

Who's MAWO?

Mobilization Against War and Occupation is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations and also individual members, most of which are working class organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism. We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!

Get involved



with MAWO!

Meetings & Forums on Tuesdays - 7:00PM

For location, please visit our website:

mawovancouver.org

e. info@mawovancouver.org

t. 604-322-1764

f. 604-322-1763

*** Next Organizing Meeting ***

TUESDAY June 2, 2015 at 7 pm

**Britannia Community Center - Learning Resource Centre
1661 Napier Street**

MAWO Newsletter #54 Created by: Janine Solanki and Ali Yerevani

Who is Private Manning "Soldier of Humanity"?

To find out more about the case of whistleblower Private Manning, pick up a brochure and petition from a MAWO info table or download one from our website www.mawovancouver.org

NEW ERA OF WAR AND OCCUPATION FROM AFGHANISTAN TO YEMEN: MORE THAN ONE DECADE OF WAR, OCCUPATION AND BLOODSHED - WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

PALESTINE

LIBYA

SYRIA

AFGHANISTAN

IRAQ

YEMEN

MULTIMEDIA + FORUM

**TUESDAY
JUNE 9** 2015

**7PM JOE'S CAFE
1150 Commercial Drive,
Vancouver**

**SPEAKER:
NITA PALMER**

AUTHOR OF THE BOOK "WAR & OCCUPATION IN
AFGHANISTAN: WHICH WAY FORWARD?"

**MOBILIZATION AGAINST WAR & OCCUPATION - MAWO
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stop the war! stop the occupations!

www.mawovancouver.org

MAWO 54

newsletter

May 2015

mobilization against war & occupation

MAWO STATEMENT

No War on Yemen!

U.S./SAUDI ARABIA HANDS OFF YEMEN!

U.S./SAUDI ARABIA STOP BOMBING YEMEN!



Statement from Mobilization Against War & Occupation - MAWO

April 22, 2015 (Updated May 22)

People all around the world are asking when this inhuman and criminal bombing against the innocent people of Yemen will be stopped. Since March 19, 2015, for over two months, Saudi Arabia, backed by the U.S., has carried out a brutal and devastating bombing campaign against the people of Yemen. A short-lived 5-day ceasefire - which Saudi Arabia never respected - to allow humanitarian aid to reach the Yemeni people ended last Sunday, May 17. It was followed with the prompt return of Saudi airstrikes bombarding Yemeni cities and infrastructure, showing that Saudi Arabia and the U.S. are still intent on continuing the humanitarian crisis, destruction and indiscriminate killing in Yemen.

According to UN estimates, over 1,850 innocent Yemeni people have been killed and more than 7,390 injured since the Saudi Arabian assault began. However, these are conservative estimates and other sources almost double the number of people killed.

The indiscriminate bombing campaign against Yemen has created a humanitarian crisis where basic infrastructure has been destroyed, over half a million people have been displaced from their homes, and 12 million people in Yemen do not know where their next meal is coming from. Millions of Yemeni people are suffering

from shortages of food, water, fuel and medicines because of the bombing and the air, land and sea blockade. Planes and ships attempting to bring humanitarian aid to Yemen are often blocked and even targeted by Saudi airstrikes, including United Nations UNICEF humanitarian aid ships, which were fired upon on May 17, right after the ceasefire ended.

Under international condemnation and pressure, on Tuesday April 21, 2015 Saudi Arabia announced that their "Operation Decisive Storm" bombing campaign was over as they announced the start of "Operation Renewal of Hope". This attempt of Saudi Arabia to appear less brutal is a complete farce. Less than 6 hours after this announcement, Saudi airstrikes on Yemen continued, and are still continuing a month later. The U.S. and Saudi Arabia are not only breaking and undermining international



laws but also are denying the people of Yemen of their self-determination and sovereignty. Yemen's struggle to determine their own future free of U.S.-backed regimes is now facing foreign intervention and

war with the help of the U.S.

Mobilization Against War and Occupation categorically condemns the Saudi Arabian bombing campaign against the innocent people of Yemen and the complete destruction of infrastructure of cities including roads, hospitals, schools, food and water sources, mosques and electrical power in Yemen.

Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO)

STOP BOMBING YEMEN!





