



TO STOP THIS WAR

LET HISTORY JUDGE

Asked how history would judge the war in Iraq, President Bush replied, "We won't know. We'll all be dead." But the world already knows what Bush does not—the war in Iraq is a disaster.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

* Participate in protests against the occupation.

* Write to your Congress member.

* Vote in the national election and encourage others to vote.

* Organize educational forums and debates about the Bush "war on terrorism."

* Visit our website:

www.historiansagainstawar.org

* Download teaching materials for use in your classroom or your community group and/or join HAW.

* Send a contribution to support newspaper ads, publications, and other activities.

other activities.

WHO WE ARE

Founded in January 2003, Historians Against the War (HAW) is a national network that opposes the U.S. occupation of Iraq, the expansion of empire, and the encroachment on civil liberties. We engage in public educational campaigns involving panels, publications, teach-ins, website information, and demonstrations.

**Historians Against the War
Pamphlet #4**

www.historiansagainstawar.org

residents and expanded domestic spying operations. Under the novel designation "enemy combatant," it has kept people in illegal detention, a practice condemned recently by the Supreme Court. In addition, it has fabricated evidence to manipulate world opinion, repeatedly lied to Congress and the American people, and engaged in demagoguery and "dirty tricks" to discredit its opponents. *Therefore...*

We call upon the government to stop the lies and fabrications; repeal the Patriot Act; cease the use of torture; obey the Geneva conventions; renounce all claims to secret military tribunals; release those detained because of ethnicity or religion; and, in general, respect Constitutional and international legal protections for citizens and non-citizens alike.



LET HISTORY JUDGE

Asked how history would judge

the war in Iraq, President Bush replied, "We won't know. We'll all be dead." But the world already knows what Bush does not-the war in Iraq is a disaster. Launched in a fog of lies, the war violated international prohibitions against wars of aggression, sowed chaos and carnage in Iraq, provoked acts of terror world-wide, led to shameful abuses of human rights, and subverted democracy in the United States. Already hundreds of Americans and thousands of Iraqis have paid with their lives. How many more deaths, prison scandals, and assaults on the Constitution will be necessary to bring the Bush administration to account?

"PRE-EMPTIVE" WAR FOR AMERICAN EMPIRE

Invoking a novel interpretation

of "pre-emptive" war, the Bush administration waged war on a state that posed no imminent threat to its Middle Eastern neighbors, let alone to the United States. This war of aggression in violation of United Nations and Nuremberg principles is the latest in a string of U.S. imperial interventions. However, in openly embracing aggressive, "pre-emptive" war and brazenly dismissing international law, it is also a

dangerous departure. Emboldened by the collapse of the Soviet Union, the attempt at direct military domination goes beyond previous U.S. practice in the Middle East. History offers many examples of great powers laid low by their own arrogance, including the United States in Vietnam. We cannot stand idly by while the lessons of history are ignored with such disastrous consequences. *Therefore...*

We call upon the United States government to renounce the unilateral doctrine of "pre-emptive" war and give up the fantasy of permanent military dominance. Instead, the US must rejoin the world community, respect the rights of self-determination, and turn its unparalleled wealth and power to the pursuit of global peace and justice.

THE U.S. OCCUPATION AND IRAQI SOVEREIGNTY

When claims about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction proved to be hollow fabrications, the Bush Administration claimed to be spreading democracy. Nothing could be further from the truth. So long as ultimate power is in the hands of a foreign military, the occupation is a

throwback to colonialism, not an exercise in democracy. The Middle East is littered with the ruins of failed empires-Ottoman, British, French-and widespread resistance in Iraqi points to a similar fate for the United States. In the meantime, the occupation has severely damaged America's moral reputation, separated it from its friends, and swelled the ranks of its enemies. It has made the Middle East and the world more dangerous, not less. It has increased the threat of terrorism, not reduced it. *Therefore...*

We call upon the United States government to immediately cease all offensive actions, begin the prompt withdrawal of all U.S. troops, and transfer responsibility for security to authorities chosen by Iraqis. For this purpose, democratic elections, with the assistance of the international community, are the most urgent priority for recovering Iraqi sovereignty.

THE SUBVERSION OF DEMOCRACY

Using the pretext of a permanent war on terror, the Bush administration has undermined hard-won democratic freedoms. As in earlier times of war and Red Scare, the administration has violated civil liberties through mass round-ups and deportations of foreign