

## Commission on allied war crimes holds first hearing

by Katharine Kanter

*"What paid off was the death of Goering, not words denouncing him." That grim sentence spoken by French lawyer Maître Oussedik gives an idea of the state of mind of the hundred or so who gathered in Brussels on June 13-15 as witnesses to allied war crimes in the Persian Gulf. Many had flown in from North Africa, the Mideast, and Asia.*

*A Belgian group called Coordination Against the Gulf War invited the Commission of Inquiry into Allied War Crimes, called into being two months ago by former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, to hold its first European hearing in their capital. About half the members of the audience had recently been to Iraq and were in a state of delayed shock; it may seem an odd thing to say, but no one smiled or laughed during the entire meeting.*

*This was perhaps the most high-powered assembly ever brought together to indict George Bush's "new world order," including some of the most qualified specialists in international law, criminal law, and medicine of the Muslim world. From a multitude of different factions and political parties, all the speakers agreed on two basic truths: Since August 1990, Iraq has been the victim of a hostile blockade which can only be compared to the siege of a medieval city, and the allied aim is to draw the siege out until virtually the entire population lies dead within the city walls. Even had war-fighting never broken out, millions would still die. Second, thanks to the willing whores of the press, the European and American people know little or nothing of a war immoral beyond belief, a war which will unleash revolution in the Muslim world. Anyone who heard what these people had to say and still thinks that "the rage will blow over in a few weeks and we will be back to business as usual with our little Arab friends," has another think coming.*

*From some of the main speeches, I have tried to bring out the most important, the most novel points made, while*

*avoiding those already made in EIR in recent weeks.*

*This report was prepared on the spot without the aid of stenographic record, and the speakers' remarks are paraphrased unless otherwise noted. Due to the urgency of the matter, we prefer to go to press now rather than wait until transcripts are made available. We pray that the Commission and our readers excuse slight inaccuracies in reporting and any misspelling of proper and place names.*

### **Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General**

We must return to the idea that there are absolute rights pertaining to every person on the planet. Society is the basis for those rights, but the whole of society is in danger of being destroyed by the war in the Gulf. We will be holding hearings worldwide, 32 in the U.S. alone, until about December 1991, when we hope to have come to some conclusions which will be presented to an International War Crimes Tribunal. The purpose of the hearings is first, to gather evidence, and second, to educate the people, because it is in the people that the power to act on the final resolution rests.

An international criminal court of justice under the U.N. may be needed. Nuremberg was *ex post facto* and victors' justice, and the defendants' questions on Hamburg, Dresden, and Hiroshima were ruled out of order. If, however, the Nuremberg principles were to be applied *prospectively*, the defect of the Nuremberg trials themselves would be cured. We need changes in our criminal codes to get at those who wantonly and willfully destroy in war, the means of civilian life. The language of existing war crimes law on that score, is too vague.

The most important of all the charges in the act of indictment we have drawn up, is that of crimes against the peace, because *there was a plot*. General Schwarzkopf in 1989 gave

testimony to Congress on a possible "war between two small countries in the Gulf." CIA director William Webster in that same year, said by the year 2,000, a quarter of U.S. oil supplies would have to come from the Gulf, and that we needed "power" to maintain that supply. In July 1990, the Pentagon was simulating a mobilization of 200,000 U.S. troops to stop an invasion of Kuwait.

I call upon American citizens who have evidence supporting any of the charges, to come forward and contact the Commission of Inquiry. The U.N. has become an instrument of war by bribery. The abstention of China was bought. Yemen's credits were cut off. We need to abolish the Security Council because it stands for victors' justice. There were victory parades in the U.S.A. People seduced into celebrating a slaughter have no vision, and we know what happens to a nation that has no vision.

*On the evening of June 14, the Commission held a public meeting in the Flemish University of Brussels, to which about 400 students came. Ramsey Clark spoke last:*

"Within about 20 years, 80% of the world's population will have beautiful, darker skins. Their lives will be short, cruel, and miserable, unless we—and I mean everyone of us—act now." At these concluding words, the audience rose to its feet and gave him a standing ovation of several minutes.

