

No Worker, Student, or Soldier Blood for Oil!

Strike! March 5 2003

The promised war is not a war about democracy or terror or justice or peace. It's war for oil, for profits, to position one imperial power against another. Above all it is an *international war of the rich on the poor*—with the rich of the US, especially oil billionaires, leading the charge in battles where the poor will be expected to fight and die. This is an imperialist war of expansion—necessary to capitalism. The US ruling class seeks to invade the world. But we can build a better world inside the crises of the old. We will win—but when, at what cost?

Students, school workers, soldiers, sailors, all poor and working people are under attack by the same tyrants who want to start the oil war. We are expected to pay for their endless wars, their economic collapse, with our blood, our pay cuts, layoffs, ruined medical care, and demolished school systems. Clearly we cannot be united as a nation. Everywhere, working class people and the ruling class have nothing in common—except opposition.

We who work and study and are conscripted into the military because there are so few options to us; *we who work create everything of value*. If we join together in informed resistance, crossing false lines of race, class, nation, creed, and sex—we can resist and win through enlightened action. Very soon, each of us will define what we are—by acting.

We must begin to fight back now. No concessions to the bosses! Fight back when they cut back! Concessions, like agreeing to tuition hikes, layoffs, pay cuts—or war itself—is like giving blood to sharks. They only want more. Our union or student association leaders may want to help organize this decay—claiming they want a voice to be at the table. We don't need to be at the table. We need to organize so power will meet power—at a new table.

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Walk out of school. Leave your job. Go on sick call. Shut them down. Demonstrate that nothing moves without us. We can control the value we create through wise solidarity—which is how we can win freedom, decent caring communities, friendship, and ways to utilize our creativity within the resistance. In the absence of wise resistance: barbarism.

It is not, enough, though, to just walk away. In the long run, it is clear that *we must overcome capitalism* which only offers the people of the world perpetual war. We must go beyond the need to cheat working people, to destroy the earth, to promote fanatical mysticism, to demean loving human connections. We can go beyond capital through struggle and thought.

We must fight, strike, and get smarter, so we can understand how to fight better again—to win. Set up study groups on March 5. Try to answer this: Why is this the best capitalism can offer, and what can we do otherwise? You choose the resources or select readings from the Rouge Forum No Blood For Oil web page.

A Rouge Forum Broadside

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