

Subject: Your e-mail re District Iraq resolution.

Date: Mon, 24 Feb 2003 14:19:39 -0800

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: <RIanvan@aol.com>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, "Directors Team" <managecomm@dnv.org>, <LSissons@cnv.org>, <adangelo@nsnews.com>

Dear Ms Sargent:

You have stated that this issue is outside the jurisdiction of local government. You are in error. Under the United Nations Charter any and all military action by any country against any other country is illegal unless so sanctioned by the UN. As of this moment the UN has not legalized such an action against Iraq.

Also, under the United Nations Charter and its War Crimes provisions based on, among other factors, the Nuremberg Trials of 1946, any individual citizen of a country, any level of government of the same country and indeed any individual member of any level of government of the same country may be held responsible for any illegal action by its own government to that effect.

Subsequently, any involvement by Canada in a war against Iraq is not only illegal, unless sanctioned by the UN, but it also means that under the UN War Crimes Act any Canadian citizen can be held responsible unless he /she can provide evidence of having opposed it.

You may wish to avail yourself of the United Nations Charter pertaining to this matter, including the findings and the implications of the Nuremberg Trials and the more recent Milosevic Trials held under the auspices of the United nations War Crimes Tribunal.


Under the provisions of the Nuremberg Trials for instance, all German citizens were charged with war crimes and their properties confiscated unless they could substantiate that they opposed the illegal actions of the Nazi Regime during World War II. This is notwithstanding that many German citizens only carried out orders as was frequently the case.

As a result Germany will have to pay reparations to the victims of its war crimes well into the middle of the 21 Century to use but one example. The actions of District Council were simply to encourage the Prime Minister of Canada not to participate in a war not sanctioned by the UN. Not only was the statement by District Council appropriate, it was both an act of patriotism and an act of global consciousness as well as an expression of awareness of international law.

You may wish to ponder these factors.

Thank You,

Ernie Crist

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