

-----Ursprüngliche Nachricht-----

Von: John Catalinotto [mailto:jcat@wwpublish.com]

Gesendet: Samstag, 30. Dezember 2006 17:51

Betreff: Statements on Saddam Hussein's execution

For our own purposes, we've gathered statements from progressive forces relevant to the murder of Saddam Hussein by the U.S. occupation. In case they are useful to you, I'm mailing them out for your convenience, as there is little use in duplicating work. IF you know of other statements and reactions, please send them to me--John Catalinotto:

1. url of WWP statement <http://www.workers.org/2006/world/saddam-hussein-1229/>
2. International Action Center statement call to action
3. BRussell's tribunal statement
4. CP India (ML) statement
5. Bangladesh demonstration called (Natl Liberation Council)
6. CP of Brazil (PCdoB) statement, CEBRAPAZ statement (translated by JC)
7. CEOSI (Spanish state) statement (translated by JC)

for completeness:

8. Earlier statement by Baath Party
9. Last letter of Saddam Hussein

The International Action Center (IAC) condemns the Trial and Death Sentence For Former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein; Join us to Protest U.S. Colonial Injustice, War Crimes, and Crimes of Occupation

Emergency Demonstration:

In New York: Saturday, December 30 2:00 pm Times Square Recruiting Station 43rd St.

Broadway call 212.633.6646 for more information

In Detroit, Michigan: McNamara Federal Building Saturday, December 30 4:30 PM called by Michigan Emergency Committee Against War

Injustice (MECAWI)

In Boston, Massachusetts: Sat. Dec. 30 - 1:00pm Military Recruiters Tremont St., Boston
Called by the International Action Center Call 617- 522-6626 for more information

** The International Action Center urges activists to organize local actions in response to the execution of Saddam Hussein and the continuing occupation of Iraq. Check the IAC website (www.iacenter.org) for updates on protests and other activities.

The International Action Center (IAC) hold the U.S. government responsible for the decision of the "Iraqi High Tribunal" to carry out the death sentence against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and considers this execution part of the Bush administration's plan to once again escalate the war. The timing of the execution was clearly intended to pre-empt news that the death toll of U.S. service people has hit 3,000 while that of Iraqis is in the hundreds of thousands. Such an execution will be another war crime against the Iraqi people.

As we have made clear in prior statements and articles, the IAC does not consider the capture, trial and judgment of the Iraqi president to be legal under international, U.S. or Iraqi law.* This punishment has nothing to do with the alleged crimes of the Iraqi leader nor is it part of an historical judgment of his role. It is the act of a conquering power against a nation that is occupied against the will not only of its 2003 legal government but also against the will of the vast majority of its people.

No authoritative human rights body, including those who were and are opponents and severely hostile to President Saddam Hussein such as the Human Rights Watch, considers his trial fair or the sentence just (see Dec. 27, 2006 statement).

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, a founder of the IAC, who was part of the defense team for Saddam Hussein, told the media after hearing of the plan to execute that "Saddam Hussein and his co-defendants are in the custody of the U.S. military in Iraq. They will be turned over to Iraq only on the order of or with the approval of President Bush. His pending decision will have long term consequences for the peace and stability of Iraq, and for the rule of law as a means to peace."

The Bush administration is preparing to announce its "new strategy" toward Iraq. This follows the November mid-term elections, which were an anti-war statement by the U.S. electorate. It follows the publication of the Iraq Study Group's report, which was a recognition that the U.S. occupation of Iraq had collapsed and that disaster was near.

The execution of Saddam Hussein is a clear sign that the Bush administration is looking not to negotiate a way for the U.S. to leave Iraq, but is instead sending a signal that it will continue the war and escalate it despite the impending disaster. This conclusion is all the more obvious, as it accompanies the news out of Iraq that U.S. and puppet Iraqi troops are attacking, arresting and killing members and leaders of the Mahdi Army, led by Moqtada al-Sadr.

We in the IAC say no to the execution of Saddam Hussein and his co-defendants, no to the escalation of the Iraq war that will mean more deaths for Iraqis and for U.S. troops and for an intensified mobilization to stop the occupation of Iraq. We applaud the decision of the MECAWI organization in Michigan to call a protest outside of the McNamara Federal Building at 4:30 PM on the day the lynching of Saddam Hussein is set to be carried out.