### **Frans Wuytack from Belgium, a member of the Gulf Peace Team**

*After summarizing the medical disaster he had witnessed in Iraq, Wuytack said:*

There was never an embargo. It was a hostile blockade, in international law that is an act of war. From the outset, food and medicine were shut off. Anyone who supported the "embargo" knew or must have known what the consequences would be. The blockade was premeditated murder. How could Europeans stand for this? Is this the Europe of "human rights"? Is this the Europe of the Strasbourg Court? The aim of starving out the Iraqi people, was to bring society back to an atomized state, to reduce Iraq to utter chaos. In some South American jails I have seen, they tried to do the same thing. The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) got the Nobel prize in 1985, but when they denounced this, they got no press coverage. Seventy-seven Americans tried to get President Truman indicted for mass murder, and the United States should remember this now.

### **Prof. Dr. Miguel de Estéfano Pisano, Department of International Law, University of Havana, Cuba**

The U.N. Charter disallows virtually everything which Resolution 678 purported to allow. Resolution 678 resembles nothing so much as the *patente de corso*, or buccaneering license, which kings used to issue to their favorite pirates. Chapter 6, Chapter 7, and Chapter 8 in particular of the Charter have been ignored. There exists overwhelming proof that the U.S. sabotaged negotiations at every turn, whereas the

Charter stipulates that all means to treat must have been exhausted. Nor were the regional bodies of the Arab world convoked, consulted, and brought into the negotiations as the Charter calls for. The U.S. intervenes militarily in Latin America, but has never convoked the Organization of American States before so doing! Who is in breach of the U.N. Charter?

Resolution 678 is an ultimatum, whereas the Security Council is not empowered to issue ultimatums to member states. The conflict stems from border and other contentious issues, which only an International Court such as The Hague, and not the Security Council, may contemplate. Again, only an International Court may decide on the issue of reparations. The Security Council cannot "decide" that Iraq shall pay reparations. If 30% of Iraq's oil goes to reparations, it will live 100 years of misery. In 1986, the court at The Hague condemned the U.S. to pay Nicaragua reparations for deprivations caused by U.S. forces; not a penny has ever been paid over. Such is the U.S. respect for the rule of law.

The new world order Bush and his allies speak of, is identical in all its terms to the Tripartite Agreement between Italy, Germany, and Japan before World War II.

### **Maitre Claude Harb, a Lebanese lawyer living in Brussels**

I have here a photocopy of a handwritten note from the Emir of Kuwait, dated July 31, 1990, which I will leave with the Commission as evidence. On that day, the Iraqi Vice President, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, and the Crown Prince of Kuwait, met in Jeddah to discuss the contentions between Iraq and Kuwait. An agreement satisfactory to all parties was arrived at, in several points, which the parties agreed to sign the following morning at 9:30. In the night, the Crown Prince received the note I have here, which I will read to you and which speaks for itself (paraphrase):

We take part in this meeting under our own conditions, alone. What matters are our interests, alone. That is the advice which I have received from our friends in London and Washington.

The next morning, the Crown Prince of course refused to sign, and the negotiations were broken off. Note, that although Saudi Arabia signed a non-aggression pact with Iraq in 1989, Kuwait refused to sign. I draw to your attention the yawning gap between the way the Syrian invasion of Lebanon has been treated by the Western powers, and that of Kuwait.

We know that there are at least 24 mass graves of Iraqi soldiers, but we have received no cooperation from the allied authorities to discover the identities of those who are buried there.

### **Maitre Oussedik, a French criminal lawyer**

*Maitre Oussedik, of Algerian origin, has more than 40 years experience in the French and Algerian courts with*

*cases of the most sensitive and dangerous nature.*

I have myself seen how France has acted to suspend civil rights in this crisis, under the "Vigipirate" ("Monitor Pirates") police action plan. On the basis of racial and religious criteria, when the Gulf crisis erupted and France made known what side she was on, Muslims living in France, including French citizens of long standing, were picked up. I give the case of 20 persons, arrested and expelled under the procedure known as "absolute urgency."

These men could not see their lawyers. There were told they were being sent to Yemen and that Yemen would take them. In fact, they were to be flown from Yemen straight to

## Technology can ensure a decent life for everyone

*Extracts from the Resolution of the Estates General of the Coordination against the Gulf War, Brussels, April 6, 1991:*

The Coordination demands the complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from Iraq and the Gulf. . . . The sovereignty of Iraq must be respected. . . . We oppose the plans to divide and Lebanonize the region, which will lead to more civil wars. . . .

For the Northern countries, "international law" has become Might makes Right. . . . We reject the New World Order which the U.S. and the Northern countries wish to impose on the North. . . . We demand that the Security Council of the U.N. be eliminated. . . .

