

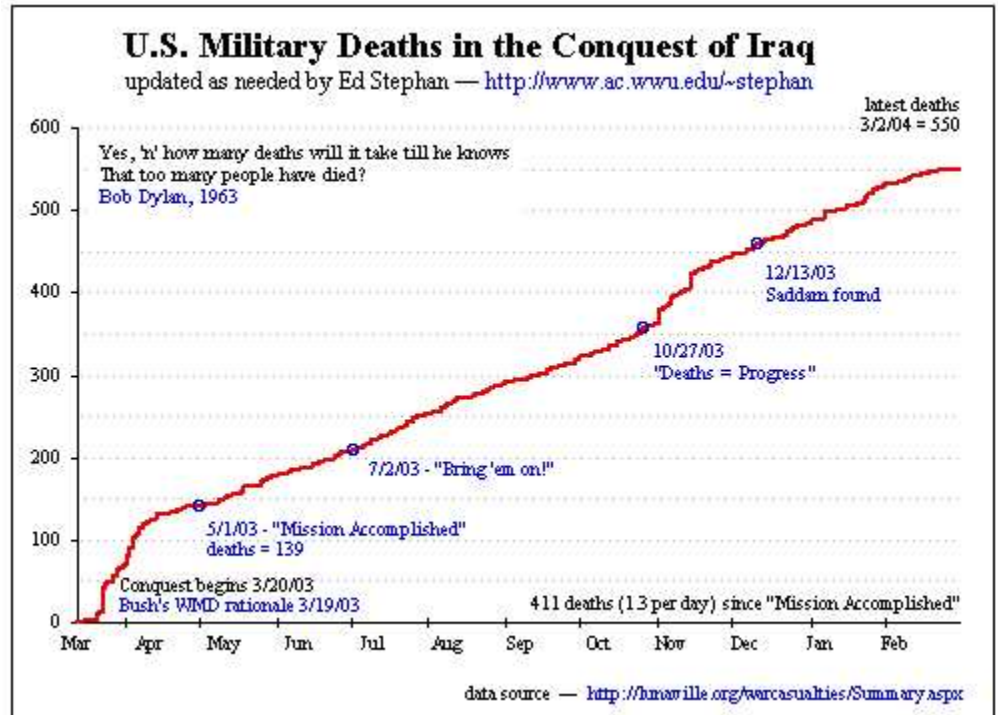
Operation Iraqi Freedom

A war to liberate Iraq and Make America Secure

Young Americans are still being Killed in Iraq

Since March 2003 10,000 Iraqi civilians and 500+ American soldiers have been killed in Iraq by the war and related attacks. 3000 young American soldiers have lost an arm or leg as have thousands of Iraqi civilians. The opening night of bombing cost American taxpayers \$1 billion. At least another \$87 billion have been allocated to fight the war on Iraq (and Afghanistan)

Iraqis are afraid to leave their homes at night. They fear being victims of kidnapping, random violence, or being caught in the crossfire between American troops and Iraqis fighting the American occupation. Food is still in short supply for typical Iraqis. Electricity goes out for hours at a time several times a day, the phones don't work, millions are unemployed, the water is unsafe for drinking, and suicide bombings terrorize the people.



Hartford is the Second Poorest City in America

Meanwhile back here in Hartford 31% of city residents live below the poverty line, 10% of City residents are unemployed, begging is a crime within city limits and 41% of Hartford's adults cannot read this flyer.

America's image in the world as a beacon of liberty and justice has been severely tarnished. Around the globe America is now seen as the greatest threat to world peace. Our wars in Afghanistan, Yugoslavia and Iraq, and our support of oppressive regimes in Israel, Colombia and elsewhere has generated palpable hatred toward America and Americans travelling abroad. All our advanced weapons, trained troops, and secret intelligence services couldn't prevent the attacks on September 11, 2001 and can't prevent attacks in the future.

War has not Freed Iraq and War has not made Americans safer!

For Iraqis to be free and Americans to be safe we must demand investment in all that nurtures life rather than in wars and weapons which only destroy life. The people of Iraq need clean water, food, safety from street crime, jobs, uninterrupted electricity, secure borders, and the freedom to choose their own leaders and their own system of government. The people of America need just jobs with just wages. We need good schools and safe streets. We need affordable health care. We need to know that our government is spending our tax dollars to serve the common good and to foster good will around the world. Only then can we begin to experience true national security.