*The following are URLs for prior statements on the trial and impending execution of Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders:

Illegal and unfair trials of President Saddam Hussein and others by the Iraqi Special Tribunal... RAMSEY CLARK October 10, 2006 Memorandum with Exhibits for Each... URL: <http://www.iacenter.org/Iraq/hussein-2-102006.htm> - 25KB - 14 Oct 2006

Verdict of the U.S. Occupation Court Verdict of the U.S. Occupation Court - International
Action Center Statement - November 06-06 URL:
http://www.iacenter.org/Iraq/hussein_verdict-11-2006.htm - 9KB - 08 Nov 2006

Demonize to Colonize Demonize to Colonize by Ramsey Clark "In the determination of any
criminal charge ... everyone shall be entitled to a fair and public hearing by... URL:
<http://www.iacenter.org/Iraq/rc-demonize2004.htm> - 19KB - 28 Nov 2005

Ramsey Clark: Why I'm Willing to Defend Hussein Why I'm Willing to Defend Hussein by
Ramsey Clark Published on Monday, January 24, 2005 by the Los Angeles Times Late last
month, I traveled... URL: http://www.iacenter.org/Iraq/rc_whydefend-sh012405.htm - 13KB -
28 Nov 2005

The Trial of Saddam Hussein / Anti-war Movement Must Reject Colonial 'Justice' The Trial
of Saddam Hussein / Anti-war Movement Must Reject Colonial 'Justice' Le procès de Sad-
dam, justice coloniale By Sara Flounders,... URL:
http://www.iacenter.org/Iraq/iraq_shtrial2005.htm - 34KB - 28 Jan 2006

The execution of the president

The execution of President Saddam Hussein would be a grave war crime imputable under
international law

The US-orchestrated tribunal that sentenced President Saddam Hussein has no legal standing

The imminent execution of Iraq's lawful president is testimony to the gutting of international
law by the Bush regime and its criminal partners

URL: <http://www.brusselstribunal.org/execution.htm>

President Saddam Hussein is a prisoner of war with protected status under international
law.[i] Further, he is the lawful president of the Republic of Iraq. He cannot be executed le-
gally by this occupation.

Under the Interim Constitution of Iraq of 1990 — which remains in force despite the illegal
imposition of a permanent Iraqi constitution written by the United States — President Saddam
Hussein, like heads of state worldwide, including in the US and Europe, is afforded sovereign
immunity to prosecution.[ii]

That the US invaded Iraq illegally and established an illegal political process and a quisling
Iraqi government only exacerbates the violation of President Saddam Hussein's personal and
sovereign rights and the affront to the whole of Iraq. His imminent execution is an attempt to
establish, de facto, a global state of exception to law. Force cannot make just what law denies.

This mockery of law

The Iraqi Higher Criminal Court that passed a death sentence on President Saddam Hussein is
a farce. Not only is it grounded on illegality (occupying powers under international law are

expressly prohibited from changing the judicial structures of occupied states[iii]); the trial itself stands distinguished in legal history by its sheer number of due process and international standard of fairness violations.[iv]

These violations have included, often with systematic effect: American imposed censorship of court proceedings; withholding evidence from the defence; forcible ejection from court of defence lawyers and the placing of defence lawyers under house arrest; denial of defence counsel access to defendants; blatant lack of impartiality of court judges; overt political interference in the selection of court officials and the prejudicing of the trial and trial outcome by statements made by invested political figures — including George W Bush — affirming progress towards, or demanding, execution; the replacement of four of the five originally selected court judges; lack of equality of arms between the prosecution and the defence; refusals to accept key defence team submissions, especially motions challenging the competence and legality of the court; violations of key fair trial principles and standards and international humanitarian law[v]; violation of Iraqi law[vi]; intimidation of witnesses; failure to ensure the security of the defence leading to the murder of three defence lawyers.

Created by Paul Bremer, the Iraqi Higher Criminal Court was never anything but a US-orchestrated puppet court.[vii] The imposition of a death sentence after an unfair trial stands in direct violation of international law.[viii]

The truth about this court

From day one, this court has been nothing but a smokescreen: an attempt to establish a veneer of legality to an illegal invasion of a sovereign state. From day one, the final conclusion — the illegal execution of Iraq's lawful president — has been a fait accompli. The only question has been when.

