

MADRE

speaks

Winter 2002-03



Every Child Has A Name
No War Against Iraqi Families



program highlights

MADRE works in partnership with women's community-based groups in conflict areas worldwide to address issues of health, education, economic development and other human rights. In 2002, MADRE formed partnerships with five new sister organizations in Guatemala, Rwanda and Kenya.

GUATEMALA

- MADRE supported women who work in sweatshops in Guatemala City by providing 25 water treatment units for their community, which lacks access to potable water.
- MADRE sent support to T'al Nán K'oi's indigenous weaving cooperative for members to learn new designs and traditional weaving patterns as part of their efforts to preserve Mayan culture and generate income for community development projects.
- MADRE sent support to the Rigoberta Menchu Organization to develop a security system for their Guatemala City office after a

staff member was killed nearby. Guillermo Valle's murder, which MADRE publicly condemned, is part of a growing pattern of killings of human rights workers in Guatemala.

CUBA

- MADRE delivered \$300,000 worth of anti-parasite medicine, operating room supplies and other critical medicine and equipment to help combat the effects of the US embargo.
- MADRE's Helping Hands campaign collected over \$100,000 worth of eyeglasses, health and hygiene supplies and children's books for our partners in Cuba and elsewhere in Latin America.

NICARAGUA

- MADRE initiated Harvesting Hope with our sister organization, Wangky Luhpia, to provide chickens and vegetable seeds to indigenous families who lost their food supply in last year's drought. The project is enabling women to improve food security, health and nutrition for their families.
- The MADRE-supported CADAMUC Clinic recently launched a youth health outreach program on STDs, drug abuse, basic health and hygiene and reproductive health care for teenagers in Waspm.

COLOMBIA

- MADRE supported a video production project at Taller de Vida, a youth service organization, for young people to document and share their experiences of war and displacement.
- MADRE provided Taller de Vida with funds to create a children's library in their community center.
- MADRE enabled women at LIMPAL, which supports women and families displaced by war and poverty, to hold a national conference and strategize responses to this year's escalation of violence in Colombia.

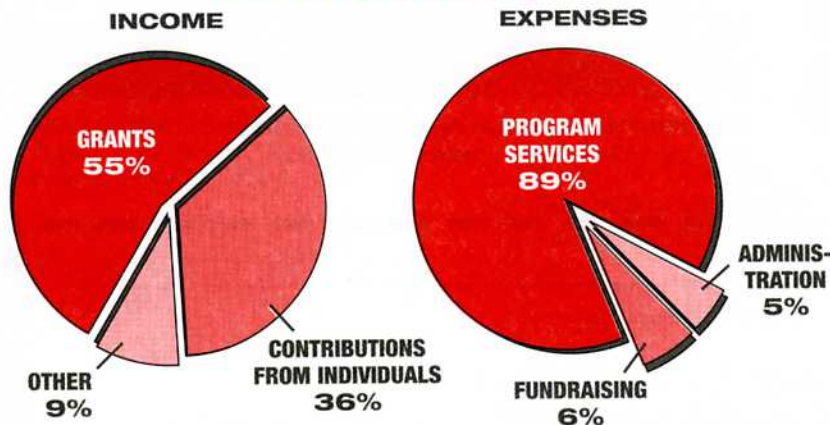
CHIAPAS, MEXICO

- MADRE and our partner organization, K'inál Antzetik, provided legal expertise and witness protection in a human rights case against the Mexican Federal Police.

RWANDA

- MADRE sent our first contribution to the National Association Supporting People Living with AIDS (ANSP+), enabling them to provide services for people living with HIV/AIDS, including health care, legal support and political advocacy.

MADRE Income and Expenses Fiscal Year 2001-2002



Note: \$1,355,089 is the value of "in-kind" medical shipments and services donated to MADRE during the year. This category is not considered income by the Internal Revenue Service, but it is a very important source of support for MADRE.

KENYA

- MADRE began supporting the Indigenous Information Network, building a partnership to combat violence against women, develop AIDS and STD prevention programs and support indigenous women fighting government take-over of their lands.
- MADRE supported the participation of the Indigenous Information Network at a meeting of the International Indigenous Women's Forum in Oaxaca, Mexico.

PALESTINE

- MADRE helped the Ibdaa Children's Center offer home visits of nurses to families

confined to their homes by protracted military curfews.