President Bush and Vice President Cheney are *War Criminals*

The President and his vice-president sent young Americans to their deaths in Iraq based on information they knew to be false. On September 12, 2001 administration officials were preparing to attack Iraq in response to the 9/11 attacks despite the lack of evidence connecting Iraq to the attacks. During the following months the administration continued to infer a connection that did not exist. After the war, when 70% of American believed that Sadaam Hussein was responsible for 9/11 President Bush publicly stated that there was no connection between Hussein and 9/11.

The President Lied to America

The administration also justified the war on Iraq by claiming that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. The CIA knew this claim was false, so the President quoted British intelligence sources. As early as 1999 Gulf War veteran and former lead weapons inspector Scott Ritter was saying that Iraq had been "qualitatively disarmed." The president lied and thousands died. In the aftermath of the war the U.S. has awarded Haliburton corporation a multi-billion dollar contract to help rebuild Iraq. Before becoming vice-president, Vice-President Cheney was CEO of Haliburton.

American GI's Have Died

The two Gulf Wars and the sanctions on Iraq purposefully targeted cities and civilian populations. The last 14 years of American policy toward Iraq have led directly to the deaths of 1 million+ Iraqi civilians. President Bush, his father, Vice-President Cheney and former President Clinton are guilty of crimes against humanity. Meanwhile, citizens who support crimes against humanity are likewise accomplices in those crimes. Silence is complicity. Silence now is a crime.

The Poor Die and The Rich get Richer

Learn, Discern and Act

Read: *The Fire This Time* by Ramsey Clark or *The Scourging of Iraq* by Geoff Simons

Go to: www.antiwar.com and www.vitw.org to learn more

Discern: pray, meditate or otherwise discern if you support bombings and occupation or money for education, reconstruction and health care.

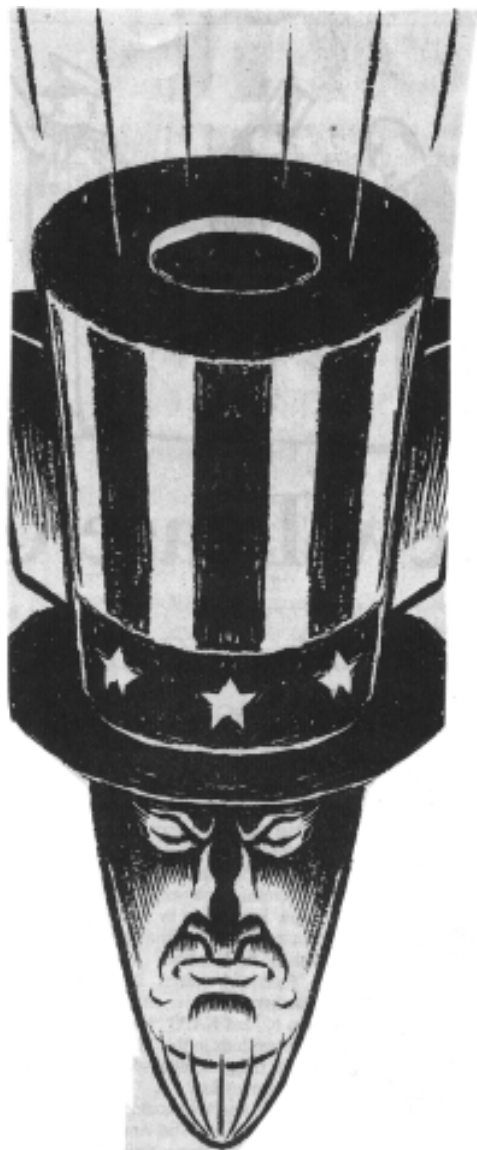
Act: *Call, Visit and Write:*

Senator Christopher Dodd 100 Great Meadow Rd. Wethersfield, CT 06109 Phone: (860) 258-6940

Senator Joseph Lieberman 1 Constitution Plaza, 7th Fl., Hartford, CT 06103 Phone: (860) 549-8463

Congressman John Larson: 221 Main St., 2nd Fl. Hartford, CT 06106, Phone: (860) 278-8888

Join or start a vigil for peace outside your Congresspersons office



for more information contact: The Hartford Catholic Worker at 26 Clark St, Htd 06120 or at doucot@sbcglobal.net