As 2006 ends, the United States is desperate. Defeated militarily on the ground, long defeated politically and morally, the occupation is preparing to open the year 2007 with a barrage of atrocities, including the open murder of Iraq's lawful president. This, like all other US-authored atrocities in Iraq, will not allow the US and its criminal partners to impose on Iraq a future that is contrary to the fundamental interests of the Iraqi people.

The imminent execution of President Saddam Hussein is a challenge to the world. Its occurrence would mark a watershed in the imposition by force of a global state of exception to law and to international standards of justice and due process.

States are obliged to protect international law and oppose acts that undermine it.[ix] International law is the arbiter and final guarantor of world peace. When states cannot or fail to act to protect it, or when they act resolutely to destroy it, it is the duty of citizens everywhere to oppose global tyranny by direct action.

Urgent action demands

We demand that legal institutions worldwide, governmental and non- governmental, act now to prevent the illegal execution of President Saddam Hussein.

We demand that all states and the United Nations speak up immediately and oppose and prevent the illegal execution of President Saddam Hussein.

We demand an immediate meeting of the UN Security Council in which must be affirmed the legal basis governing international relations and in particular the fundamental jus cogens norms of international humanitarian law.

We call upon the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention to defend its November 2006 conclusion that the detention of President Saddam Hussein is illegal and act to prevent his illegal execution.

We invoke the mandate afforded to the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Execution to intervene to prevent the illegal execution of President Saddam Hussein.

We call upon the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers to defend his March 2006 conclusion that the Iraqi Higher Criminal Court is questionable, has limited competence and has given rise to serious breaches of international human rights principles and standards. We call upon the rapporteur to intervene to prevent the illegal execution of President Saddam Hussein — a further insult to justice.

We demand that the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights personally intervene to prevent this grave war crime from occurring. No one in authority can claim ignorance as to its imminence.

We affirm that international law is the bequest of generations and an expression of the development of human civilization and that people worldwide, individually and in groups, have a stake in protecting it, and the world peace that depends on it.

We call upon citizens and individuals everywhere to stand up in defence of international law and Iraqi sovereignty and act to prevent the execution of Iraq's legal president.

The execution of Saddam Hussein would not only be a war crime against one individual and state. It would lend an illusion of legality to illegal acts — both the execution of a lawful president and the invasion and destruction of Iraq. It would be nothing less than a declaration of the death of international law, slain by this criminal Bush regime and its collaborators.

If the execution of President Saddam Hussein will not lead to an international or global war, it sows the seeds, in its overt illegality, and in conjunction with Washington's exclusion of international law from international relations, for precisely this outcome.

Abdul Ilah Albayaty (BRussells Tribunal Advisory Committee)

Ian Douglas (BRussells Tribunal Advisory Committee)

Hana Albayaty (BRussells Tribunal Executive Committee)

Dirk Adriaensens (BRussells Tribunal Executive Committee)

Inge Van De Merlen (BRussells Tribunal Executive Committee)

URL for this statement: <http://www.brusselstribunal.org/execution.htm>

[i] In January 2004 the US government officially afforded President Saddam Hussein prisoner of war status, in confirmation of international law. See Article 3 The Hague IV Regulations, 1907: "The armed forces of the belligerent parties may consist of combatants and non-

combatants. In the case of capture by the enemy, both have a right to be treated as prisoners of war.” The Third Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 1949, which governs POWs and their treatment, provides for the human rights to security of person, privacy, respect, humane treatment, and fair trial. Under international law, no special arrangements can be constituted that adversely affect the rights of persons. See also Article 7 of The Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in the Time of War, 1949.

[ii] See Article 40 of the Interim Constitution of Iraq (1990).

[iii] See Articles 43 and 55 of The Hague IV Regulations on Laws and Customs of War on Land, 1907; Articles 54 and 64 of The Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in the Time of War, 1949.

[iv] For a full outline of the illegality of the Iraqi Higher Criminal Court and the violations of international fair trial principles and standards witnessed during its proceedings, see Iraqi Special Tribunal: A Corruption of Justice by Ramsey Clark and Curtis Doebbler (13 September 2006).

[v] Articles 70 and 65 of The Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in the Time of War, 1949; Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights requires that courts be established under preexisting law.

[vi] The Iraqi Higher Criminal Court is inconsistent with Iraqi law because it violates basic principles of international human rights law that are binding on Iraqi authorities according to Article 44 of the Interim Constitution of Iraq. Further, the court was formed in violation of processes set forth in Section IV, Articles 60 and 61 of the Interim Constitution of Iraq of 1990 and the Iraqi Law on Judicial Organization, the latter illegally annulled by Coalition Provisional Authority Order No 15 of 23 June 2003.