- MADRE purchased a video camera and editing equipment for Ibdaa to enable Palestinian refugee youth to document their experiences of military occupation and articulate their demands for justice.

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

MADRE works to meet immediate needs in communities and in the international arena to change policies that violate human rights. This year, MADRE:

- Supported a meeting of the International

Indigenous Women's Forum and the participation of young women in the International Indigenous Women's Summit of the Americas.

- Worked in the Office of the UN Commissioner for Human Rights to monitor governments' commitments to protecting the rights of youth and Indigenous Peoples, which were made at the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism.

- Sent a delegation of MADRE staff and members of ANSP + to the XIV International AIDS Conference to advocate for affordable, life-saving drugs and a concerted global response to the AIDS crisis.

- Launched a human rights fellowship for our sister organizations at our New York office.

BUY A MADRE GIFT!



ALL GIFTS FEATURE THE ABOVE LOGO IN RED, YELLOW, PURPLE AND GREEN

MUG

11 oz. white ceramic mug
\$10 each + shipping & handling:
 (\$3 per mug; \$2 for each additional mug)

T-SHIRT

black or white 100% preshrunk cotton
 (please indicate color when ordering;
 LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE)

Adult sizes: **S, M, L, XL, XXL \$20 + s&h**
 children's sizes: **ch XS (2-4), ch S (6-8)**
\$15 + s&h

(shipping & handling: \$3.50 per shirt;
 \$3 for each additional t-shirt)

TOTE BAG

off-white canvas bag
MEDIUM (15" x 13") \$25 + s&h or
JUMBO (19" x 18") \$35 + s&h
 (shipping & handling: \$5 per tote;
 \$3 for each additional tote)

Fill out coupon below and return to:

MADRE 121 West 27th Street, #301 New York, NY 10001

ITEM	SIZE	COLOR	QUANTITY	PRICE EACH	SHIPPING	SUBTOTAL
TOTAL:						\$

I am enclosing \$ _____ for my purchase, made payable to MADRE, Inc.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

Celebrate Women's Month and help mobilize against the war.

Bring MADRE's speaking tour to your community. Meet women human rights leaders from around the world. **March 2003.** To arrange for a MADRE speaker, call us at (212) 627-0444 or email: madre@madre.org.

Join MADRE in Cuba

for the 16th World Congress of Sexology: **March 7-16, 2003**
 Participate in discussions about the politics of sexuality from local, national and global perspectives. See Cuba's world renowned public health system at work and meet people striving to create an equitable society in the face of the longest embargo in history.



MADRE

121 West 27th Street, Room 301
New York, New York 10001
Telephone 212 627-0444
Fax 212 675-3704
e-mail: madre@madre.org
http://www.MADRE.org

Board of Directors

Dr. Zala Chandler
Liliana Cortés
Andaye De La Cruz
Hilda Diaz
Linda Flores-Rodríguez
Anne H. Hess
Rochelle Korman
Margaret Ratner
Marie Saint Cyr

Sponsors

Brooke Adams
Electa Arenal
Julie Belafonte
Vinie Burrows
Mavi Coakley
Dr. Johnnetta Cole
Blanche Wiesen Cook
Clare Coss
Alexis De Veaux
Kathy Engel
Rosa Escobar
Roberta Flack
Devon Fredericks
Tammy Grimes
Elizabeth Horman
Gale Jackson
Eleanore Kennedy
Myrtle Lacy
Isabel Letelier
Audre Lorde, 1934-1992
Mary Lumet
Patricia Maher
Hon. Hilda Mason
Monica Melamid
Hon. Ruth Messinger
Holly Near
Dr. Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz
Grace Paley
Antonia Pantoja
Bernice Reagon
Chita Rivera
Sonia Rivera
Helen Rodríguez-Trías, M.D.,
1929-2001
Digna Sánchez
Sonia Sánchez
Yolanda Sánchez
Susan Sarandon
Carlottia Scott
Julia R. Scott
Pat Simon
Susan L. Taylor
Marjorie Tuite, 1922-1986
Alice Walker
Joanne Woodward
Billie Jean Young

Executive Director

Vivian Stromberg

DATED MATERIAL

membership

- I want to become a member of MADRE. Enclosed is my \$35 annual membership fee.
- I am a member of MADRE and want to offer further support. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of \$_____ to MADRE.

