



Vol. 10: No.91: April. 01. 2011

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Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents a growing number of area residents of diverse backgrounds brought together over the Iraqi crisis.

We support multilateral action for non-violent conflict resolution, human rights, ecological integrity for the planet and international law, through education and dialogue locally and globally.

We encourage everyone's participation as we strive for peace and justice to build a better world for future generations.

The Boundary Peace Initiative meets: 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 7 pm Selkirk College.

Things To Do

Walk with the World: No to Training in Afghanistan by Canadians! April 9th @ 1 pm from Lois Hagan Park (beside Grand Forks City Hall) followed by rally @ The Source.

Mothers Day Peace Walk; May 8th: @ 1 pm @ Haynes Point in Osoyoos

B.C. Southern Interior Peace Coalition Semi-annual Conference: May 14th Kelowna: call Laura @ 442-0434 for info

The Late Great Canada

By: Jack Blower

You may have noticed that our country is no longer following the wishes or direction that Canadians desire.

Domestically and in foreign affairs we are being systematically stripped of the power that in the past has allowed us to be an independence nation. When we signed (against Canadians' wishes) the Canada-US trade deal—the North American Free Trade Deal (NAFTA)—and the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP), we gave up State powers (sovereignty) to both foreign corporations and foreign states. You would be correct in saying we privatized trade and defence in one big sellout. These agreements have a built in proclivity to expand and but for some South American leaders who put the welfare of their citizens above that of the global corporate agenda, NAFTA would have expanded to control the whole Western hemisphere.

The EU/NAFTA union (*Ed. Note—this refers to the Canada European Union Trade Agreement—CETA*) being negotiated behind closed doors is another example of the consolidation of world resources into one organization.

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The Late Great Canada

The same situation applies to our foreign affairs, including our military. We now get our marching orders from whoever is fronting for the corporate power structure at the moment--NATO, NORAD, the USA or the UN. We are at war in Afghanistan and primed for the same in Libya. Not because Canadians want these wars but rather because our Government is controlled by the military arm of the same organization that controls our trade and resources—the New World Order (NWO).

It just doesn't wash to claim that the Libyan war is because of concern for civilian welfare when the plight of Pakistanis under daily attack by US missiles and bombs is ignored. How about the Palestinians being displaced and their homes destroyed to make room for Israeli settlements?

Can it be that this war in Libya is just the NWO gathering Libyan oil into its portfolio as it did in Iraq?

The late great Canada is now just a cog in the NWO machine.



Canadians for Peace and Socialism on Libya

By: Don Currie

Canadians for Peace and Socialism on April 24th took issue with Professor Byers and Rafeh Hulays Phd. as well as Gary Keenan an activist on behalf of the just cause of the Palestinian people for calling upon the Canadian government to support the imposing of a no-fly-zone over Libya, which is an act of war against a sovereign member state of the United Nations with which Canada was engaged in peaceful relations including a substantial amount of trade that was mutually beneficial to our two countries.

The UN Resolution is in violation of its own Charter. The aim of the coalition of aggressor states is to depose the Qaddafi government by force which is not only a violation of the Charter of the United Nations but of international law that carries with it the right of the victims of such aggression to demand the aggressor states be charged with and made accountable for crimes against humanity. This is the Bush Doctrine all over again.

<http://www.focusonsocialism.ca/random.asp?ID=619>
<http://www.focusonsocialism.ca/random.asp?ID=619>
<http://www.focusonsocialism.ca/random.asp?ID=620>

Those who called for a no fly zone over Libya now have their wish fulfilled. Cruise missiles and so-called smart bombs directed to target by satellites, drones and AWACs all coordinated from a US command centre sending fighter jets to target from US air craft carriers, Italian air fields are dropping bombs on Libyans from 40,000 feet killing both pro and anti Qaddafi civilians.

Canadian armed forces JTF2 special commando style forward attack force is reportedly on the soil of Libya assisting the so-called rebels. A Canadian warship is in the area carrying out aggression under NATO command. Undoubtedly US ground forces are present as well helping to organized the disparate anti-Qaddafi rebel forces. The scenario has been set for another Iraq-Afghanistan fiasco all over again with terrible consequences for the people of Libya not to mention those Canadian armed forces personnel that may also die. The spectacle of US-NATO-Canadian joint operation forces killing Arabs will not be forgotten by millions of ordinary people living in that part of the world.