[vii] That the occupying power, through the Coalition Provisional Authority, created the Iraqi Higher Criminal Court (formerly the Iraqi Special Tribunal) is established by the fact that Order No 48, containing the statute of the court, had to be signed by Coalition Provisional Authority Administrator L Paul Bremer before it could enter into force.

[viii] See Article 6, paragraph 2, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that prohibits imposition of the death penalty when it does not apply “in accordance with the law in force at the time of the commission of the crime.” The retroactive application of the death penalty violates the Iraqi Penal Code, which states in Article 1: “no act or omission shall be penalized except in accordance with a legislative provision under which the said act or omission is regarded as a criminal offense at the time of its occurrence.” This arbitrary application of the death penalty is also a violation of the right to life in Article 6 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights. See also Articles 2, 4 and 5 of the UN Safe-guards Guaranteeing Protection of the Rights of Those Facing the Death Penalty.

[ix] Article 42(2) of the United Nations International Law Commission’s Draft Articles on State Responsibility, representing the rule of customary international law, prevents states from benefiting from their own illegal acts: “No State shall recognize as lawful a situation created by a serious breach ...” (emphasis added); Section III(e), UN General Assembly Resolution 36/103 of 14 December 1962, “Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal Affairs of States”.

Communist Party of India (Marxist Leninist) Central Committee 8, Pratap Market, Jungpura
B, New Delhi-110014 Tel : 011-24370233 E-mail : info@cpiml.in General Secretary : Kanu
Sanyal

PRESS RELEASE

RISE IN MASSIVE PROTEST AGAINST THE HANGING OF SADDAM

The central Committee of CPI(ML) outright condemns the hanging of Iraqi President Saddam Hussain – who defiantly stood against US imperialist design in the Middle East and jealously stood for independence and sovereignty of Iraq. Ignoring the world democratic opinion Bush – the worst ever war criminal and number one international terrorist has perpetrated this heinous crime the way this enemy of democracy did against Milosovich- the Ex president of Ygoslovia. The central committee urges upon the democratic, patriotic and peace loving people of the India to rise in unison in massive protest against this international crime committed by the Anglo American Imperialism.

Dated : 30th December, 2006 Kanu Sanyal General Secretary CPI(ML)

Issued by Subodh Mitra from Centre.

dear comrade, today at 4pm, we, national liberation council of bangladesh, organise a protest meeting in capital city dhaka against Iraqi President Saddam killing.this protest meeting was presided by faiezul hakim, secretary national liberation council. faiez said ,"by killing of president Saddam Hossain, US imperialism want to destroy Iraq." he also said "now saddam is the symbol of anti imperialist ". after the protest meeting a protest prosesion held.

beside us, many organization also made protest rally.

faiez

Saturday, December 30, 2006, 5:52:53 AM

“The hanging of Iraqiian president Saddam Hussein is a blatant murder that caused revulsion within democratic public opinion worldwide. Saddam Hussein was executed as the result of an illegal sentence pronounced by an illegal court manipulated by the invading forces that have occupied Iraq since March of 2003. The court that judged and sentenced Saddam Hussein did not act under the strictures of the law, but under the iron fist of the occupation authorities. It is necessary to remember that the trial was a farce, the judgment took place under censorship, the witnesses had been coerced and three defense attorneys had been assassinated.

"The hanging of the Iraqi president, which was set up as a serious act of injustice, becomes even more so since it was a calculated political act taken in the service of the top true war criminal of the present time, the top violator of international legality, he who has filled his

term in the White House with a unheard-of sequence of crimes against humanity -- the president of the United States, George W. Bush.

"It is complete self-deception for the heads of the White House and the Pentagon to assume that by assassinating a leader they will be able to mollify the hatred of vast sectors of the Iraqi people who have picked up arms against the occupation of their country. To carry out the hanging of Saddam Hussein as the lights of 2006 go out is another link in the chain of violent events that will only tend to be exacerbated in the Middle East during the year 2007. The conflicts already underway there will not have a proper ending, an ending consonant with the peoples' yearning for peace, sovereignty and justice as long as the interventionist and warmongering politics of U.S. imperialism holds sway in the region".

