20 Years Later, the US is Still in Iraq End the F-35 Fighter Jet Program

Rally and March

Friday, March 17 2023 5:00-6:00 PM

Please mask up and stay distanced for safety

Pioneer Courthouse Square (SW Yamhill and Broadway)

As of August last year, there were roughly 2,500 US troops still in Iraq [source: Getty]

Al Arabiya January 8, 2023

Drone shot down over Iragi air base,

A drone was shot down over an Iraqi air base hosting US forces, the Iraqi military said on Sunday.

Ain al-Asad, hosting US forces

On March 19, 2003, the US launched a massive invasion and occupation of Iraq, based on George W. Bush's false assertions of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and leading to mass devastation from a "shock and awe" bombing campaign. In 2011, President Barack Obama withdrew most of the troops. In 2014, Obama sent more US military back into Iraq to engage in warfare against the Islamic State. In 2017, President Donald Trump stepped up the bombing, destroying most of the Iraqi city of Mosul. In 2020, Trump ordered the assassination in Iraq of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani, leading to a vote by the Iraqi Parliament to eject all US troops. Yet in December 2021, President Joe Biden decided to leave 2500 American military personnel in Iraq, where they remain to this day.

While the world continues to be rightfully appalled at Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the US has never been held accountable for the attack on Iraq, Afghanistan, or countless other military and economic acts of warfare.

Iraqis have not been free from US interference by war, sanctions and other means since August, 1990. Iraq's infrastructure has never fully recovered from the the 1991 "Gulf War," the 2003 invasion or other American-led actions. Join us for this march and rally to call for an end to the US occupation.

Meanwhile, the US is set to invest \$1.7 trillion on a wasteful combat aircraft program. Many of the over 220 organizations who signed a letter in October are using the Iraq war anniversary to call for an end to the F-35 fighter jet, citing "harm caused abroad, cost to the taxpayer, inefficiencies, failures, environmental impact, and the effects training has on local communities."

Event coordinated by Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group.

For more info: Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group(503) 236-3065iraq@pjw.infowww.pjw.info/Iraq.html