We demand the cancellation of Third World debt, with all interest and other taxes. . . . We demand that state-of-the-art technologies be transferred to the Third World for their benefit. . . .

We demand that all foreign military bases in the Third World be taken down and their troops withdrawn. . . . The absolute priority for disarmament, is not to disarm the Third World, but to disarm the North. To disarm the South first, only means maintaining the North's political and military hold over the South. . . .

Modern technology makes it possible to ensure a decent way of life to every person on the planet. But the West is refusing to use this technological knowledge to develop the Third World. . . .

The Gulf war was the first experiment with "middle-intensity conflicts," a strategy developed to fight the Third World. . . . We are opposed to the principle of NATO out-of-area deployments, which target in reality the Third World.

Baghdad, which for some could have meant death. But under French law, when you deport a man, you must put him on the frontier of *his* choice. A commissar of the French government admitted to me that against 18 of the 20 people, no criminal charges could possibly be upheld. But the Administrative Tribunal agreed to their expulsion. Only thanks to the intervention of the Algerian ambassador in Yemen, was I able to prevent some from being sent on to Baghdad. Now they are dispersed all over the Maghreb.

If we allow this process to go on, we face fascism on a planetary scale. At Nuremberg, it was said that crimes against humanity form a category of crime greater than any discrete attack on human rights. There was never a declaration of war by the allies against Iraq, yet they committed deeds worse than any foreseen by the law of war. We are not here to denounce. It was not words, denunciations, at Nuremberg that mattered. It was the death of Goering that paid off. At Nuremberg, certain nations which should have sat in the dock were omitted. Shall we bury in the cellar yet again, these fresh war crimes they have committed and are committing? We owe it to the dead and those who will die because of this war, to restore their dignity and bring the criminals to justice.

### **George Kazolias, Radio France International**

*An American journalist responsible for English-language broadcasts of the French national radio foreign service.*

The job of the journalists is as dirty as the generals and politicians. My department head at RFI told me: "It is better that the Americans control the oil." Then he said, "Iraqi imperialism must be stopped." We invented the "Fourth Biggest Army of the World—Iraq," every word a lie. A journalist at RFI who was in Turkey reported: "Turks 100% behind the war." So why did two Turkish defense ministers resign, why were there huge demos? In August, pro-Iraqi demos were banned in France. I went out and asked French Muslims what they thought. I say they were 100% against the war.

For this I was harassed by the police. The police told me: "You are a journalist. You should know better." One journalist at my work called me "Hitler" for eight weeks. Our section chief would not allow us to interview a very famous writer, Gilles Perrault, who called on the French soldiers not to go to the war and to sabotage the war effort. One journalist I saw watching the dead brought forth from the Amariyah shelter in Baghdad, laughed and said "burnt toast" as the bodies came up, and almost danced for joy; he was the one who was nearly crying when he saw the bruised face of an American pilot shown on Iraqi TV.

CNN said, "Seven Iraqi naval vessels of the Zodiac class were destroyed by the British Navy today." Did you know that a Zodiac is a rubber raft?

Information is a weapon. Journalists are mercenaries. They are hired by someone who has interests. They are well

paid, and they usually agree with what is expected of them. Most of the people in my office thought I should have been fired because I “refused to do my job.” What job? The journalists are covered in the blood of the Iraqi people. It is a myth that the media are independent. Big money, the same money behind the war, runs the media. General Electric owns NBC and they are big defense contractors. Do not forget to condemn the journalists at this tribunal. They are more conscious soldiers than the cannon fodder. The real heroes are the protesters and the GI deserters who got no media time. In France, the suburban youth have been rioting. They greeted the journalists with stones and bottles. Those kids know what journalists are.

### **Gerard de Selis, journalist at Radio Television Belgium**

The media invented 70,000 dead when it was time to overthrow Nicolae Ceausescu, but they have seen no dead in Iraq.

*Reads from the Belgian Criminal Code, on accessories to crime.* Our penal code defines precisely what the behavior of the media was. They are acting as accessories to an ongoing crime against humanity. I am not speaking rhetorically. I believe that we must formally establish the criminal responsibility of the media, and their criminal intent (*mens rea*, in French, *intentionnalité*). We must gain access to the internal memoranda on how to report the war circulated within the major press outlets, and analyze them.