(Jose Reinaldo Carvalho, secretary of International Relations of the Communist Party of Brazil – 30 of December of 2006)

[translated from Portuguese by John Catalinotto]

IraqSolidaridad (www.iraqsolidaridad Declaration of CEOSI upon the execution of Saddam Hussein

“The execution will not hold back the resistance of the Iraqi people to the foreign occupation, or against the collaborationist forces and all those who are trying to bring about a sectarian division of the country”
.org), 30 of December of 2006

“With the execution of Saddam Hussein the occupiers and their internal sectarian allies are trying to eradicate the forces of non-sectarianism, integration and public management of Iraq's resources that have characterized historical social process in the country for the last 50 years of the last century. But those same values remain present in the aspirations of the Iraqi people and its inspiration takes shape in the popular resistance struggle against the occupation and for the total sovereignty of Iraq.”

The Statewide Campaign against the Occupation and for the Sovereignty of Iraq (CEOSI), upon the execution at dawn of Dec. 30, 2006 [1] of ex- president of Iraq Saddam Hussein, declares:

1. We reiterated what we have already published in previous official statements [2] about the manifest illegality of the trial of members of the previous government of Iraq and, therefore, the illegality of all its consequences and results given that the Iraqi leaders captured and held by the forces of occupation of the U.S.A. are prisoners of war.
2. In this sense, we considered that the total responsibility for the execution of ex-president Saddam falls to these occupation forces and the Bush government. The execution of Saddam Hussein shows that the government of Bush, confronted with the evident collapse of the U.S.-British conquest of Iraq of 2003, a consequence of the political and military offensive of the Iraqi resistance, has chosen - against the recommendations from several national and interna-

tional bodies -- to close all doors to dialog with the political and military forces of the patriotic resistance and to align itself openly with the Shiite denominational block and the paramilitary forces of the Iraqi religious extreme right in its strategy of sectarian division of the country. The execution of Saddam is going to mean, following this logic, more war and more sectarian violence in the next months and that will worsen the suffering of the people of Iraq even more, if that is possible.

3. With the execution of Saddam Hussein the occupiers and their internal sectarian allies are trying to eradicate the forces of non-sectarianism, integration and public management of Iraq's resources that have characterized historical social process in the country for the last 50 years of the last century. But those same values remain present in the aspirations of the Iraqi people and its inspiration takes shape in the popular resistance struggle against the occupation and for the total sovereignty of Iraq. The execution will not hold back the resistance of the Iraqi people to the foreign occupation, or against the collaborationist forces and all those who are trying to bring about a sectarian division of the country, a struggle to which the Baathist movement is clearly committed together with other forces under a democratic and pluralistic program.

[translation from Spanish by John Catalinotto-International Action Center, USA]

Notes:

1. To 06:00 (hour of Bagdad; 04:00, Spanish peninsular hour) in facilities under control of the troops of the U.S.A.
2. See yourself in IraqSolidaridad: Comunicado de la CEOSI sobre la primera sentencia dictada contra Sadam Husein y miembros del depuesto gobierno de Iraq y La justicia es imposible bajo la ocupación

Baath Party Statement To the American Administration: A warning to anyone who harms President Saddam Hussein and his comrades. The Arab Baath Socialist Party ba-ath.jpg

Our party has already warned the American Administration against carrying out the order to execute President Saddam Hussein and his comrades and has affirmed that that would be the most serious of the red lines that the American Administration must not cross. Today after the confirmation by the so-called appeals court of the verdict of execution of the President and his comrades, our party warns once again of what the execution of this sentence will mean for the situation in Iraq and for America itself. The whole world knows that the final say is in the hands of the American Administration and not in the hands of the stooge government in Baghdad. The most recent proof of that is the arrest by American forces of two Iranian emissaries who came to Iraq at the invitation of Talibani whom America calls the president of Iraq!

The American Administration must be clear about the following:

1. The one who holds primary responsibility for any harm that might be done to the President [Saddam Hussein] is the American Administration because it is the final decision maker and not the puppet government in Baghdad. Therefore the theatrics that have been called a trial

are nothing but America's way of putting the onus of the crime of executing [Saddam Hussein] on the stooge government.

2. The execution of the President [Saddam Hussein] and his comrades will make further negotiations between the Resistance and the Baath on the one hand and the occupation on the other impossible; the US forces in Iraq will be regarded as hostages to be slowly destroyed and not allowed to withdraw peacefully.