United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC)
Action Plan
Adopted by UNAC Conference May 8-10, 2015



Political Goals, Objectives & Mission

The United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC) opposes all U.S. wars, whether they be in the form of direct military intervention with troops on the ground, privatized death squad wars, drone wars on every continent, sanctions and embargo wars, U.S.-backed military coups, “humanitarian interventions,” the U.S.-backed and -financed Israeli wars against the Palestinian people and the myriad of other modes of intervention and conquest that deny oppressed peoples the right to freedom and self-determination. We demand an end to it all: the war machine, the weapons of mass destruction, the trillions spent on advancing imperialist interests and the associated devastation perpetrated on poor and working people the world over. We demand: **U.S. Hands Off & Out Now – from the Middle East to Africa to Latin America to Iran, Ukraine & Beyond. Bring All the Troops Home Now & Dissemble Weapons of War! Trillions for Human Needs – Not One Penny for War!**

UNAC similarly opposes the ongoing and deepening wars against poor and working people at home, including the militarization of the police; the racist mass-incarceration criminal “justice” system; the war-profiteering military-industrial complex; the ever-privatized, for-profit and slave labor prison-industrial complex; the deepening racist attacks and mass deportation of immigrants; racist persecution of Muslim communities; vicious and virtually unpunished racist police murders of African-American, Latino and Native American peoples; massive ever-intensifying austerity – assaults on wages, massive cutbacks of social services, massive student debt, unending tuition hikes, deterioration and re-segregation of public education – union busting; the oppression, exploitation and brutality waged against women; the government-promoted homophobic attacks on the LGBT community; the fossil-

fuel, war-induced global warming and associated looming climatic catastrophe; and the wholesale police-state-like surveillance measures that increasingly obliterate civil and democratic rights. The U.S. needs a national urban policy that promotes sustainability of human life, rather than the profits of finance capital.

The U.S. wars abroad and the wars at home are inseparable aspects of a society that requires the subordination of human needs to the private profit interests of the bailed-out and enriched (at public expense) banks, corporations and multibillionaire elite. We hail the emergence of new anti-racist and working-class forces that have demonstrated vibrant leadership capacities, from Black Lives Matter and the myriad of other anti-racist fighters to the ever-resurgent Palestinian community mobilizations against the Israeli slaughter of Palestinians to the recent International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10 work stoppage in solidarity with their Black and Brown sisters and brothers who have been the prime victims of rampant police brutality and murder.

Our method of struggle looks to the broad mass of working people and their allies as the primary agency of social change. The history of all social movement victories is a history of the unification of the working masses and oppressed to advance their own needs and interests. UNAC strives to advance the unity of the antiwar and social justice movements in united, independent, inclusive and democratically planned mass actions to demonstrate the power of the working masses and achieve fundamental social and political change. We support a broad range of actions, including nonviolent direct action, lobbying and petitioning and we stand in solidarity with community resistance and rebellion against race and class oppression.

For all planned and endorsed actions visit: www.UNACpeace.org

MAWO STATEMENT
No War on Syria!
This is Not a War on ISIS/ISIL!
It is the New Imperialist War Drive
in the Middle East!

February 20, 2015

For almost four years the United States and other imperialist governments have been actively engaged in a bloody campaign to overthrow the government of Syria. They have been limited so far to imposing a cruel civil war upon the country by pumping it full of anti-government mercenaries. Throughout this entire time they have been constantly searching for an excuse to justify a full scale military intervention. Now they think they finally have one in a so called war against ISIS/ISIL.”

More than 190,000 people have been killed and 22 million displaced because of the installed civil war in Syria. Within this fiery chaos also emerged the armed group ISIS/ISIL. Nobody benefited more from the hyper-injection of foreign military aid and funding than they did, and thanks to the vacuum of power created in war torn areas, they also expanded across Syria and moved into Iraq.

Never ones to miss an opportunity to justify increased war and occupation, the US used this as a justification to re-escalate their occupation of Iraq through hundreds of air strikes and an expanded military presence. The Canadian military joined the war drive by sending almost 700 soldiers, six CF-18 warplanes, two surveillance aircraft and an air-to air-tanker. The first six months of the Canadian mission alone will cost taxpayers 166 million dollars. This is despite repeated demands by Iraqis that all foreign troops leave the country immediately.

Now they are using a supposed war against ISIS/ISIL, a group they helped create, to try and finally accomplish what they've been aiming for the whole time: large scale direct military intervention in Syria. US President Barack Obama has

asked for authorization to dispatch ground troops to fight against ISIS/ISIL, and to remove any geographic boundaries in the fight. The US is already in Iraq, so where else would they go besides Syria?

