

April 10th, 2004

News Item

For Immediate Release:

EMERGENCY RALLY AGAINST THE MASSACRE OF IRAQI PEOPLE!

US/UK OUT OF IRAQ! END COLONIAL OCCUPATION! SELF-DETERMINATION FOR IRAQI PEOPLE!

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12 NOON
VANCOUVER ART GALLERY
SATURDAY APRIL 10th

At 12noon Saturday April 10th, Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO) is holding an emergency rally against the escalation of brutal attacks on Iraqi people by the US-led occupying forces. Over 460 people have been killed, and many more hundreds injured since the US military attack began people in on towns and cities throughout Iraq on Sunday.

“We are in a state of emergency. The US, UK and their allies are killing Iraqi people by dozens every couple of hours since last Sunday,” said MAWO co-chair Shannon Bundock

MAWO is organizing this emergency demonstration, called by International ANSWER in the US, alongside organizations and coalitions across Canada and throughout the US. Most importantly, this demonstration is being organized alongside the continued resistance of the Iraqi people to the US-UK occupation that has unified and grown stronger against these brutal, murderous assaults.

“With these latest attacks against the Iraqi people, it is obvious that the war is not over, in fact it is intensifying,” said Shannon Bundock. “The US has found itself in a quagmire and they cannot solve the problems of poverty, hunger, unemployment and lack of power and water that their occupation has brought to the Iraqi people.”

In a statement about the upcoming rally, MAWO Co-Chair Kira Koshelanyk emphasized the necessity of the anti-war movement’s response to the brutality, illegality and inhumanity of this week’s US-massacre of Iraqi people with an emergency protest; “The US is bombing. They are sending missiles and rockets. They are attacking on the ground by thousands of troops in Ramadi, Baghdad, Basra, Mosul, Sadr, Adamiya, Kufa, Kut, Karabla, Amarah, Kirkuk, Nasiriyah, Shula, and other cities and towns. In a classic demonstration of colonial practices, the U.S. is conducting a widespread reign of terror.”

The emergency protest is organized by MAWO and has been endorsed by StopWar.ca. These two major anti-war coalitions will join with other organizations, people and a broad cross-spectrum of speakers representing communities all across the Lower Mainland. Together, we will oppose the criminal military machine that has killed thousands of Iraqi men, women and children since the war began just one year ago.

As MAWO Co-Chair Shannon Bundock said, “This is war... and, along with the heroic resistance of the Iraqi people, we must fight back!”