

The Struggle continues, take it higher:

People of the World Unite to Stop the US-led Imperialist Offensive!

As the rulers of the US and UK defied the wishes of the vast majority of the world's people and began their murderous attack on Iraq they boasted that just a few days of their "shock and awe" bombing would force Iraq to surrender. They claimed that they would be welcomed by cheering crowds celebrating their "liberation". In truth they met with determined resistance as they slaughtered tens of thousands with the aim of occupying Iraq, seizing its oil wealth and using it as a base to reorganize the entire Middle East and Gulf Region under the murderous boot of their imperialist control. Since George W. Bush announced on May 1 that the "main fighting" was over and their "mission" was "accomplished" the mass resistance – including the armed resistance – inside Iraq to the US-led occupation has spread and stiffened. In addition, not only have millions of people around the world seen their cries about "weapons of mass destruction" to be nothing more than one of the greatest lies of the century, they have also witnessed the continuing cold hearted refusal of the occupying powers to provide the people of Iraq with sufficient food, clean water, hospitals, electricity, etc. This denial of the minimum basic necessities of life to millions is costing additional innocent lives every day and is part of a conscious strategy to so impoverish the population that they will cease their resistance and accept foreign imperialist occupation.

This strategy is failing miserably. As usual the rulers have once again completely underestimated the power and willingness of the people to resist them. And as a reaction to the increasing anger and resistance of the people of Iraq the US-imperialists have now declared entire villages, towns and even regions of the country to be "enemy territory" and have begun massive attacks with aerial bombardments to "teach the people a lesson". All this shows the true face of their so-called "democracy" and "liberation" and more fundamentally is an expression of the basic character of their imperialist system itself. A system that is built upon and can only function by literally spilling the blood of millions of people around the world on a daily basis. Thus, as much as they may seek to deny it, the whole world can see them sink ever deeper into a quagmire so that with each passing day the spectre of a second "Vietnam" is becoming more of a reality.

As is their nature, their reaction to this situation is not to respect the wishes of the overwhelming majority of people in Iraq and around the world and withdraw their troops. On the contrary – the US-imperialists have announced their intentions to stay in Iraq for at least the next decade and have already begun selling off Iraq's industries and natural resources to multinational corporations (mainly from the US itself) at bargain prices. And they have openly repeated their intentions of continuing their drive for world domination by issuing one threat after another to use military force – including nuclear weapons – against Syria, Iran, Palestine, North Korea and other countries in order to compel them to submit to US domination. All of this is part of the hideous plans of the US-rulers to take advantage of the fact that with collapse of the Soviet Union there is currently no other imperialist country or group of countries that can challenge US power. The US-rulers have openly declared that they will use this advantage to establish their hegemony over the entire planet and thereby force all the other big powers to accept US control for decades to come.

It is this big power rivalry that lies behind the refusal of France, Germany, Russia and others up until now to take a direct part in the invasion and occupation of Iraq. They are demanding a joint imperialist occupation in which their "right" to a more "equal" share of the booty is respected. The US-imperialists on the other hand continue to insist that those who do not agree to accept its "leadership" will get little or nothing. Thus the UK, Spain, Italy, Poland and a few others have agreed to serve as running dogs for the US in the hope of at least getting a few crumbs. The continuing resistance of the people of Iraq and around the world to the most blatant act of imperialist aggression that the world has seen for decades is already beginning to give them second thoughts.

But it is not the rivalry between the big imperialist powers that holds out the hope that the current US-led offensive can be stopped. Nor are there any "international institutions" like the UN that can play any real part in stopping this juggernaut. No! This rivalry and the imperialist institutions through which it takes expression, no matter how the balance of power tips, can only lead to more suffering and oppression for the people. It is the struggle of the people alone that can put a stop to this imperialist horror. The masses of people in Iraq are setting an excellent example for how, in the face of great difficulty and danger, this can be done. But not just in Iraq, throughout the whole Middle East, and the oppressed countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia: in Turkey, Palestine, South Korea, Peru, Bolivia, the Philippines, India and in Nepal – where a People's War has liberated 80% of the country – and other places the resistance to imperialist domination – including armed resistance – is strengthening and spreading. In the imperialist centres of Europe and North America this resistance is growing and spreading as well. The worldwide mass movement which arose to oppose the invasion of Iraq is itself one of the best examples of this.

As more and more people around the world realise the true nature and aims of the imperialists and the current US-led offensive this resistance and the mutual support and solidarity between struggling people everywhere will certainly grow. The imperialists hope that their lies about "liberation" combined with their brutal display of force in Iraq will strike fear in the people there and elsewhere and cause them to give up their struggle against domination. They hope it will also bring about the end of the worldwide movement against their aggression in Iraq and around the world. While some people will be fooled or cowered for a time, this hope is nothing more than a pipe dream. The very atrocities the imperialists commit in order to try force the people to submit will only serve to further expose their real aims and provide the basis to mobilise millions more to join this struggle. The lies they tell should only help to teach us to look behind the "news reports" for the real interests involved. There will surely be many twists and turns in the period ahead. But through all this one thing is certain: their oppression of the people will only breed resistance. This a struggle that will not stop until this criminal crusade has been defeated.

Iraqi people, you are not alone!

Oppose, Resist and Defeat the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq!

***US, UK, France, Germany, Russia and All Imperialists: Hands off Syria, Iran, Palestine and the Whole Middle East!
North, South, East and West – Unite the People's Struggles!***

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[The WPRM is a growing movement open to all who genuinely oppose imperialism and support the just struggles of the people, whether in Palestine, or the Maoist-led People's War raging in Nepal. We are currently organised mainly in Europe and South Asia and call on others to join ranks with and help build the WPRM.]