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____
 AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

MADRE is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization. All contributions to MADRE are tax deductible to the extent of the law. A copy of MADRE's latest financial report can be obtained by writing to the New York Department of State, Office of Charities Registration.

gift memberships

Introduce a friend or relative to MADRE by sending them a gift membership in celebration of a birthday, wedding, holiday or special event. For \$35 or more per membership, MADRE will send an acknowledgement to you and an information packet and membership to the people you list below.

NAME **1** _____ NAME **2** _____
 ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

Enclosed is \$35 or more for each Gift Membership

YOUR NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____
 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please send me information about visiting Cuba

March 7-16, 2003

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

MADRE

121 West 27th Street, Room 301
New York, NY 10001

NON-PROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York, NY
Permit No. 3485



MADRE Executive Director Vivian Stromberg delivers 10 tons of milk and medicines to Iraq following the Gulf War in 1991. © Laura Flanders

From the Executive Director

Vivian Stromberg

Dear friends,

Here we are in 2003 and facing a year of huge challenges. US aggression against Iraq is at the top of the news. Yet we know that in every country where MADRE works, US policies are wreaking havoc on women and their families, whose determination to shape their own lives is unwavering. It is impressive how hope defies the aggression of bombs and tanks, robbery of land, closed access to health care, education, clean water. And hope defies abuses of human rights that governments have promised to guarantee.

The consistent friendship and support that MADRE offers help nourish this remarkable spirit of hope that keeps women and their families from giving up. Even with the faltering economy and the Bush Administration's attacks on civil rights here in the US, MADRE members remain committed to being part of our growing international family. Our determination to stand together creates a force against the Bush Administration's aggression, greed and indifference to the needs of women and families everywhere.

Being part of this global family is more than an act of charity; it is an expression of the belief that together we really do make a difference. All of us on the MADRE staff want each of you to know how much we appreciate you. Your support makes our work possible; and this work has literally touched the lives of thousands of women and their families around the world.

Sincerely,

Vivian Stromberg

MADRE

121 West 27th Street, #301
New York, NY 10001
212/627-0444 Fax: 212/675-3704
e-mail: madre@madre.org
www.MADRE.org

Volume XVIII, #2

MADRE's newsletter, *MADRE Speaks*, is published quarterly.

Since 1983, MADRE has worked in partnership with community-based women's organizations in conflict areas worldwide to address issues of women's health, economic development and other human rights. MADRE provides resources and training for our sister organizations and works to empower people in the US to demand changes to unjust policies. Based on the priorities of the women with whom we work, MADRE develops programs that meet immediate needs in communities threatened by US policy and supports women's long-term struggles for social justice and human rights.

Newsletter Staff

Yifat Susskind, Editor
Sarah Widmer, Assistant Editor
Amy Thesing, Design

cover photo: © Laura Flanders

SUMMER INTERNS NEEDED:

Be a part of programs that support women's human rights around the world. Applications due April 1. Contact MADRE for more information.

A BIG THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL INTERNS:

Victoria Quiroz Becerra
Natalia Caruso
Alison Forbes
Jamie Lawrence
Michelle K. Lopez
Amy Penfield

June Jordan 1936 – 2002

LIFELONG ACTIVIST, POET, WRITER and member of MADRE's founding Board of Directors. With her passing, the volume of passion in the world is diminished. In June's memory, we rededicate our own passion to building the world we dream.



This tear-out supplement

is part of MADRE's campaign, *Every Child Has a Name: No War Against Iraqi Families*. The campaign is working to:

DELIVER EMERGENCY SUPPORT TO WOMEN AND FAMILIES IN IRAQ.

EMPOWER PEOPLE IN THE US TO TAKE AN ACTIVE STAND AGAINST THE WAR.

CALL ON THE UNITED NATIONS TO PURSUE A DIPLOMATIC RESOLUTION TO THE CRISIS.

