

RAW NEWS



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People oppose the war

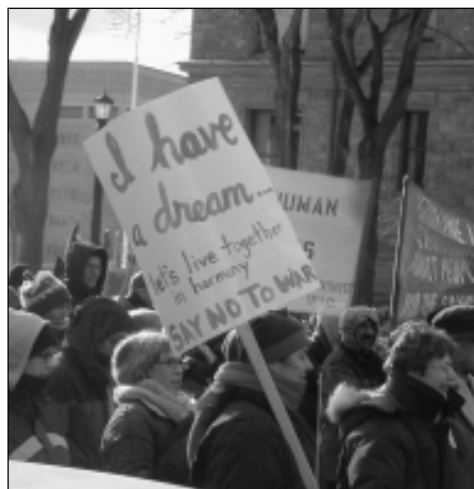
Across Ontario, across Canada, and around the world

The growing Canadian movement to stop the killing of innocent Iraqi people was highlighted on Saturday January 18 when tens of thousands of people joined marches, demonstrations, rallies and events across the country to protest the looming war on Iraq. Events were held in over 30 communities across the country, big and small, from Yellowknife to Fredericton, including large scale protests in Montreal (20-30,000), Vancouver (20,000), Toronto (15-20,000), and Halifax (15,000).

International

There were also protests of all sizes across the United States, with huge demonstrations in San Francisco, Portland, and Washington D.C., and also in other places around the world. Resistance to the war is truly global, and acts of resistance continue to be committed daily in different places around the world.

see www.indymedia.org



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PAGE FOR THE LATEST ON
WHAT'S HAPPENING

POST A REPORT TO THE
NEWSWIRE (OPEN-PUBLISHING)

Ottawa

In the national capital of Ottawa, about three thousand demonstrators convened on Parliament Hill. They then proceeded to the US Embassy where a Die-In was held to represent the Iraqi civilians killed by sanctions and bombings since 1991.

The marchers insisted that Canada: one, provide no support of any kind for military action against the Iraqi people; two, make a clear statement of opposition to any escalated war on the Iraqi people, whether sanctioned or not by the UN; and three, end the government's complicity in the ongoing, undeclared war against the Iraqi people. Five activists blocked the MacKenzie King entrance of the Department of National Defence headquarters, charging officials with violating international law and plotting acts of terror against the Iraqi people.

see ottawa.indymedia.ca

Toronto

In Toronto, workers, students, political and peace organizations, and a broad range of labour organizations filled Nathan Phillips Square to demonstrate against the war with an estimated 15-20,000 people.

Banners and homemade placards told the reasons why people were marching — “No War Between Nations”; “Housing Not War”; “No More War Against The Poor”; “Exxon, Mobil, BP, Shell, Take Your War and Go To Hell!”; and “Love, Love, Love.”

The rally and march ended up at the University of Toronto's Convocation Hall, where over 1500 filled the hall, while others stood out in the cold to listen through loudspeakers. Speaker after speaker denounced war — with or without UN approval.

see ontario articles # 14408, 14411, 14413, 14437, 14472, 14487



Sudbury

Some 250 people turned out in Sudbury for a rally, march, and public forum where people were given a chance to speak on some of their concerns over this war mobilization and how it is important for communities to organize against this war on Iraq.

see ontario articles # 14420, 14462

Kingston

Another four hundred people braved the freezing cold weather in a vibrant protest in the city of Kingston.

see ontario article # 14513

Thunder Bay

In Thunder Bay on Lake Superior, about 400 people from all walks of life demonstrated their opposition to a war in Iraq. The crowd then proceeded across the street to St. Andrew's church where 150 people engaged in an open community dialogue.

see thunderbay.indymedia.org

Hamilton

Approximately 150 people marched on Friday; that evening a public forum was held.

see hamilton.indymedia.org

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More resistance to the war

Efforts intensify across Ontario

compiled from reports off the
ontario.indymedia.org newswire

Groups across the province are organizing in many ways. In Toronto, a resolution against war in Iraq is being put to city council on February 5. At least 42 cities in the United States have passed similar resolutions — see www.citiesforpeace.org

