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News Item

For Immediate Release:

**Rally Against War and Occupation in Vancouver April 24th
‘US/UK OUT! CANADA OUT!’**

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Saturday April 24

12noon

**Vancouver Art Gallery
(Georgia St and Howe)**

On Saturday April 24th at 12 Noon, Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO) is holding a rally against the escalation of brutal attacks on Iraqi people by the US-led occupying forces. The rally is also being called to demand an end to Canada’s occupations in Afghanistan and Haiti, as well as to demand self-determination for Indigenous nations in Canada.

“The US-UK forces have unleashed a brutal campaign of shootings, bombings, and raids to try to suppress the demand of the Iraqi people for an end to the occupation,” said MAWO co-chair Shannon Bundock.

“With these latest attacks against the Iraqi people, it is obvious that the war is not over; in fact, it is intensifying,” said MAWO co-chair Kira Koshelanyk. “The US has found itself in a quagmire in Iraq, 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.”

Meanwhile, Canada is expanding its role in carrying out and leading occupation war campaigns in Haiti, Afghanistan and against Indigenous nations within Canada.

MAWO is calling to action all people opposed to war, occupation and oppression both at home and abroad to take to the streets on April 24th at the Vancouver Art Gallery. This rally will feature representatives from local youth groups, unions, women and antiwar groups, as well as people from local Middle Eastern, Aboriginal, and Latin American communities, all speaking out against the war at home and abroad.

MAWO is a coalition of over 50 organizations, student groups, unions, and individuals mobilizing against the wars and occupations in the world, namely in Iraq, Afghanistan, Haiti, and Palestine, while recognizing the extension of these wars into Canada through attacks on immigrants and refugees and through continued occupation of indigenous land in Canada.

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