11 members of the Arab League called for a no fly zone with Syria and Algeria and the African Union urging restraint and calling for a negotiated settlement. Their efforts have so far been ignored by the Canadian government. The offers of the Libyan government for a

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Canadians for Peace and Socialism on Libya

The offers of the Libyan government for a cease-fire, which it advanced on two separate occasions, have also been ignored by the Canadian Government and we should add, ignored in defiance of the substantial public opinion in our country that is opposed to the Harper Government's knee jerk support for NATO. On today's noon hour CBC phone in program on the issue there was only one dissenting voice and all others condemned the action and several called for Canada to withdraw from NATO.

The corporate controlled mass media is preventing the pro-peace anti-war opinion of a large section of the Canadian people from being heard. There is wide spread opposition to the Harper Governments foreign and military policy that seeks to spend \$30 billion dollars on new fighter jets so as to more efficiently kill people the western powers don't like.

All parties in the House of Commons have accepted the mantra of "the duty to protect" which is not part of the UN Charter. It has become the fig leaf behind which the Canadian Government seeks to prevent the adoption of a Canadian foreign policy of peace and to transform Canada into a heavily armed NATO imperialist enforcer state imposing the will of the USA and it's G7 allies on the people of Central Asia, the Middle East and now Africa.

The NDP has given its full support to the actions now underway by the US NATO forces to depose the Qaddafi government by force. It approves of the bombing the people of Libya (and let us not talk about restricting so-called collateral damage – General Lewis McKenzie, a former conservative candidate has poured scorn on such a specious argument). Innocent civilians are being killed by Canadian CF 18's as innocent civilians were killed by Canadian CF 18's in Belgrade in 1999. It is estimated that 18 to 20% of all of the damage inflicted on Belgrade and environs including the use of depleted uranium was inflicted by the Canadian air force under NATO Command. As things now stand and this is very early in this war, Canadian armed forces are in violation of the UN Charter and international law and in all likelihood as the people of the Arab world progress to real independence will be demanding an accounting of these crimes.

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(From page 2) **Canadians for Peace and Socialism on Libya**

I want Alex to know that I will not support his campaign for re-election. His party by joining with the Liberals and the Conservatives on this issue has betrayed the interests of all those Canadians who stand for peace. By adopting the position it has taken, the NDP has done irreparable damage to the causes it purports to uphold. A supportable domestic policy is indivisible from a supportable foreign policy. One without the other is not possible.

If I am able to attend the May 14th Meeting of our coalition I will be expressing these views and calling upon our coalition to adopt an unequivocal position of opposition to the US-NATO-Canadian aggression on Libya and to promote by all means the withdrawal of NATO led coalition forces and to accept the right of the people of Libya to determine their own internal affairs without external interference.

Canadians for Peace and Socialism fully endorses and supports the position of the Canadian Peace Congress and member organization of the World Peace Council. The statement of the Canadian Peace Congress <http://www.canadianpeacecongress.ca/random.asp?ID=190> as well as the statement of the World Peace Council <http://www.canadianpeacecongress.ca/upload/WPC%20Statement%20on%20Libya%20March%202020,2011.pdf> are included here for your information.

Don Currie, Chair Canadians for Peace and Socialism
Editor: FocusOnSocialism www.FocusOnSocialism.ca
Member: Canadian Peace Congress.

Afghans for Peace Statement on Graphic Photos of US Soldiers & Civilian Corpses

By: Afghans for Peace March 22, 2011

Yesterday Afghans for Peace learned that a German news organization, Der Spiegel, released 3 of some 4,000 photographs and video footage showing gruesome images of US soldiers and corpses of innocent Afghans they murdered in Kandahar last year. The photographic evidence exposes the crimes committed by a “Kill Team”, where U.S. soldiers randomly targeted and murdered Afghan civilians for sport, followed by an attempt to cover them up. These appalling and inhumane acts are condemned by AFP.

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Afghans for Peace Statement

The pictures are posted at:
<http://afghansforpeace.org/archives/1416>
USE DISCRETION BEFORE VIEWING

The first photograph shows U.S. soldier, Spc. Jeremy N. Morlock, posing with the bloodied and partially naked corpse of Gul Mudin, grabbing the victim by his hair, and grinning proudly at the camera with his trophy kill. From close observation, the victim’s body appears slim and hair-less, suggesting he was very young and had not yet reached puberty.

