

# An Occupation by Any Other Name: Iraq 11 Years Later



## Visibility Action

Wednesday, March 19,  
2014

3:30-6:00 PM

NE Couch &  
Martin Luther King Jr Blvd  
(East End of Burnside Bridge)

TriMet bus lines 6, 12, 19 or 20  
or Central Loop streetcar

March 19 marks 11 years since the US invasion of Iraq. A visibility action using the "Tower of Peace" will remind motorists, cyclists and pedestrians that the US still has a large presence in Iraq despite the 2011 "withdrawal."

The US operates the world's largest embassy in Baghdad, with thousands of diplomats, "contractors" and military personnel. In December, the US sold weapons to Iraq ostensibly to fight spillover from the Syrian conflict. The US similarly supported Saddam Hussein during the Iran-Iraq war and then began "Gulf War" in 1991 in part because they claimed Iraq's military capability needed to be obliterated. Meanwhile, basic necessities are still not universally available to Iraqis 23 years since the imposition of sanctions, and internal fighting that did not exist prior to the 2003 invasion kills hundreds each month.

*Event coordinated by Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group.*

*Cosponsors include War Resisters League-Portland, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom-Portland, Peace Action Group of the First Unitarian Church, 18th Avenue Peace House, American Friends Service Committee, Portland Peaceful Response Coalition, Veterans for Peace Chapter 72, Recruiter Watch, No Nukes NW and RadCast.*

**For more info: Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group**  
**(503) 236-3065    [iraq@pjw.info](mailto:iraq@pjw.info)    [www.pjw.info/iraq.html](http://www.pjw.info/iraq.html)    Find event on **