

## Attack on Libya: On the Eighth Anniversary of the U.S. War on Iraq

by Linda Hoover

excerpts from a speech delivered by Linda Hoover, a member of Iraq Peace Action Coalition and Women Against Military Madness, at the March 19, 2011 "Troops Out Now!" rally in St. Paul. The entire speech can be seen at [wammtoday.wordpress.com](http://wammtoday.wordpress.com)

Attacking Libya is part of the broader military agenda in the Middle East and Central Asia that aims to gain control and corporate ownership of over 60 percent of the world's oil and natural gas, as well as the related pipelines. Oil is the trophy of the U.S.-NATO wars. Foreign oil countries operating in Libya are from France, Italy, Britain, Spain, Germany, the U.S., and China.

According to Global Research ([www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca)) in Canada, "the military campaign [U.S./NATO] directed against Libya is intent upon excluding China from North Africa. The financial stakes as well as the 'spoils of war' are extremely high. The war is intent upon dismantling Libya's financial institutions as well as confiscating billions of dollars of Libyan financial assets deposited in Western banks... The underlying objective is to take possession of Libya's oil reserves, destabilize the National Oil Corporation, and eventually privatize the country's oil industry, moving control and ownership of Libya's oil wealth into foreign hands."

Wall Street, the Anglo-American oil giants, and the U.S. and European Union weapons producers are the main beneficiaries of a U.S.-NATO-led military campaign directed against Libya. Global Research also argues that the U.S. intends to redraw the map of Africa, drawing new neocolonial lines that favor the U.S. Gaddafi's crime is that he used Libyan oil revenues to raise the standard of living of the Libyan people to one of the highest in Africa.

This war has nothing to do with humanitarianism. The U.S. is not able to hide the fact that what is happening in Libya is a U.S.-led armed takeover. Even members of the Arab League are now saying the U.S. military is overstepping what the Arab nations agreed to.

We stand in solidarity with the Libyan people who are fighting against a U.S. and NATO occupation of their country. We call on the U.S. to end the war now. The Libyans have done nothing against us. No further lives, Libyan, American, or other should be lost so that U.S. oil- and weapons-producing companies can enrich themselves. If the Libyans prefer to have their oil nationalized, that is their business. The U.S. has no right to force Libya to privatize its oil industry and to transfer ownership of the Libyan oil industry into foreign hands – namely, the hands of U.S. oil companies. This is not a humanitarian occupation of Libya. According to an Al Jazeera article, prior to the bombing, the U.S. set up evacuation channels for Westerners. If the military attacks were for humanitarian purposes, evacuation channels would have been available to Libyans and African foreign nationals. They

weren't. No effort was made to protect or to evacuate Libyan or other African civilians. To Obama, Franken, Klobuchar, and Ellison, you along with others are responsible for the blood of North African civilians flowing in Libyan streets. It is you who have lost your legitimacy to govern.

Please join me in sending a message to the warmongers: Bombs do not protect civilians! Stop the bombing now!.