The supplement includes a flyer, which we encourage you to post in your community.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS © LAURA FLANDERS

Iraqi children are suffering needlessly because of US-led sanctions, which have drastically increased preventable disease, malnutrition, poverty and family breakdown. The sanctions stand in violation of the Geneva Convention [Additional Protocol 1, 1977], the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

Talking with Friends and Family About Iraq

Like people everywhere, most individuals in the US think it's wrong to kill civilians as a means

A MADRE Guide
BY
YIFAT SUSSKIND
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

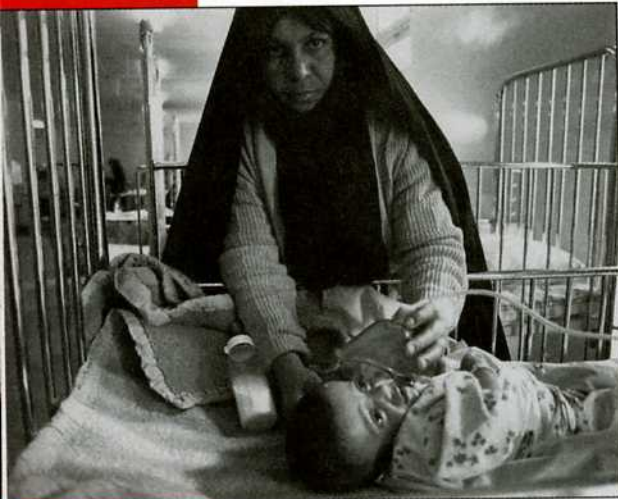
of pressuring their government. But for many, the link between this conviction and opposition to US plans to attack Iraq is severed by fear, misinformation and a desensitization to what war will really mean for ordinary

Iraqis. This guide is intended to help combat the euphemisms ("collateral damage") and passive language ("bombs fell")

that obscure the suffering that the Bush Administration's plans will cause. We hope it will be useful in navigating conversations about the war and encouraging family and friends to take a stand for peaceful alternatives.

**EVERY
NO WAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES**

Talking with Friends & Family About Iraq



War on Civilians, War on Women

HOW ARE WOMEN DISPROPORTIONATELY HURT BY WAR? Women are primarily responsible for those made most vulnerable by war — children, the sick and the elderly — and for maintaining families and households. When bombs destroy homes, hospitals, schools and food markets, people's basic needs do not disappear. In fact, they intensify and women are left to meet the tremendous needs generated by the sharp rise in trauma, disability, disease and homelessness that are the known outcomes of war. US bombing and sanctions have already caused great hardship for Iraqi women, who must intensify their work hauling water, processing food and providing health care, day care and many other services formerly provided by the state. Moreover, gender discrimination means that when resources such as jobs, medical treatment and food are made scarce, the needs of girls and women are sacrificed first.

WHAT does war mean for women and families in Iraq?

- The Bush Administration has plans to bomb Baghdad, a city of five million people. This would cause a humanitarian catastrophe equivalent to a heavy air bombardment of Los Angeles.
- A November report by the global health organization Medact estimates that at least 50,000 civilians are likely to be killed in a US attack.¹
- Many more civilians are likely to die from longer-term effects of a bombing, including environmental damage and the destruction of food supplies, agriculture and critical infrastructure, such as pharmaceutical plants and hospitals.

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

this war is broader than the attack now being planned. It includes the combined impact of the 1991 Desert Storm bombing and the 12 years of sanctions and bombing since then. US and British forces have bombed Iraq more than 50 times this year alone and killed over 500 people since 1999.

WHAT have sanctions and bombing meant for Iraqi women and families?

- According to UNICEF and the World Health Organization, US-led sanctions have killed over one million people.² Nearly 60% of the dead are children under the age of seven, most of whom died from starvation and preventable disease.
- The number-one killer of young children is dehydration from diarrhea caused by water-borne illnesses, on the rise since the US bombed the electricity grids that powered Iraq's water treatment plants. Sanctions have prevented Iraq from importing replacement parts or chemicals needed to treat water.³
- Iraq's public health sector is nearing total collapse from a lack of basic medicines and supplies.
- Diseases not seen for decades have reemerged — cholera, typhoid and an epidemic of malaria.
- Southern Iraq has seen a three-fold rise in childhood cancers since the US dropped radioactive uranium-tipped bombs on the area.
- Today, 80% of Iraqis live on less than two dollars a day compared to 45% in 1990.
- This widespread suffering is occurring in a country that was, thanks to oil revenues and government social policies, fairly prosperous before the Gulf War, with an educated workforce, solid middle class, modern infrastructure and sound public services.

