

# MONEY FOR SERVICES

**We need an alternative to the right wing and sectarian parties here. Left to them the NI peace process has just meant more conflict and greater sectarian polarisation.**

# NOT WAR

Instead of agreeing to be bit players in the war summit they would have been better protesting outside. They could have given a public message to Bush that he is not welcome. They could also have given a public message to Blair that we will not listen to any more talk about no money for our services or about water charges. When it comes to destroying services in Iraq money is no option for Blair. That money should be spent improving services and tackling poverty.

We need a new political party to represent working class people and young people, Catholic and Protestant, in Northern Ireland. We need a party that can represent the tens of thousands who have demonstrated against this war. We need a party that can represent young people who will finish their education only to find a future of dead end jobs and low wages. We need party to represent trade unionists like the firefighters who have had to go on strike for a living wage and to defend the fire service. We need a party that will oppose cuts and privatisation of our services. If an initiative was now taken to bring together trade unions, community organisations and those who have opposed this war the basis for such a party could be laid. The time to act on this is now!



# A WAR FOR OIL & PROFIT

The crushing military might of the US is likely to bring a military 'victory' in Iraq. This will be at the cost of thousands of Iraqi lives, men women and children, as well as the lives of ordinary soldiers from the US and Britain. The result will not be "liberation" , "peace" or "stability".

The real war aim of the US is to occupy Iraq and seize the oil. They have already taken control of 600 oil wells. US corporations are falling over themselves to get the "reconstruction" contracts. This means that the infrastructure of Iraq, and the oil, will be privatised and handed over to foreign firms. This is a war for oil and profit. "Victory" is likely to be followed by a guerrilla war against US occupation and with secessionist movements by the Shias and the Kurds. Meanwhile the military sights of the US administration are turning to other targets, especially Syria.

## Capitalism means war

War and instability are now the very nature of capitalism. To build an anti- war movement that can end such conflict we need to

challenge the system that produces them. We need to fight for an alternative to capitalism, a socialist system in which the wealth of the world, including the oil wealth, would be publicly owned, democratically managed, and used for the common interests of all the people of the planet, not an elite few.

The international movement against the war shows that a challenge to global capitalism can be built. If this movement was linked to the power of the organised working class, and if it was armed with a programme for a socialist alternative to capitalism, a force more powerful than the military might at the disposal of George Bush could be built.

The Socialist Party is affiliated to the Committee for a Workers International which brings together socialists in over forty countries and on every continent. If the warmongers like Bush and Blair can link together internationally those fighting for a global alternative to their system must do so also. That is what the Socialist Party and our sister parties around the world are trying to do.



**"I appeal to all those who want to fight for a socialist alternative to global capitalism and war to join the Socialist Party today"**  
**Joe Higgins TD,**  
**Socialist Party**  
**Dublin West**

I would like to join the Socialist Party ☐ Socialist Youth ☐

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# ***Socialist Party***

**WARMONGERS**  
**NOT**  
**WELCOME**



- ✂ Bush, Blair & Ahern – OUT!
- ✂ Force politicians to boycott the war summit
- ✂ No more blood for oil!
- ✂ Democratic public control of the oil industry
- ✂ Close down the war machine – spend the money waging a war on poverty
- ✂ For a socialist world without war & terror

**George Bush is not here to “assist” the peace process. He has come hoping that his hands on a deal in Northern Ireland can be used internationally as a propaganda weapon. He wants to be portrayed as someone who is interested in peace and conflict resolution here and therefore in Iraq also!**

What is really taking place behind the security barriers is a war council in which Bush and Blair will be arguing about how the spoils of war – the oil and the “reconstruction” contracts will be divvied up between western, mainly US, corporations.

## **Local parties helping Bush**

This visit is not about peace here, it is so that Bush

and Blair can discuss the occupation of Iraq and the subjugation of the Iraqi people. Propaganda is a weapon in any war. By agreeing to take part in this charade the local political parties are helping Bush promote himself as an evangel of world peace. They are helping him in his propaganda war.

The local politicians should have refused to meet him. The Hillsborough summit says as much about them as it does about Tony Blair and George Bush. This is particularly the case with those parties who claim to be against the war. To them the anti war movement has a clear message – it is not possible to be against the war and at the same time sit down in cosy discussions with the warmonger in chief!