

March 19, 2015

PRESS RELEASE:

"Body Count" has just been published, marking the 12th anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. Since the various combinations of Western-led coalitions have declined to record the injuries and deaths resulting from the "war on terror" in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, physicians have stepped forward to detail the more than one million deaths that comprise "collateral damage".

IPPNW-Germany (International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War) with help from physicians around the world including PSR (Physicians for Social Responsibility in the USA) and PGS (Physicians for Global Survival in Canada) prepared "Body Count", a documentation of lives that mattered to someone if not to the Western allies.

While Canada is again involved in operations in the Middle East through its involvement with the Kurds in Northern Iraq, all too blatantly brought home with the body of our own soldier-victim, it becomes important to view these wars from the perspective of those who suffer on the ground. This is their country. They don't view the innocent murders of their families and loved ones as mere collateral damage. They are parts of the smoking cauldron from which ISIS and Al Qaeda arose. Without a clear objective and attention to developing and supporting civilian infrastructure, Canada is doomed to be drawn into another failed enterprise.

We believe that "Body Count" will help change the discussion.

The full document can be viewed at http://pgs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/Body-cont-first-international-edition-2015-final.pdf

Dale Dewar, MD, FCFP, 306-554 7196 mdmd@sasktel.net

Tim Takaro, MD, MPH, MS. 778-782-7186 ttakaro@sfu.ca

