

# NETWORK FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Telephone 663 4961 PO Box 812 Parkville 3052

## **We will work together to stop this war and Australia's military involvement**

We are angry that blood is being spilt for oil.

Angry that the Australian Government and Australian military forces are involved in a war that we all oppose.

Angry at the hypocrisy over invasions of East Timor and Grenada.

Angry that there is no need for this war, that it will not solve the problems of the Middle East, that it will only create a new arms race and a new militarisation of the Middle East.

Angry at the carnage, horror, environmental destruction and human tragedy resulting from this bloody conflict in the Middle East.

The Network for Peace in the Middle East opposes both the acquisition of territory by force, and opposes the presence of foreign military forces in the Middle East. This war will not solve the problems of occupation, injustice and denial of human rights throughout the region.

We, the ordinary people of Australia, have both the moral responsibility and the capacity to oppose this war until the bitter end.

It is up to each one of us to express our opposition to this war. Here are some suggestions:

### **Wear a white arm band**

We are asking all people opposed to this war to wear a white arm band as a personal and visible expression of their opposition. Suggest to your friends and family that they also wear a white arm band.

### **Ring, write or fax the government**

The government is already in the corner as it sits in its Parliament House bunker. It's decision has been widely opposed, with letters, phone calls and petitions. Now is the time to increase the pressure to withdraw Australia's warships.

\* Write to Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

\* Phone or fax the following numbers:

	Fax	Phone
Prime Minister	06-2734100	06-2777700
Foreign Minister	06-2734112	06-2777500
Defence Minister	06-2734118	06-2777800



\* Visit your local parliamentarian's office and express your views personally.

\* Ring the White House Gulf hotline on 0011-1-202-4567639.

### **In your suburb or workplace**

\* Inform yourself about the issues. Organise a public meeting in your suburb to discuss the Gulf crisis. Book a hall through your local library, church or council; advertise it in the local press, letterbox leaflets and tell your friends. Pass a resolution at the meeting and send it to the local paper, federal parliamentarians in your area, and the prime minister.

\* Prepare a petition or letter for the local paper, and doorknock around your area to get signatures.

\* Leaflet your local shopping centre, hold a local meeting.

\* Are you in a trade union, political party or church? Organise a meeting. Invite a speaker. Organise a workplace group -- several have already been established.

\* For speakers kits, other information and support for organising in your workplace, church or local area, ring 6634961.

\* Set up a street stall at your shopping centre or market (leaflets, stickers and other resources available).

\* Join in public protests and meetings, or organise a rally in your area. Have a working bee to prepare banners and placards, songs and street theatre, graphics and posters. Ask your local council to hang a banner from the Town Hall. Put up posters around your suburb.

### **Through the media**

\* Ring up Access Age (670 1601) or write letters to the editor or newspapers.

\* Monitor the media. Contact the editor to complain about examples of biased reporting and misinformation. Ask why the media spends so little time documenting the civilian deaths and so much time telling us how well the bombs and weapons of destruction are working.

\* Ask who so much blood is being spilt for oil, when the West did nothing about the Indonesian invasion of East Timor and the subsequent deaths of a quarter of a million Timorese civilians.

\* Reprint leaflets and articles on the Gulf in your trade union journal or local community / peace / church newsletter.

### **For politicians**

Lobby your State and federal members of parliament. Ask for a meeting, take along a delegation and ask him or her to take a public stand against the war.

### **Show your concern**

Speak out, talk to friends and acquaintances. We'll only stop the war in the Middle East if thousands of people show their opposition!

### **Help financially**

We need money to print material, pay for phones and faxes, to produce materials and pay for hire of facilities. Your assistance would be most welcome.

We cannot watch this war in silence. We will work together to oppose and stop Australia's war role. Bring the warships back!

## **Forthcoming events**

### **Information stall**

An information stall will be in the Bourke St Mall each day. Volunteers are needed. Can you help?

### **Australia Day Suburban actions**

On Saturday 26 January, a number of suburban protests are being organised. Do you want to organise peace activities in your suburb on 26 January, or join those already being planned? Information kits, speakers and kits are available from the Network Office. Phone 6634961.

### **Rally**

A rally has been proposed for next Friday, 25 January at 5.30pm starting in the City Square.

-----  
To: Network for Peace in the Middle East  
PO Box 812  
Parkville 3052.

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone (w).....(h).....

I would like more background information.

I would like leaflets to distribute in my local area / workplace / church.

Please put me on the mailing list for future activities.

-----

**Network peace  
hotline 663 4961**