The second photograph shows U.S. soldier, Pfc. Andrew Holmes, posing with the same bloodied and partially naked corpse of Gul Mudin, casually holding a cigarette in one hand and grabbing the victim by the hair with the other.

The third photograph shows two unidentified Afghan male civilians murdered by the “Kill Team”. The dirty clothing worn by the victims, unnatural positioning of a foot, blood stains on the back, and bound legs and hands suggest they were possibly dragged by a vehicle and/or tortured.

January 15, 2010 was the beginning of periodic murders of Afghan civilians by the “Kill Team” that resulted in some of the most shocking allegations against American soldiers since the U.S. invasion in 2001.

A subsequent investigation shows the military clearly had ignored warnings of soldiers committing atrocities against civilians. Spc. Adam Winfield had informed his father, Christopher, about the killing and those planned for the future. Winfield Sr., persistently tried to inform the military of his son’s warnings, only to be turned away.

“The guys in my group have murdered an innocent Afghan,” Adam Winfield wrote. “They planned everything out. I knew about it ... I want to do something about it, but I don’t have the courage.”

This is a repeated incident of US soldiers from all ranks taking photos and video footage of civilians they tortured and killed and then attempting to cover up their crimes.

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(From page 3) **Afghans for Peace Statement**

Many critics are comparing these recent events to what took place in Abu Ghraib in 2004. Afghans for Peace wants to distinguish between the two incidents. The Afghans were civilians chosen at random and not inside a prison. The extreme acts, including murder, occurred publicly in broad daylight.

These crimes illustrate the means by which the military industrial complex functions through dehumanization, forced inferiority, and occupation both historically and at present. This was the case with Native Americans, Africans, Iraqis, and now Afghans. When the military force is led by a US superpower, with almost 1,000 military bases worldwide, and aided by NATO forces, the murders in Kandahar go unnoticed.

Afghans for Peace is reminded that it was the Abu Ghraib photographs that turned the public's eye toward the realities on the ground in Iraq. Thus, we hope these photographs further encourage the public to seek the truth on the ground realities in Afghanistan.

AFP denounces these horrid, repulsive targeted attacks against the civilian population of Afghanistan and urges Der Spiegel to release all 4,000 photographs and video footage in order to pressure the international community to put an end to this illegal war and occupation.

Afghans for Peace (AFP) is an alliance of Afghans from various ethnic, religious, socio-economic, cultural, and political backgrounds with a united vision for a democratic, all inclusive, just and peaceful Afghanistan. In order to actualize this vision, we demand an end to U.S. and NATO military operations within Afghanistan.

Afghans for Peace contact:
info@afghansforpeace.org



Canadian Military Spending Increases by 54%

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives has published a new report on Canada's military spending. Canadian Military Spending 2010-11, written by *Ceasefire.ca* editor Bill Robinson, shows that Canadian military spending is higher now than it has been at any other time since the end of the Second World War.

According to the study, Canada will spend at least \$22.3 billion on its military forces in fiscal year 2010-11—an increase of 54% since 9/11. “Canada is the 13th largest military spender in the world and 6th largest within the 26-member NATO alliance,” says Robinson.

Canada's mission in Afghanistan has absorbed a significant part of the recent increases in Canadian military spending, but this has come at the cost of Canada's ability to contribute to UN peacekeeping operations and its ability to fund non-military contributions to global security and humanitarian action. Canada currently contributes just 56 military personnel to UN peacekeeping operations, making Canada 60th on the list of 102 contributing countries.

“Canada could make a much greater contribution to global security and humanitarian action by shifting resources to non-military security efforts and to peacekeeping operations,” Robinson says. “An increase in Official Development Assistance funding equivalent to our post-Cold War increase in military funding would make Canada a great power in the development assistance/humanitarian aid world.”

**Did you ever stop to notice
All the children dead from war
Did you ever stop to notice
The crying Earth the weeping shores
Earth Song---Michael Jackson**

The Boundary Peace Initiative (BPI) welcomes articles, which are the sole responsibility of the authors and may not be common consensus. To contribute please contact **Laura** at **250-442-0434** or **l4peace@telus.net**. The BPI is a member of: Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Canadian Peace Alliance, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War, Uranium Free Kootenay Boundary, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation as well as other local and global groups.

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