All journalists working in the area of international affairs may be presumed to have read the basic international law texts and the U.N. Charter. At any rate, it is impossible that *all* journalists in the West ignored the fact that a hostile blockade is not an embargo. The fact that every single press outlet presented the blockade as an embargo is a proof of criminal intent. *All* journalists could not have made the exact same mistake.

Article 33 of the U.N. Charter says that *all* members of the Security Council must vote for the use of force. But China abstained. The use of force was null and void. Not one journalist mentioned that fact.

Article 47 of the Charter says that once the use of force has been decided upon, the General Staff shall be drawn from *all* members of the Security Council. China and Russia were not among the allies, I believe. No journalist mentioned that breach.

The journalists spilt rivers of ink over the Western experts held in Iraq before December 1990. But under the hostile blockade, 18 million Iraqis were de facto hostages.

A journalist is under a duty to check out every claim he may make. Every international specialist knew that Iraq did not have the world's fourth largest army. That hoax and the hoax over the “immense fortifications in Kuwait” laid the groundwork for the murderous air attacks. The journalists who spread such lies are accessories.

Such journalists are as much combatants as the men who sat at the controls of the fighter-bombers.

### **Maitre Ben Abdallah Said, Algerian lawyer, vice president, Algerian Red Crescent**

The Algerian Red Crescent has been completely isolated in the course of this war. I have spoken to an eyewitness of events in Iraq, Mr. Ouasti Abdel Mallek, regional director of Algerian Press Service. He was in Iraq between Jan. 21 and March 4. On three separate occasions, he saw the explosion of special munitions, which had a blast like that of atomic weapons. Some 20 kilometers east of Baghdad, one of these explosions devastated 10 hectares of palm trees in a fraction of a second, and killed the herds grazing there. Mr. Abdel Mallek saw wounded Iraqi soldiers left to die on the Basrah road. But the allies gave them no aid.

We set up a Committee to Support the Iraqi People, and we sent medical teams there by the dozens. They could do nothing, because the whole infrastructure of the country was being destroyed, and the medical supplies had run out.

Off the port of Algiers, a few weeks ago, the ship *Ores*, bearing 4,000 tons of medicine and electrical generators for humanitarian purposes, was boarded in international waters by allied sailors. The ship was their prisoner for 17 days. I was in Algiers and talked to our prime minister. He called in the American chargé d'affaires and told him to have the ship released. The chargé replied, “I will transmit your request.” Our prime minister said, “It is not a request, it is a demand that you obey the law.” By that time, the crew of the *Ores* had run out of water and food. The U.S. Navy “consented” to the ship continuing its voyage—if it returned first to Suez and unloaded the electrical generators. The crew had no choice but to comply.

The United States has stopped the press from reporting what the bombing has done. The U.S. is not the savior of the world but the author of crimes against humanity. They have made no excuse nor even offered to pay reparations. How dare the U.S. demand Iraq pay reparations?

### **Ross Mirkarami, Arms Control Research Center, San Francisco**

Before the war broke out, we already had begun to warn, with the help of people like King Hussein's scientific adviser and John Cox, what was about to happen. The damage we did to Vietnam, the Chernobyl and *Exxon Valdez* incidents, pale in comparison with what we have done to Iraq and Kuwait.

There has never before been on this planet a single intense burning source as great as that of the 500 oil wells still on fire in Kuwait. This is equivalent to the eruption of the greatest volcanoes known. Nitrogen, sulfur oxides, soot particles, unburned oil, and toxic chemicals are being released, many are highly carcinogenic. Dr. Paul Krutzen of the Max Planck Institute at Mainz believes that if only 1% of these soot particles reach the stratosphere, solar radiation over the Western Hemisphere will drop by 2-3%. Oil rain has been found east of Kashmir and in Bulgaria. This may disrupt the monsoon cycles in the Indian subcontinent, leading to the death by starvation of millions. It may take 2-3 years to put these fires out. The

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California has developed a technology to fight these fires, other than that of the Bechtel Corp. and Red Adair, but the Kuwaiti government keeps the equipment blocked on the border. Why?

No journalist ever asked Schwarzkopf in a press conference, what the effects of bombing Iraq's two nuclear containment vessels were. Twenty-five kilometers north of Samara, there were two chemical factories, producing highly toxic chemicals. Schwarzkopf said they would bomb them. Was there release of chemicals? No journalist asked, and we have not been told. An anthrax factory was bombed, 50 people are known to have died immediately; anthrax is a spore used in biological warfare. Only because the weather was very dry and the spore died quickly, did we avoid a catastrophe. The anthrax affair was blacked out of the U.S. media. We heard about it because someone remembered to monitor Canadian radio.

