to be "with us or against us" as long as it serves the interests of giant multinationals that profit from war. The peoples of the world want peace and prosperity above all. When the US approaches other nations as equal partners, the overwhelming majority will support international cooperation to stop mass murderers and to make the world safer for everyone.

141. "War Games Issue Stirs Puerto Rican Protest", CNN, 5/19/99

<http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/americas/9905/10/puerto.rico.games/>

142. "Sofia Hit by NATO Missile", BBC News, 4/29/99

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/331127.stm>

143. "Another Stray Missile Lands in Iran, Sources Say", Reuters, 3/26/03

Article archived at: <http://www.rense.com/general36/hits.htm>

144. "Errant US Missile Raises Ire of Turkish Villagers" by Ilene Prusher, Christian Science Monitor, 3/25/03 - <http://www.csmonitor.com/2003/0325/p12s02-woiq.html>

145. "Origin of Kuwait Missile Still In Question", CBS, 3/29/03

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/03/28/iraq/main546631.shtml>

146. "US Missiles Land in Saudi Arabia, Use of Saudi Airspace Halted", Online NewsHour, 3/29/03 http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/tomahawk_03-29-03.html

147. "US Missile Hits Bus, Killing Five Syrian Civilians" by Anne Penketh, The Independent, 3/25/03 http://news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/story.jsp?story=390540

148. "Russian Convoy Fired On in Iraq", CNN, 4/6/03

<http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/meast/04/06/sprj.irq.russian.convoy.attacked/>

149. "US Soldier Kills Italian Diplomat's Iraqi Aide" by Alessandra Rizzo, AP Philadelphia Inquirer, 9/20/03 - <http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/2003/09/20/news/nation/6815778.htm>

US OUT OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN! BRING THE TROOPS HOME!

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Raising awareness about the issues is the first step towards political change. Organize a teach-in about the truth behind the "War on Terror" at your school or in your community (you can invite the CEP to come speak). Show your friends this pamphlet. Participate in national rallies against the war. Write to your local newspaper. Write to your local politicians and state Congresspeople telling them you want them to bring the troops home now, cut the U.S. military budget, and stop U.S. sales of dangerous weapons all over the world.

VOTE BUSH OUT!

The most dangerous warmongers control the Bush Administration and wage war after war in our name to increase the profits of military contractors and big oil companies. Our best chance to get rid of Bush and all his accomplices is to vote them out in the next elections. We must push all presidential candidates to come out against the war and eventually unite in one campaign to defeat Bush. As often as we can, especially at the local level, we should support progressive, independent candidates whose campaigns are not financed by the big corporations that profit from war, even if their chances of winning are low. But in the next presidential election, we must cast our votes to make sure that Bush is removed from the White House.

NATIONAL ANTI-WAR CAMPAIGNS:

UNITED FOR PEACE & JUSTICE:

<http://www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?list=type&type=16>

"United for Peace and Justice is a coalition of more than 650 local and national groups throughout the United States who have joined together to oppose our government's policy of permanent warfare and empire-building."

INTERNATIONAL A.N.S.W.E.R.:

<http://www.internationalanswer.org/pdf/o25tabloid.pdf>

"Some in the antiwar movement are discussing what slogans and demands they should raise. The A.N.S.W.E.R. coalition promotes the demand, 'Bring the troops home now, end the occupation.'"

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WHO OPPOSE THE WAR:

	Al Sharpton	Dennis Kucinich	Carol Moseley-Braun	Howard Dean	Wesley Clark
Currently against war or the Bush Administration's handling of the war	Yes ¹⁵⁰	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹⁵⁵	Yes ¹⁵⁷
Against the war since the beginning	Yes ¹⁵¹	Yes	Yes	Yes/No*	Yes/No**
For immediate withdrawal from Iraq	Yes ¹⁵²	Yes ¹⁵³	No ¹⁵⁴	No ¹⁵⁶	No ¹⁵⁷

Al Sharpton: www.al2004.com

Dennis Kucinich: www.kucinich.us

Carol Moseley-Braun: www.carolforpresident.com

Howard Dean: www.deanforamerica.com

Wesley Clark: www.clark04.com

150. "Al Sharpton on War and Peace" http://www.issues2000.org/2004/Al_Sharpton_War_+_Peace.htm
 151. "Al Sharpton on War and Peace" http://www.issues2000.org/2004/Al_Sharpton_War_+_Peace.htm
 152. "Rallying to Bring U.S. Troops Home" <http://www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=2090>
 153. "Who is the Antiwar Candidate—Dean or Kucinich?" <http://www.kucinich.us/antiwar.php>
 154. "For The Record: Carol Moseley Braun Speaks Out" http://www.carolforpresident.com/content.php?page=issues_fortherecord
 155. "Securing America at Home and Abroad" http://www.deanforamerica.com/site/PageServer?pagename=policy_statement_foreign
 * Dean claims he was against the war from the beginning on his website, however Dennis Kucinich states that Dean's statements have at times seemed to be pro-war. "Securing America at Home and Abroad" http://www.deanforamerica.com/site/PageServer?pagename=policy_statement_foreign
 "Who is the Antiwar Candidate—Dean or Kucinich?" <http://www.kucinich.us/antiwar.php>
 156. "Who is the Antiwar Candidate—Dean or Kucinich?" <http://www.kucinich.us/antiwar.php>
 157. "General Clark Outlines Success Strategy in Iraq" <http://clark04.com/speeches/009/>
 ** General Clark has claimed he has had doubts about opposing the war. Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR) has found that much of Clark's statements on News shows have bordered on cheer-leading for the war. "Wesley Clark: The New Anti-War Candidate?"

HELP STOP THE LIES!

The Community Empowerment Project believes that in a democracy important information must be free and accessible to everyone. We have distributed over 15,000 anti-war pamphlets throughout the United States *free of charge*. Our organization is entirely made up of volunteers and we urgently need your support to continue our research, printing and distribution operations. Help us stop the lies that led the country into needless wars!

A donation of \$25 will get this pamphlet into the hands of 50 more people.
A donation of \$50 will get this pamphlet into the hands of 100 more people.
A donation of \$100 will get this pamphlet into the hands of 250 more people.
A donation of \$500 will get this pamphlet into the hands of 1,500 more people.

Please send contributions to:

The Community Empowerment Project – Stop The Lies Campaign
PO BOX 4113
Highland Park, NJ 08904

You may also make a secure donation by visiting us on our web site at www.cep-news.org

ANTIWAR TEACH-INS

by The Community Empowerment Project

The CEP runs dynamic antiwar teach-ins that are a great way to introduce people to the difficult issues behind the lies of the "War on Terror". Our teach-ins present up-to-date information in a multi-media session to engage the audience, followed by a question-and-answer period. We also gladly participate in panel discussions with other speakers presenting different or opposing viewpoints. If you would like the CEP to organize an antiwar teach-in or to speak on a panel at your school, college, community center or union hall you can contact us by sending an email to: contact@cep-news.org

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The CEP is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of democracy and the empowerment of local communities through progressive legal, political, cultural and social programs.

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