

# WAR on EARTH

**World Military Spending** \$900 bn (approx.)<sup>1</sup>  
**US Military Spending** \$453 bn (officially)<sup>2</sup>

Iraq spent \$1.4 bn in 2001.<sup>3</sup> And our other “potential enemies”?

<b>Iran</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>Syria</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>N. Korea</b>	<b>2.1</b>	
<b>Libya</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>Cuba</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>Sudan</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>TOTAL \$10.5 bn<sup>3</sup></b>

“The US military is currently deployed to more locations than it has been throughout history.”<sup>4</sup> In 2001 it had bases in 63 countries and 255,065 troops abroad in a total of 156 countries.<sup>5</sup> Why? Consider:

**World Energy Consumption** 9,458 m metric tons oil equivalent<sup>6</sup>  
**US Energy Consumption** 2,162 m (22%, for 4.6% of the people)

It’s not just oil — it’s *all* resources. The US is using five times its share of everything and trying to maintain this by force and threats. While:

**“The U.S. Department of Defense is, in fact, the world’s largest polluter, producing more hazardous waste per year than the five largest U.S. chemical companies combined.”<sup>7</sup>**

Yet President Bush is trying to *relax* environmental laws for the military.<sup>8</sup>

**War is even worse for the environment.** Depleted uranium lasts effectively forever.<sup>9</sup> Tanks measure consumption in gallons per mile (it can take five gallons just to start the engine of an M-1).<sup>10</sup> One B-2 needs over 80,000 gallons (and five refuelings) for a single mission.<sup>11</sup> People suffer and die — and so do birds, plants, animals, insects, and the very land itself. The desert won’t recover for decades, if at all.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup>State Dept estimates \$852 bn (1999) but US spending has risen; SIPRI, \$839 bn (2001), but admits that is probably too low <sup>2</sup>whitehouse.gov; War Resisters League says \$804 bn, incl. VA, etc. <sup>3</sup>cdi.org <sup>4</sup>DoD, quoted by BBC 10/6/02 <sup>5</sup>DoD, cited at war-times.org <sup>6</sup>wri.org <sup>7</sup>Dollars and Sense 3/13/03 <sup>8</sup>NY Times 3/22/03 <sup>9</sup>See cadu.org.uk and unep.org <sup>10</sup>NY Times 3/28/03 <sup>11</sup>SF Chron 4/26/03 <sup>12</sup>SF Chron 3/27/03

This flyer & more by Pete Shanks are posted at [wordsontheweb.com/Peace/Iraq.html](http://wordsontheweb.com/Peace/Iraq.html); volunteer labor

***The war’s not just to control the Earth  
It’s a war against the Earth***

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# War without end?

*“Well first of all, we just started. The country isn’t secure yet.”*

—President Bush, 4/24/03<sup>1</sup>

He was talking about Iraq, where the prevailing sentiment seems to be

*“No to imperialism, no to Israel, no to America, no to Saddam”*<sup>2</sup>

Guns are being sold openly in the Baghdad bazaar.<sup>3</sup> Iraqis shoot at GIs trying to save babies after an ammo dump explodes, and chant: “America’s no better than Saddam.”<sup>4</sup> *“We are not concerned with what the Americans think of us,”* says Mullah Haeri in Qom. “We do not deal with the Americans whatsoever.”<sup>4</sup> Are 150 long-term exiles selected by Paul Wolfowitz really going to run Iraq?<sup>4</sup> Even as a front?

*Afghanistan is still “a combat zone”*<sup>5</sup>

There is no law in most of Afghanistan; the Kabul–Kandahar road is still not fixed; there is “no pause in attacks on American bases and Afghan government posts and personnel.”<sup>4</sup> “Warlords terrorize the population with a ‘climate of fear.’”<sup>6</sup> And one of those warlords warns:

*“People think that the war in Iraq has come to an end, but another, guerrilla war, shall begin from this moment on.”*<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>NBC interview <sup>2</sup>Shiites demonstrating in Karbala, *Wash Post* 4/23/03 <sup>3</sup>*Wash Post* 4/26/03 <sup>4</sup>*NY Times* 4/26/03 (four different articles) <sup>5</sup>*SF Chron* 4/26/03 <sup>6</sup>Human Rights Watch, Reuters 4/22/03 <sup>7</sup>AP 4/26/03

## What Can YOU Do Now?

**Speak out** This war inspired the largest worldwide protests ever and still is — join them! **Talk** with your neighbors. **Vote!** Call Congress (202-224-3121); write to your Representatives and your local newspaper. **Educate** yourself. The print media is not all bad, but the web is easier. Check out:

guardian.co.uk news.yahoo.com washingtonpost.com zmag.org  
independent.co.uk commondreams.org indymedia.org mbeaw.org  
San Jose: sanjosepeace.org Bay Area: bapd.org  
Santa Cruz: rcnv.org santacruzpeacecoalition.org

# Bring the Troops Home

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San Jose: sanjosepeace.org Bay Area: bapd.org  
Santa Cruz: rcnv.org santacruzpeacecoalition.org

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