

Is Falluja The New Guernica?

Some are asking that question as more information comes to light about recent events in Falluja. Guernica, the Spanish city whose bombing by the facists in the 1930's was immortalized in Picasso's painting of the same name, has come to symbolize the horror of the indiscriminate slaughter of civilians during war.

Thanks to the courage of an embedded cameraman, the world has seen the footage of a U.S. soldier shooting a wounded Iraqi slumped against the wall of a Falluja mosque. Other horrifying details have emerged, including the bombardment of medical clinics, the shooting down of families as they tried to flee the city, U.S. tanks rolling over the bodies of the wounded and the barring of relief agencies like the Red Cross and the Red Crescent from coming to the aid of injured civilians.

The following letter was sent by NJPA President Peggy Monges to Senators Corzine and Lautenberg. Feel free to use it as the basis for your own letter to legislators or to the editor.

Dear Senator:

Listening to the news of the destruction of the Iraqi city of Falluja by U.S. forces has been so painful, I can hardly bear it.

The Iraqi people, who never did anything to harm the American people, are suffering a terrible assault – men, women and children killed and wounded, the Red Crescent denied access to the city, no water, no food, houses flattened, mosques destroyed, dogs eating bodies in the streets. The people of Falluja, and the young Americans who made the assault, are being destroyed.

George Bush said Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, and that was why we invaded Iraq. That lie changed to the lie that we were liberating the Iraqi people. Now we are pounding those same people into oblivion. I cry for the people of Falluja, and I cry for the young people of America, who will have to live with the repercussions from this immoral and genocidal attack on another country. We say George Bush was elected on the basis of his moral values? Jesus, Abraham, Mohammed and Buddha never taught that it was moral to send innocents to slaughter innocents.

It is time to stop this immoral and illegal war in Iraq, and bring our young men and women home.

WANTED: COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

The older computers in the NJPA office hinder our organizing efforts. If you or anyone you know is thinking of upgrading your present system, please think of us. We would gratefully accept (and put to good use!) the following types of equipment:

- ! PC-type computers operating at least one Gigahertz, with hard drives larger than 10 Gigabytes**
- ! CD-ROM or DVD-ROM read/write drives**
- ! Windows Operating Software (legal) produced after 1999**
- ! Microsoft Office Software (legal) produced after 1999**
- ! 17" or 19" monitors with resolutions over 800 X 600**
- ! Laser Printers with graphic resolution greater than 400 dpi**

It would especially help if we could obtain two or three computer ensembles with all these characteristics.