### **Dr. Eric Hoskins, medical coordinator, Gulf Peace Team**

As we published a text by Dr. Hoskins in *EIR* on May 31, which reproduced the main points of his speech, I will only mention here that he showed slides taken on his most recent visit to Iraq, notably of children with massive burns due to kerosene spills (the only fuel available for cooking and heating as all the fuel lines were bombed) and overturned pots of boiling water which are on the kitchen fire day and night to be sterilized, as there is no drinking water. A Belgian doctor noted that in Iraq now, anyone with even 25% burns has only a 5% chance of survival. There are no antibiotics and no burn wards functioning, so all burns become septic.

Dr. Hoskins also showed a slide of a little girl who, like many others, had drunk kerosene due to all-consuming thirst. He said that the figure of 170,000 children (Harvard Medical Team estimates) who risk death is far too low. Eighteen million Iraqis risk death, he concluded.

Other doctors who read or had their papers read to the Commission, or who were interviewed on film, gave some idea of how much the allegedly "satanic" Baath regime had really invested in the Iraqi people before the war. Malnutrition was virtually unknown before August 1990; the last known case of the protein deficiency disease kwashiorkor dated from 1959. Some 98% of all Iraqi children were vaccinated against the standard childhood diseases. The last known case of polio was found in 1988. But all vaccination programs had to be called off in September 1990 when the supplies ran out. All medicine for cancer ran out by December 1990. Now, in a sample of 500 children taken in April at the Amara hospital, 50 had kwashiorkor, 200 had marasmus (another disease linked to malnutrition), 300 had severe diarrhea, and 100 had enteric fever.

The country had at least 1,195 ambulances before the war. Now only 225 are left in something like working order. A doctor interviewed on videotape at that hospital said that virtually *all* children over the age of six months, i.e., children who are no longer being breastfed, are sick. In any case,

most mothers are so dehydrated and malnourished, that they have no more milk. The same doctor said that very rare forms of malnutrition, such as rickets and pica (children eating dirt because of iron deficiency) had reappeared. All the doctors interviewed agreed that the samples of hospital population are very misleading because, whereas 94% of the Iraqis before the war had easy access to health care centers, now that 90% of the transport grid and virtually all the country's bridges have been bombed, most of the population can no longer even crawl to a hospital.

### **Prof. Jean-Phillipe Peemans, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium**

The Thatcher-Reagan era corresponds to a new, hard line by the North against the South. Can it be an accident that it was precisely the old, imperial powers behind this? Their new line was that poverty is due to the fact that there are too many Third World nations, and that they are badly run. In the 1980s, Third World countries were expected to "get back into the fold" of one big power or another. There has never been a period when the Northern countries were so united against the South in the neo-liberal international order.

The North feared there would grow up a social movement, led by individuals or countries in the Third World able to mobilize their public opinion, so those individuals and nations were targeted for destruction. When the U.S.S.R. recently "rejoined" the North, all hope died for the South. The North has become nothing but a network of cartels selling to client states. Iraq was made into an object lesson for the rest of the Third World.

What is most dangerous of all is how politics is being criminalized. Your political adversary suddenly turns into a "criminal." The war in the Gulf was nothing but a "police action." The "baddies" are in the South, they are like Satan, the "goodies" are in the North. The baddies of course, are those who had some real power, some chance of opposing the policies of the North.

The notion of how law is defined has been degraded into how to get real, tangible conquests, enforced by international institutions and the U.N. Look at what the Europeans demanded from China after the Boxer Rebellion. We have a moral duty to rise up against this, and also to denounce the perversion of words, of principles, and of ideas.

### **Taher Add Algabbar Abdalla, a Palestinian who got out of Kuwait on May 21**

I myself have seen how Palestinians and Jordanians in Kuwait are being treated since the "Liberation." In the first days after the allies entered, the vans with food and fresh water deliberately passed by the houses where the Palestinians and Jordanians live. I have seen youths beaten over and over, and little old men thrown to the ground. To get ID cards and drivers' licenses, they had to go down on their knees and wait for hours.