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

although the media ignores the humanitarian disaster caused by sanctions, the policy constitutes a devastating attack on the most vulnerable Iraqis and should be described as weapons of mass destruction.

EVERY
NO WAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES

WHAT would a new US-imposed government mean for Iraqi women?

■ Iraq's government brutally suppresses civil and political rights, but has guaranteed women social and economic rights.* Before US-led sanctions destroyed Iraq's ability to provide services, women enjoyed rights to education, employment, freedom of movement, equal pay for equal work, universal day care and five years maternity leave.

■ While Iraqi women long for democratic rights, they have little reason to be optimistic about a new, US-backed regime, likely to be a military dictatorship under different leadership.⁴

■ The US is currently working to incorporate Muslim clerics into the Iraqi opposition. These leaders have a theocratic agenda that directly threatens women's rights.⁵

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

unlike "regime change" in Afghanistan, where the oppression of women was a key public relations point for the Bush Administration, the US has made no effort to push for the inclusion of women in a "post-Saddam" Iraq.

DOESN'T Iraq pose a military threat to the US?

■ Credible analysts such as former chief UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter maintain that the military threat from Iraq is exaggerated and that since the Gulf War, Iraq has been largely disarmed.⁶ Recently, the CIA issued a report saying that the military threat from Iraq is at its lowest in a decade.⁷

■ The Administration has offered no evidence to support its alarming rhetoric about Iraq. For instance, that Iraq "retains the infrastructure needed to build" a nuclear weapon (as Bush warned in his September 12 speech to the United Nations) is not the same thing as building one. No credible authority believes that Saddam Hussein possesses nuclear weapons.

■ According to former UN weapons inspectors, 95% of Iraq's chemical weapons have been destroyed. Iraq may possess stores of biological agents, since the US supplied Baghdad with stock for anthrax, botulism and other diseases in the 1980s.⁸ However, Ritter and others point out that the potency of these agents is expired and that Iraq lacks the delivery systems (e.g., long-range missiles and rocket launchers) to turn chemical or biological agents into weapons.

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

the most likely scenario in which Saddam Hussein would launch weapons of mass destruction is an all-out war aimed at deposing him — exactly the course being pursued by the US.

HASN'T Iraq's noncompliance made weapons inspections futile?

■ US allies, the United Nations and even the CIA contend that UN inspections have fundamentally succeeded in facilitating the disarmament of Iraq.⁹



By the way, what's the US track record on weapons of mass destruction?

THE US IS THE BIGGEST PRODUCER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS and the only country to ever drop a nuclear bomb. The US currently has plans for dropping nuclear bombs on seven countries — China, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Syria, Libya and Russia.

* The Ba'ath Party has used women's rights as a means to consolidate its power. Like the US during World War II, Iraq facilitated the entry of women into the workforce to offset a labor shortage caused by its war with Iran. More generally, the Ba'ath Party has supported the participation of women in the public sphere, where they can more easily be indoctrinated and mobilized on behalf of the state.

MADRE supports women and families in conflict zones worldwide with emergency aid to meet urgent needs and programs to develop long-term solutions.

EVERY
NOWAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES

Talking with Friends & Family About Iraq



ENDNOTES

¹ "Collateral Damage: The Health and Economic Costs of War on Iraq," <http://www.medact.org>, November 2002. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact MADRE (212-627-0444) and we'd be glad to send you supporting documents like this one.

² Reporting on the 1991 US bombing of Iraq, the *Washington Post* wrote, "The worst civilian suffering, senior officers say, has resulted not from bombs that went astray but from precision-guided weapons that hit exactly where they were aimed — at electrical plants, oil refineries and transportation networks," "Allied Air War Struck Broadly in Iraq; Officials Acknowledge Strategy Went Beyond Purely Military Targets," June 23, 1991.

³ A 1991 US Defense Intelligence Agency document observed that massive civilian suffering was a known outcome of US policy. Predicting the combined impact of bombing and sanctions, the report states, "Incidences of disease, including possible epidemics, will become probable..." "Iraq Water Treatment Vulnerabilities," January 22, 1991.

⁴ "Unveiled: The Thugs Bush Wants in Place of Saddam," *Sunday Herald*, September 22, 2002.

