

FACTS ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ...

SUPPORT THE TROOPS?

- Coalition forces are using Depleted Uranium (DU) shells in Iraq that contaminate the environment, and can cause health problems such as cancer for the people using them and birth defects in children born in contaminated areas. (<http://www.chugoku-np.co.jp/abom/uran/special/index3.html>)
- The House of Representatives approved a budget for 2004 that will cut funding for veteran's health care and benefit programs by nearly \$25 billion over the next 10 years. (<http://www.commondreams.org/views03/0328-11.htm>)

PROFITING FROM THE WAR

- Kellogg Brown and Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, has been awarded a contract to extinguish oil fires in Iraq, worth an estimated "tens of millions of dollars." Vice President Dick Cheney was CEO of Halliburton from 1995 to 2000 and he continues to receive as much as \$1 million per year in deferred compensation. (<http://www.corpwatch.org/issues/PID.jsp?articleid=6288>)
- Local companies such as Kentwood-based Borisch Manufacturing Corp. are profiting off the war, with the Pentagon recently increasing orders for radar devices made by Borisch that are used to target 105mm howitzers.

THE HUMAN FACE OF WAR

- At least 600 Iraqis have been killed as a result of coalition bombings. This is a conservative estimate based on media reports and the final total will likely be much higher. (www.iraqbodycount.org)

WAR CRIMES

- The government and military accuse the Iraqi regime of "war crimes" in their disregard for international "rules" of war regarding "proper" modes of fighting and the treatment of prisoners. However, they fail to mention that coalition forces have bombed civilian targets (Iraqi TV), that numerous civilians have been killed as a result of coalition attacks, and that the United States has violated the Geneva Conventions in its treatment of prisoners in the "war on terrorism."

MEDIA COVERAGE

- The media has done an inadequate job of reporting on the war in Iraq, relying on "embedded" reporters who are not able to freely report without approval from the military. Moreover, the local media has been doing a horrible job covering the war, relying almost exclusively on government and military sources, using patriotism to "sell" their newscasts, and ignoring dissenting voices. (www.griid.org/warcoverage.shtml)

GET INVOLVED:

Daily news updates: www.mediamouse.org/pab/

For more information on the anti-war movement in GR: www.mediamouse.org

Join our listserv for updates on future events: email jsmith@grcmc.org

FACTS ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ...

SUPPORT THE TROOPS?

- Coalition forces are using Depleted Uranium (DU) shells in Iraq that contaminate the environment, and can cause health problems such as cancer for the people using them and birth defects in children born in contaminated areas. (<http://www.chugoku-np.co.jp/abom/uran/special/index3.html>)
- The House of Representatives approved a budget for 2004 that will cut funding for veteran's health care and benefit programs by nearly \$25 billion over the next 10 years. (<http://www.commondreams.org/views03/0328-11.htm>)

PROFITING FROM THE WAR

- Kellogg Brown and Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, has been awarded a contract to extinguish oil fires in Iraq, worth an estimated "tens of millions of dollars." Vice President Dick Cheney was CEO of Halliburton from 1995 to 2000 and he continues to receive as much as \$1 million per year in deferred compensation. (<http://www.corpwatch.org/issues/PID.jsp?articleid=6288>)
- Local companies such as Kentwood-based Borisch Manufacturing Corp. are profiting off the war, with the Pentagon recently increasing orders for radar devices made by Borisch that are used to target 105mm howitzers.

THE HUMAN FACE OF WAR

- At least 600 Iraqis have been killed as a result of coalition bombings. This is a conservative estimate based on media reports and the final total will likely be much higher. (www.iraqbodycount.org)

WAR CRIMES

- The government and military accuse the Iraqi regime of "war crimes" in their disregard for international "rules" of war regarding "proper" modes of fighting and the treatment of prisoners. However, they fail to mention that coalition forces have bombed civilian targets (Iraqi TV), that numerous civilians have been killed as a result of coalition attacks, and that the United States has violated the Geneva Conventions in its treatment of prisoners in the "war on terrorism."

MEDIA COVERAGE

- The media has done an inadequate job of reporting on the war in Iraq, relying on "embedded" reporters who are not able to freely report without approval from the military. Moreover, the local media has been doing a horrible job covering the war, relying almost exclusively on government and military sources, using patriotism to "sell" their newscasts, and ignoring dissenting voices. (www.griid.org/warcoverage.shtml)

GET INVOLVED:

Daily news updates: www.mediamouse.org/pab/

For more information on the anti-war movement in GR: www.mediamouse.org

Join our listserv for updates on future events: email jsmith@grcmc.org