**Iraq Facts**

Is WAR the best response to terror?

The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have been the main response of the Bush Administration to the terrorist attacks of 9-11. The two wars have destroyed two countries, no democracies have developed and the chaos has spawned the resistance to the U.S. presence and supplied more breeding ground for international terrorism.

*What are the conditions the two wars have created?*

Although the U.S. government claims that precision bombing was used in Afghanistan and Iraq, the bombing killed thousands of innocent people and disrupted the lives of millions. Whatever the crimes of the Taliban or Saddam Hussein, the two wars are a collective punishment of the people of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Now the warlords control all of Afghanistan but the capitol. The Taliban are making a comeback. Opium production is booming. In Iraq, 18 months after the invasion, the level of interpersonal violence is shocking and the war is intensifying. There has been little reconstruction except for the building of American military bases.

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2. http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,2763,940414,00.html

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When Timothy McVeigh bombed Oklahoma City, did we bomb Michigan? Of course not. There are other ways to respond to terrorism. The United States could have used diplomacy with the goal of gaining international cooperation to bring those who organized the heinous crime to justice.

The Bush Administration’s pursuit of military action in Iraq jeopardizes this very same goal. The Chomsky News poll conducted in the fall of 2001 found that 91% of Americans supported a law enforcement response and 94% supported a law enforcement response without UN approval and the two wars had even without UN approval and the two wars.

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