

Rally for Canada to Quit [Red Sea] Operation Prosperity Guardian

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The Hamilton Coalition to Stop The War (HCSW) is planning to hold a rally in Hamilton demanding that Prime Minister Trudeau withdraw Canada from the US-led, Red Sea, naval coalition called Operation Prosperity Guardian and work instead to end the bombing of Yemen, Lebanon, and Gaza. This action is part of a growing movement among Canadians, alarmed at the prospect of a wider West Asian war, to achieve an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

Ken Stone, Treasurer of the HCSW, noted [in his letter to the editor published in the Hamilton Spectator on January 16th, 2024] that

"The Houthi blockade of vessels in the Red Sea going to Israel was intended to put pressure on Israel to declare a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. In over two months, it didn't take a single human life. Instead of bombing Yemen, a simple solution would have been for the USA to curtail arms and funding to Israel. Within days, Israel would have to agree to a ceasefire and negotiations towards the just, lasting, and comprehensive deal for Israel/Palestine that the UN has called for, for decades."

Doug Brown, Coalition co-chair, added:

"Canada needs an independent foreign policy. We should get out of NATO, the aggressive US-led military alliance that drags us into every conflict of the US empire, including the wars in Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Ukraine, and the occupation of Haiti."

He also pointed out that Operation Prosperity Guardian is illegal under international law as it

lacks the approval of the United Nations Security Council and that neither PM Trudeau or US President Biden consulted their respective legislative bodies (the US Congress and the Canadian Parliament) before launching attacks on Yemen last week that took the lives of 5 Yemenis.

Picketers will gather outside the Federal Building in Hamilton at 55 Bay Street North on Saturday, January 20th, at noon. In the event of inclement weather, the rally will take place at the same venue on Sunday, January 21st, also at noon.

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