



# South Tyneside Stop The War Coalition



C/O Trinity House Social Centre, 134 Laygate, South Shields, NE33 4JD  
email: [s.t.stop.war.coal@bopenworld.com](mailto:s.t.stop.war.coal@bopenworld.com)  
website: <http://philiptalbot.users.bopenworld.com/s.t.stop.war.coal.html>



## After Iraq, What Next For The World?

When giving evidence to a House of Commons select committee

inquiring into the events in the run-up to the war in Iraq, Robin Cook, former Foreign Secretary and Leader of the House, described the experience of reading intelligence reports as akin to eating 'Alphabet Soup'.

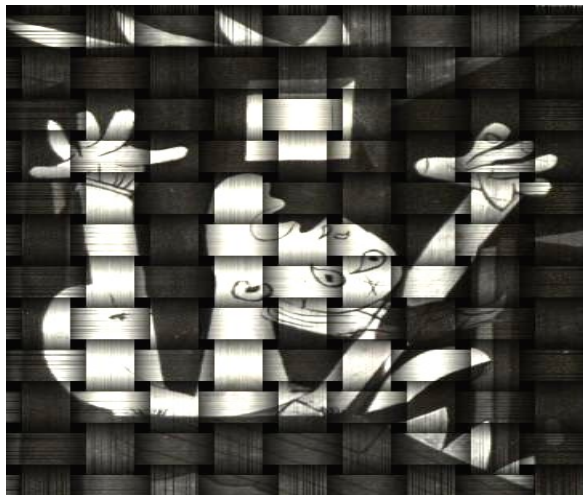
### Blow-backs.

Unexpected consequences. Might be cock-ups; might be conspiracies. Examples: the effects of western backing for Saddam Hussein during the Iraq-Iran war; the effects of CIA support for Osama bin Laden against the USSR in Afghanistan.

### al Qaeda

A name given to what - in the absence of concrete evidence - can perhaps only adequately be described as an insubstantial haze of illusions. Apparently it is loose structured pseudo-Islamic terrorist organization that first emerged out of diverse groups fighting against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. It was almost certainly originally supported by the American CIA. Its nominal leader is Osama bin Laden, an overgrown adolescent millionaire fantasist - who may or may not still be alive [although his state of vitality/mortality hardly seems to matter any more, given his quasi-mythological status]. There are no proven links between al Qaeda and Saddam Hussein. In fact, despite the widespread linking of bin Laden and Saddam in public consciousness, there has only ever been one significant report of an association between al Qaeda and a representative of Saddam's regime. Among the swirl of stories about the contacts of Mohammed Atta, supposed significant al Qaeda player, and alleged leader of the September 11th hijackers, there was a widely reported story [apparently started by a man who falsely claimed significant involvement with the Czech intelligence services] that Atta had met with a senior Iraqi intelligence agent in Prague, in the Czech Republic, in April 2001. Washington 'hawks' jumped on this report as proof positive of close connexions between their favourite bogey-men. But when the story was more carefully investigated, it proved to be almost certainly untrue. Even the CIA and FBI concluded that the report of the meeting was not substantiated by any credible evidence.

... We Have Not Surrendered To The Warmongers ...



### Collateral Damage

Civilian human beings killed by military weapons - according to a disgusting military euphemism. Some apparently conservative present estimates suggest between 5,500 and 7,200 Iraqi civilian human beings died in the recent war.

### Plant the Seeds of a Better Future



### Uranium.

'Weapons grade' uranium almost certainly was not smuggled into Iraq from Niger, or most probably any other part of Africa, or very likely anywhere else - contrary to suggestions made by members of the present British government and others. 'Depleted' uranium is now certainly polluting the environment, and most probably damaging the health of many people, in parts of Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and the wider world - due to its use in shell-tips, etc. by U.S., U.K. and other armed forces.