Some 9,520 persons had been arrested by May 21, I got that

from official sources. Of that number, 6,500 were Palestinian or Jordanian, and 40 were very young girls; 220 persons have disappeared. I myself saw American soldiers participating in the looting of the Palestinian Red Crescent. The office of the PLO was looted. I also know of two mass graves.

I will tell you about the torture which is being inflicted on the captured Palestinians and Jordanians, who have been held sometimes 80 to a cell in the Military Prison, also in the Youth Detention Center 15 to a cell, and the Sixth Detention Center. The Military Prison became so filthy, that an official could stand the smell for only one minute. He ordered that the prisoners be taken out of there. People have been burned with cigarettes, pieces of their skin have been cut out and they have been forced to eat that. The nose and ears of five Egyptians were cut. Nails were put into people and electric shock applied to the nails. Fish-scaling knives were put to their backs and salt applied to the wounds. People were put into the trunk of a car and left in the Sun. People were kept without water or food for several days. People have been raped.

In one room called the Room of Rapes, 13 people died; this is known. Their bodies were taken out at night. Amnesty International knows this. In the Youth Prison, people can wash and put on clean dress only when the Red Cross visits. Five people were shot for telling visitors how bad the conditions really are. The family of the Emir works with the vigilante groups, who kidnap people and take them to villas where they are beaten and tortured.

The Army, the volunteers, and the militiamen are all working together. It is an organized campaign. The American Embassy and the Red Cross know about it. Everything that has happened is in full knowledge of the allied troops. Everyone in Kuwait believes that these actions are directed out of the U.S. Embassy.

The Special Courts are kangaroo courts. They are there to rubberstamp sentences.

### Press blackout

On June 14, the Commission released a statement referring to the Security Council's decision on June 12 to maintain the embargo. The Commission called for an immediate and total lifting of that blockade, and attacked the proposal to siphon off 30% of Iraq's oil revenue, which would "condemn Iraq to underdevelopment for decades." Only the Flemish-language newspapers in Belgium (*Morgen*, *Post*, and *Volk*) covered the press conference and the hearings. Not one word appeared in *Le Soir* and *Libre Belgique*—clearly, for French-speaking Belgium with its ties to Paris, the meeting had never taken place!

More than a footnote to history: your *EIR* reporter was apparently the only British journalist present, nor were there any American reporters to be seen. Furthermore, the act of indictment in 19 counts drawn up by the Commission cites as accused: George Bush, Dan Quayle, James Baker, Richard Cheney, William Webster, Gen. Colin Powell, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, "and others to be named." In spite of the egre-

gious, indeed shamelessly forward role played by the British government in "stiffening America's resolve" and the personal involvement of the English Queen in pressing for action, not one British name appears on the charge sheet. I do not believe that the Commission could have overlooked England by an oversight. Rather, it is likely that not one Englishman has had the courage to step forward and draw up the charges against his own countrymen. Cannot someone be found with the stomach to remedy this?

## 'Strange supporters for Kurdistan'

*The following article by Tino Delabie originally appeared in the Brussels newspaper Solidaire on April 10.*

The present imperialist campaign to "help" the Kurds, brings the idea of "right of interference" and "duty to intervene" one step further. Resolution 688 of the Security Council, authorizing . . . international help to be given the Kurds, is qualified as historic by the bourgeois press. How true! It is an important stride forward for imperialism, because they have gained a "juridical" base for their interventions. Are you surprised to learn that the cunning craftsman behind the resolution is the French Foreign Minister [Roland] Dumas, who last year proposed a similar intervention in Romania? Are you surprised to hear [German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich] Genscher speak of "genocide by Saddam Hussein," when it is the French and the German imperialists in the [European Community] EC who are pushing for a rapid deployment force? . . .

The Trotskyists are calling for the "Iraqi troops to withdraw from Kurdistan," which, as things now stand, boils down to preventing the Iraqi government from resisting the Lebanization of Iraq. Within the pacifist movement, there are people who have been genuinely concerned, for years, about the Kurds. . . . That is exactly the reason why they should not allow themselves to be manipulated by the imperialists now, and should instead take on those who are the true authors of the present crisis. The peace movement must demand that all foreign troops withdraw from Iraq and from the Gulf, that the embargo be lifted, that Iraq be indemnified for all the harm caused by the blockade and by the war, that Iraq's debts to the Allies be canceled, that massive humanitarian aid be brought in to her people. . . .