

# FIGHT POVERTY NOT WAR

Over \$875 billion is spent every year on arms. Meanwhile 852 million people in the world go hungry.

If current world arms spending was diverted to feed the world's poor it would end starvation at a stroke and quadruple the income of all the world's poor.

The United States is the biggest culprit in spending the world's wealth on ways of killing people rather than on stopping global poverty.

This year the US arms budget is over \$420 billion. This figure could end world hunger and provide basic healthcare, clean water and education to everyone in the world who need them.

A bloody war and occupation based on lies in Iraq has cost just under \$200 billion since the invasion began. Current spending on the occupation of Iraq is running at over \$230 million per day.

The US has used its enormous wealth to kill 100,000 people in Iraq and plunge the country into chaos rather than help eliminate the needless poverty and suffering of millions.

The sickening priorities of the US and the world's big powers are no accident. The US and western powers deliberately use their military and economic power to secure control of resources in the developing world.

Under pressure from the global justice movements Bush and Blair are now saying they will grant debt relief to the poorest countries. But they are only giving that relief on the basis that they can dictate how those countries are run.

The conditions for aid and debt relief involve demands for the privatisation of key industries and opening up of markets to western multinationals.

US and western corporations want to gain control of key resources like Oil, natural Gas and water in Africa, the Middle east and Latin America. They demand IMF and World Bank control of these economies under threat of economic sanction, political interference or direct military intervention.

Tragically, the Irish government collaborates with the US imperialist project by allowing ten of thousands of US troops through Shannon every month. At the same time they failed to honor their commitments on aid to developing countries.

The Make Poverty History Campaign is mobilizing millions across the world over the next few weeks to demand debt relief, more aid and fair trade for the developing world. We must give all our support to this vital campaign. But we must all demand an end to war, occupation and the international arms trade.

As long as billions are spent on war and arms by the US and big powers to guarantee their power and profits tens of millions across the world will continue to suffer needless poverty.

■ Join the Irish Anti-War Movement contingent on June 30th to say **FIGHT POVERTY NOT WAR**.

■ Travel to Scotland for the G-8 protests with the IAWM from July 1st-3rd.

■ Join the IAWM and help build the movement against war and global injustice here in Ireland.

□ More info or for bus bookings to G-8 protests: [www.irishantiwar.org/](http://www.irishantiwar.org/) / [www.g8alternatives.org/](http://www.g8alternatives.org/) / [info@irishantiwar.org](mailto:info@irishantiwar.org) / 087 8289243

Irish Anti War Movement

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## ***DROP THE DEBT NOT BOMBS***

### **Protest at Bush: G8 Summit**

**July 2-6th, Scotland**

### **Make Poverty History Rally**

**Thur, June 30th, 6.30pm Dublin, Parnell Sq**

**For details on buses to Scotland contact 087 6187680 Or 087 2703564**

**Irish Anti War Movement [www.irishantiwar.org](http://www.irishantiwar.org) [www.g8alternatives.org](http://www.g8alternatives.org)**