On January 20, Martin Luther King Day, approximately 60 people attempted a 'weapons inspection' at Northrop Grumman Canada (formerly Litton Systems), who manufacture weapons systems for American and Canadian war planes. Demands for 'unfettered access' to the facility, what the U.N. inspectors receive in Iraq, was met with the arrest of eight people by police. Homes Not Bombs has more actions planned, including the delivery of peace zucchinis to Defence Minister John McCallum on Jan 27, the day the U.N. inspectors deliver their report, and a mass silent sit-in at the War Department in Ottawa on Valentine's Day.

On January 23, a protest was held outside McCallum's office after he announced Canada might go to war with the U.S. even without United Nations approval.

A Pan-Canadian Student Anti-War Conference is being held in Toronto, January 30-February 2 — www.project3media.com/iraq

February 15 will mark another huge day of protest in the province and all over the world. At the European Social Forum in November, the 15th was selected as the day for pan-European actions against war in Iraq, and millions are expected to take to the streets. In Toronto, a mass rally is planned for 1 p.m. starting at the corner of Yonge and Dundas.

Rooting Out Evil, based out of Toronto's Centre for Social Justice, is sending a weapons inspection team to the United States to inspect the chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons produced and concealed by the Bush regime. Over 13000 people have signed on as honorary weapons inspectors so far — for more visit www.rootingoutevil.org

International Peace Forum in Turkey

Peace activists from Britain, Greece, Germany, Israel, Sweden, the US, and Yugoslavia were to meet in Istanbul to voice their opposition to the war plans on Iraq, as Turkey holds the key to the northern front in this war. Invited to Turkey by a broad coalition of peace and human rights groups, the international peace activists were participating in a major domestic peace forum, Assembly of the 100s, on Jan. 25, organizing an international peace forum on Jan. 26, and visiting officials in Ankara on Jan. 27.

The International Peace Forum will voice the call of the international community to work for peace. The Turkish government has not yet given permission to the US for the use of its bases and the deployment of US forces on its territory. More than 30,000 demonstrated on Jan. 25 in Mersin, where the U.S. plans to have a naval base.

A 'no' from Turkey would throw a wrench into the war machine. The Forum will voice the cries of the rapidly growing global anti-war coalition, to ask the Turkish government to play an active role in preventing this war.
see istanbul.indymedia.org

Contact your MP

Make sure the people who send Canada to war hear from you. Several Liberal MP's have voiced their opposition to the war. Let's keep the pressure on the government:

Prime Minister Jean Chretien

Phone: 613.992.4211

Fax: 613.941.6900

Email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham

Phone: 613.992.5234

Fax: 613.996.9607

Email: Graham.B@parl.gc.ca

Or email your member of Parliament using her/his name: e.g. chretien.j@parl.gc.ca
<lastname>.<firstinitial>@parl.gc.ca

To find your MP:

http://www.gc.ca/directories/direct_e.html

Tune in to the peace movement

Ontario.indymedia.org stories:

14769: Attack to start this week?

14759: Only 26 per cent of Britons for war

14755: Canada on Iraq: choosing not to choose

14754: Next Toronto anti-war organizing

14744: Stop Bush now!

14740: Blair, Hoon and Straw to be investigated for war crimes

14728: Ask your (Toronto) city councillor to vote no to war

14724: A letter to Tony Blair

14693: Anarcho-criticism

14613: War set for February - Russian news

14443: Development and Peace Statement

14425: One-third of Canadians believe U.S. is biggest threat to world peace

14305: I'm going to Iraq, what else can I do?

Canadian Peace Alliance

www.acp-cpa.ca

Toronto Committee Against Sanctions and War on Iraq

www.tcaswi.org

Coalition to Stop the War (Toronto)

jan18.webhop.org

International ANSWER

www.internationalanswer.org

Not In Our Name

www.notinourname.net

End the War Against Iraq

www.endthewar.org

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