
Canada out of Afghanistan!

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Public opinion polls show the majority don't want Canadian troops enforcing US dominance. A recent poll found that approximately 62 percent of Canadians think that our military intervention in Afghanistan is wrong, especially without any serious debate in the House of Commons or the news media. You can almost hear the establishment hit the alarm button. What is to be done?

The answer appears so quickly it is startling. Enter our prestigious press. On the same fine cold morning of March 3, both The (Conservative) Globe and Mail and the (Liberal) Toronto Star ran similar editorials - "We have to stay in Afghanistan." They also both carried interviews with our new policy maker General Hillier.

Nobody is fooled by the Karzai government when poppy growing is the #1 industry in the country.

It seems there is no difference of opinion between Conservatives and Liberals. They believe that we have to stay in Afghanistan even if it takes 10 years and countless lives - mostly Afghans, but also our own Canadian soldiers. Their message is simple: Get used to it, Canada!

Canadians knew instinctively that there is no winning in Afghanistan. How do you win a population over by bombs, terror, torture and illegal occupation? History has shown that path never works. It only creates more hatred and animosity. You don't need to be a university professor to understand that. Nobody is fooled by our government calling the Karzai government legitimate, when the real agendas are protecting the warlords and poppy-growing, and the continuing oppression of women, peasants and workers.

This is the new colonialism. It takes boots on the ground to establish. The USA wants our boots as well as NATO because they don't have enough boots to occupy all the ground they so cravenly desire.

General Hillier states in the Toronto Star that Canada sees, "[an] opportunity to shape a region, an area, a country in the way that we see it right to be shaped, in other words, in accordance with our interests and with our values."

It would be hubris for a General to boast that we will shape a country as if it was a piece of clay, except that he is speaking for our political leaders. After WWII we would have not tolerated such a colonial mentality. Since then, after the West has undermined one democracy after another in the developing world. It has also supported and financed groups such as the Taliban and Al Qaeda, to help prevent local governments from adopting measures such as nationalizing strategic industries in order to establish free education, and free medicare.

Let's be frank. A thousand editorials in the Star or Globe won't change the perception of the majority of people in Canada or Afghanistan. The only duty that the Canadian Government is carrying out is the duty to protect the colonial interest of the US and by extension our own privileged position.

The question is: when will there be political leaders in this country who will catch up to the good sense of the Canadian people? Our so-called free press has become pamphleteers for our military involvement. Our elites will try hard to change those public opinion poll numbers. People may start to believe the propaganda if the opposing point of view remains silent. If you believe in peace and justice, now more than ever you have a responsibility to stand with those

ordinary Canadians who object to the role Canada is playing in Afghanistan.

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