⁵ "U.S. is Wooing A Shiite Exile to Rattle Iraq," *The New York Times*, November 25, 2002.

⁶ "Former Chief UN Weapons Inspector in Iraq Believes Plan to Attack Baghdad is Politically Driven and Fraught with Danger," *Between the Lines* interview (<http://click.topica.com/maaatKmaaS8Dhb1Bjcmbl/>), August 2002.

continued on page 8

■ Iraq refused to continue with inspections when it was discovered that the US was using inspectors as spies.¹⁰ Iraq also refused to grant inspectors unrestricted access to all sites in Iraq. The US similarly restricts UN weapons inspectors from some US laboratories.

■ Today's mass media often repeat the US claim that inspectors were thrown out of Iraq in 1998. Actually, they were withdrawn by request of President Clinton on the eve of his Desert Fox bombing campaign.¹¹

■ Since the Gulf War, the US has consistently undercut Iraq's incentive to cooperate with inspectors by declaring that sanctions (originally imposed to compel disarmament) would remain in place even if Iraq complies with inspections.

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

the Bush Administration plans to go to war regardless of whether Iraq complies with inspectors. Richard Perle, head of the Pentagon's Defense Policy Review Board, recently told British members of Parliament that the US will attack even if inspectors don't find weapons.¹²

DOESN'T Iraq support terrorism against the United States?

■ Every attempt by the Bush Administration to link Iraq to international terrorism has failed. A 2002 study by the State Department found no association between Iraq and terrorist groups. A 2002 CIA report demonstrates that Baghdad has been consciously avoiding actions that could antagonize the US.¹³

■ An alliance between the secularist Ba'ath Party and al-Qaeda is highly improbable. Saddam Hussein has used extreme repression against Islamicists; Osama bin Laden considers Saddam Hussein an infidel.

■ Raising the specter of Iraqi cooperation with "terrorists" seems like a cynical scare tactic. After all, Bush's plans to invade Iraq pre-date the attacks of September 2001.¹⁴

■ The strongest "link" between Iraq and al-Qaeda is that attacking Iraq may increase support for al-Qaeda by fueling resentment against the US and exacerbating conditions, such as political instability, mass displacement, poverty and social breakdown, that give rise to political extremism, including acts of terrorism.

HASN'T Iraq violated UN Security Council resolutions?

■ Yes, Iraq has defied 12 Security Council resolutions. The Council itself, not the US, should address these violations. Articles 41 and 42 of the UN Charter state that no country has the right to unilaterally enforce UN resolutions.

■ Moreover, Iraqi violations are relatively few and minor compared to those of countries like Turkey and Indonesia, which are in violation of multiple resolutions and enjoy strong

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

Bush's concern about compliance with the United Nations is quite selective: since taking office, he has scrapped more international treaties and violated more UN conventions than the rest of the world has in 20 years.¹⁵

EVERY
NOWAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HASA
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES

support from the US. Israel, the world's leading violator of UN resolutions (44 to date) is the largest recipient of US aid worldwide.

■ Bush rails against Iraqi violations of UN resolutions while declaring his own willingness to violate a fundamental principle of the UN Charter by attacking Iraq without authorization from the Security Council.¹⁶

ISN'T Saddam Hussein a murderous dictator?

■ Saddam Hussein's human rights record is among the world's worst. Yet US policy has not addressed this crisis. For instance, there is no UN resolution mandating Iraqi compliance with international human rights law. The US itself has created a human rights catastrophe in Iraq through sanctions.

■ Meanwhile, the US is obstructing the most effective international mechanism for prosecuting and preventing the kinds of human rights violations committed by Saddam Hussein, namely, the International Criminal Court.

REMINDE PEOPLE THAT

no matter what, the US has no right to pursue "regime change." The violent overthrow of a sovereign government is not a "policy option." It is a grave violation of international law that makes the world a much more dangerous place by normalizing war as a way to resolve conflict.

WHAT'S the real aim of the war?

■ The most fundamental reason for war derives from the US doctrine of permanent military supremacy, presented in the Defense Department's "Defense Planning Guidance 1994-1999" and Bush's September 2002 national security policy paper.¹⁷ The doctrine outlines US military domination over friends and enemies alike; control over key global resources (oil, natural gas); and disdain for international law, multilateralism and the national sovereignty of other countries. Iraq is a test case of this doctrine.