We have seen these warn out boogie-man excuses time and time again since September 11, 2001. They have been used by the US and other imperialist countries to try and justify their wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti, Libya, Mali

and beyond. In Afghanistan it was the Taliban, which they also created! In Iraq it was weapons of mass destruction, which never existed! Now over a decade later and millions of people dead and displaced by these wars, they want us to once again believe they have only the best of intentions in their newest offensive.

In August of 2013, the US and UK were literally hours away from bombing and direct military intervention in Syria. Pressured by the mobilization of poor and working people across the world, the government of the UK lost a key vote to authorize the military action the strategy fell apart from there. Even US President Obama had to concede the defeat in a televised address. This was an important victory for all peace loving people!

Now in February 2015, it is crucial that we once again rise up to demand an end to imperialist war and occupation, and especially against a new war in the Middle East: the war on Syria. The new era of war and occupation these governments have been imposing on oppressed people around the world must be brought to an end, and we cannot allow them to expand their bloody campaign further into Syria. We must unite to educate, organize and mobilize against imperialist war and occupation! We must demand, “No War on Syria!”, “Imperialists Out of the Middle East!”

Secretary General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah, the leader of the resistance movement in Lebanon:
“Saudi Invaders, Yemeni People will Triumph, You’ll be Defeated”

By Marwa Haidar (an excerpt)

Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah lashed out at Saudi Arabia over its war on Yemen, stressing that the failure of Riyadh's foreign policy is the real reason behind the Kingdom's attack against its neighbor. Sayyed Nasrallah called on Saudi Arabia to halt its military attack on Yemen, saying there's still a chance for the Kingdom to change its mind over the assault. In this context, the Lebanese resistance leader stressed that the only solution for the Yemeni crisis is political, “or else the invaders will be defeated.” Meanwhile, his eminence said that the problem in Yemen is not because Saudi Arabia wants to defend a government or a president; it is rather because Saudi Arabia has lost its influence in Yemen. “If the aim of the war on Yemen is to save the Yemeni people, then why did Saudi Arabia abandon the Palestinian people for long decades?” Sayyed Nasrallah meanwhile said that the latest developments in Yemen prove “that Arab states have never considered Israel an enemy.” “Saudi Arabia has opposed the revolution which had overthrown Hosni Mubarak. Why didn't they form a coalition to strike Egypt?” “Pretext that Yemen represents a threat to Gulf states is baseless,” Sayyed Nasrallah said, adding that “one of the most big lies Saudi Arabia has been propagating is that Iran is occupying Yemen.” The major mentality of Saudi Arabia is that it does not recognize the rights of the peoples of the region, his eminence said.

“Where are the achievements of Saudi Arabia's foreign policy since 30 years ago?” Sayyed Nasrallah wondered, stressing that the failure of Riyadh's policy “is prompting the people of the region to resort to Iran.” “What did you do for Iraq? You had funded the war waged by Saddam Hussein against Iran. You supported Saddam Hussein as he was committing genocide against Iraqi people. You had also supported George Bush in his war on Iraq. And when the Iraqi people resisted the US occupation you had supported al-Qaeda-linked groups and Takfiri militants, and ISIL is your latest crime.” “The Saudi intelligence was sending the booby-trapped cars and funding the suicide attacks on the Iraqi cities. You have sent the Takfiri monsters to Syria not to save the Syrian people, but to subdue Syria. However Syria will remain free and independent,” Sayyed Nasrallah said referring to Saudi Arabia. Sayyed Nasrallah stressed that it's the Yemeni people's right to defend their country against the Saudi airstrikes. On the other hand, Hezbollah S.G. stressed that the dialogue between the resistance party and the Future movement is still going on, noting that the move is a national interest. “We will go on with the dialogue with Future movement since it is considered a national interest.” Responding to claims that Iran is hindering the preidnetial elections in Lebanon, Sayyed Nasrallah said: “Iran has not interfered in the presidential elections, and will not do so. Tehran is not responsible for the current deadlock.” His eminence however, stressed that Saudi Arabia is hindering the presidential vote. “Saudi FM, Saud al-Faisal, he who is vetoing the election of the candidate who has the majority within the Christians in Lebanon.”