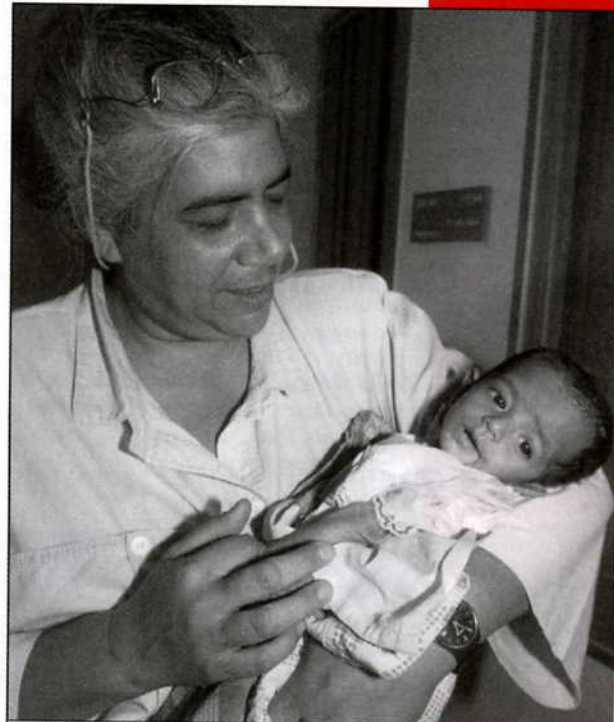
■ Iraq possesses the world's second largest reserves of oil after Saudi Arabia. The US has been angling for years to increase its access to Iraqi oil.

■ War provides the Republicans with a diversion from corporate scandals, a faltering economy and their attack on poor and middle-income people and civil rights. Veteran Republican strategist Jack Pitney summed it up: "If voters go to the polls with corporate scandals at the top of their list, they're probably going to vote Democratic. If they go [thinking about] the war on terrorism and taxes," Republicans have the advantage.¹⁸

ARE there alternatives to war?

■ **INSPECTIONS:** The destruction of most of Iraq's arsenal in the 1990s resulted not from bombing, but from inspections conducted through the United Nations. **We should demand** that the findings of today's inspectors, and not the political goals of the US, guide policy on Iraq.

■ **DISARMAMENT:** The best defense against weapons of mass destruction is global disarmament. As a starting point, **we should demand** that military



By the way, don't the US and Saddam Hussein go way back?

IN 1963, THE US BACKED SADDAM HUSSEIN'S BA'ATH Party in a violent coup to take over Iraq. Most of Saddam Hussein's atrocities were committed while he was a close US ally. The US sold Iraq weapons even after learning that Iraq used illegal chemical weapons against Kurdish civilians in the Halabja massacre of 1988. US intelligence agencies believe that the massacre was carried out with US-made helicopters. Only in 1990, when Saddam Hussein disobeyed the US with his unauthorized invasion of Kuwait, was he transformed from a key asset to "the Butcher of Baghdad."

Child mortality in Iraq has doubled since the US imposed sanctions in 1991.

**EVERY
NOWAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES**

Talking with Friends & Family About Iraq

Visit www.madre.org

for more on MADRE's *Every Child Has a Name* campaign, including our March 2003 nationwide speaking tour.

ENDNOTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

⁷ "Analysts Discount Attack by Iraq," *Washington Post*, October 9, 2002. Iraq's military spending is less than 10% of what it was in the 1980s; its armed forces are less than a third of their former size; and its air force and navy have mostly been dismantled.

⁸ Documented in the 1994 hearings of the Banking Sub-Committee.

⁹ "Analysts Discount Attack by Iraq," *Washington Post*, October 9, 2002.

¹⁰ "US Spied on Iraqi Military Via UN," *Washington Post*, March 2, 1999.

¹¹ "Iraq: Lives in the Balance: Fact Sheet on the US Bombing of Iraq," <http://www.madre.org>, December 1998.

¹² "Bush Aide: Inspections or Not, We'll Attack," *The Mirror*, November 21, 2002.

¹³ "The Case Against War," *The Nation*, September 12, 2002.

¹⁴ "Bush Planned Iraq 'Regime Change' Before Becoming President," *Sunday Herald*, September 15, 2002.

¹⁵ For a list of US violations of treaties and UN conventions, see "'Free Societies Do Not Intimidate By Cruelty and Conquest' and Other Great Quotes From Bush's Big Speech to the UN," <http://www.madre.org>, September 2002.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ "Bush to Outline Doctrine of Striking Foes First," *The New York Times*, September 20, 2002.

¹⁸ "Jittery Economy, Corporate Scandals Likely to Figure in," *San Diego Union-Tribune*, September 4, 2002.

¹⁹ "News of the Week in Review," *The Nation*, November 11, 2002.

sanctions against Iraq be expanded to all countries in the Middle East (as called for in UN Resolution 687, specifying Iraq's disarmament requirements). Demands for disarmament should focus on the US, which is the world's biggest arms dealer.

■ **DIPLOMACY:** Although its member states are subject to bribes and bullying by the US, the United Nations remains our best hope for international cooperation. **We should demand** that the US defer to the United Nations as arbiter of threats to international peace and security.

■ **PROTECTION FOR IRAQI WOMEN AND FAMILIES:** Those who have paid the highest price for the 13-year conflict between the US and Iraq are ordinary Iraqis. **We should demand** that US-led sanctions be lifted immediately and that Iraq, like all countries, be held accountable to international human rights standards.

Overcoming fear, demanding justice

A November 2002 poll by the *Christian Science Monitor* shows that a majority of US citizens now support the assassination of foreign leaders in the "war on terror" and that one in four can imagine backing the use of nuclear weapons. This growing willingness to support violence reflects the fear that has become a common denominator of public life in the US since September 11, 2001.

As people committed to human rights, we can point out ways that the Bush Administration has sought to channel this fear into support for its war against Iraq (for example, by lying about Iraqi nuclear capability, as the White House did on September 7, 2002).¹⁹ And we can point out that this exploitation of grief and fear for political gain is a form of violence.

But to enable people to actively challenge Bush's war, we need to address people's fear directly. We can start by acknowledging that fear is a reasonable response to a period of terrorist attacks, anthrax killings and sniper shootings, however unrelated they may be. And we can suggest that a legitimate concern about safety doesn't have to mean reflexive support for government policies. Finally, we can initiate conversations about central questions, such as:

■ What kind of foreign policy would minimize the chances of another attack in the US and protect the human rights of people around the world? Will our security best be served by being the world's bully or by working in cooperation with other countries? How can we broaden our understanding of "security" to meet the needs of the millions in the US who do not have homes, jobs, health care or economic security?

■ How can we build public consensus around widely-held values like protecting children and families, using violence as a last (not first) resort and respecting the rule of law?

■ How can we work to hold our leaders accountable to the vision of a society we want to live in?

ONE WAY TO TAKE A STAND FOR PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

is to join MADRE in *Every Child Has a Name*, a campaign to raise emergency support for Iraqi women and families. Visit MADRE's website, www.madre.org, for more information or call us at 212-627-0444. ■

EVERY
NOWAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES

**EVERY
NO WAR
CHILD
AGAINST
HAS A
IRAQI
NAME
FAMILIES**

600,000 Iraqi children have been killed by malnutrition and disease caused by US-led sanctions.

Now, the Bush Administration wants to bomb Baghdad, a city of five million people.

Don't let more Iraqi children become "collateral damage."

FILL OUT THE COUPON BELOW OR GO TO www.madre.org TO:

- Contribute to MADRE's delivery of milk and children's medicine to Iraq.
- Bring MADRE's March 2003 speaking tour to your community.
- Sign MADRE's open letter to the UN Security Council.



Iraqi girl photographed during MADRE's first delivery of milk and medicines, after the 1991 Gulf War. PHOTO: LAURA FLANDERS

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

- Please accept my donation of \$ _____ for MADRE's delivery of milk and medicine to Iraqi women and children.
- I am interested in bringing MADRE's speaking tour to my community.

- Please send me MADRE's guide about the war against Iraq.
- Please include my name on MADRE's open letter to the UN Security Council.

Call MADRE (212-627-0444) or visit www.madre.org for information about MADRE's work in support of women and families.

SEND YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO:
MADRE
EVERY CHILD HAS A NAME
121 W. 27th St., #301 New York, NY 10001