3. The Baath and the Resistance are determined to respond with all means and in every place that will hurt America and its interests.

4. We reiterate our warning to Iran and in particular to its real president Khamenei and urge him to consider and study this situation and not cause any more Iraqi blood to be shed because our response will be in the heart of Iran and will extend to its head.

5. As to those lackeys who were charged with playing the roles of judge and appeals court, the people of Iraq will bring them to justice from wherever they might flee and no place will be safe for them. Those who protect them will be held directly responsible. They are traitors to their homeland by all internationally recognized standards because they have served the occupation and were tools in its hands, carrying out their dirty work against the people of Iraq and its legitimate national leadership.

6. Our Party affirms that the execution will not weaken the armed revolution but will only inflame it further and expand its scope, adding new recruits to it while placing on the shoulders of the American Administration the responsibility for the killing of even more of their soldiers.

7. Carrying out the verdict of execution can only be regarded as an American step to increase the unrest and aggravate further the deterioration of services in Iraq after near unanimity has been reached among its people expressed in various telegrams of Iraqi tribal shaykhs, popular and trades union organizations representing all shades of the Iraqi people who have called for the return of the President [Saddam Hussein] to power as the one guarantee of an immediate return of security and stability to Iraq. Therefore, carrying out the execution can only be interpreted as America's insistence that the chaotic situation continue to worsen.

Masses of our great Iraqi people,

These are the days of the decisive confrontation. The occupation whose plans have collapsed and failed wants now to complete its sabotage activity before it is expelled by planting the seeds of acts of blood revenge among Iraqis that will go on for decades. The practice of killing simply on the basis of the religious identification listed on people's ID cards is a clear sign of what this American plan consists in – a plan in which Iran is directly involved. The implementation of the execution is also a part of that plan because America will be departing defeated and humiliated from Iraq tomorrow, but it will leave the stooges it has commissioned to commit crime in Iraq. If they flee, they will be brought to justice because America will toss them into the trash can after they have finished up the criminal activity they have been ordered to carry out. We call on the masses of our people to be vigilant and ready to meet the demands of the situation if the execution is carried out. We call on all Iraqi patriots to confront this issue because it does not concern the Baath Party alone, but all of Iraq, since the President is the legal president of Iraq and his execution would be the fruit of his sincerity for Iraq and his refusal to abandon its interests and Iraqi Arab identity. We call on the Arab masses in their political parties and popular organizations and those governments that are concerned with Arab destiny to take a unified stance against this measure which will never

serve the Arab Nation but will only be of service to Iran, colonialist America, and world Zionism that has never and will never forget that Saddam Hussein was the first one to strike it with strategic rockets, putting an end to its theory of security. It would also be because he was the one Arab president who continued to uphold the rights of Palestine and the Palestinian people, refusing to bargain over them in return for staying in power. He took on a heavy burden by refusing to conclude any agreement with America and Israel at the expense of the cause of Palestine and Iraq's economic independence, which is the material basis for any political independence.

Let us sharpen our forces and prepare ourselves for decisive battles in the near future, with the help of God. May the banner of rescuing the President and his comrades fly high and strong in the skies of Iraq and the Arab Nation.

Long Live Saddam Hussein, a symbol of the struggle, steadfastness, dignity, and courage of the Arab Nation!

Long live the heroic Iraqi Resistance, the great hope for the liberation of Iraq from the occupation!

Long live the Unity of all the jihadi fighting organizations in Iraq!

Shame on America and its lackeys!

Long live the unity of the Arab patriotic forces!

Iraqi Regional Cultural and Informational Office,

Baghdad.

26 December 2006.

Translated by Muhammad Abu Nasr

Saddam Hussein's Final Letter President Saddam Hussein

December 29, 2006

In the past, I was, as you all know, in the battlefield of jihad and struggle.

God, exalted by He, wished that I face the same again in the same manner and the same spirit in which we were before the revolution but with a problem that is greater and harsher.

Oh beloved, this harsh situation, which we and our great Iraq are facing, is a new lesson and a new trial for the people by which to be judged, each depending on their intention, so that it becomes an identifier before God and the people in the present and after our current situation becomes a glorious history.

It is, above all, the foundation upon which the success of the future phases of history can be built.

In this situation and in no other, the veritable are the honest and faithful and the opposing are the false.

When the insignificant people use the power given to them by the foreigners to oppress their own people, they are but worthless and lowly. In our country only good must result from what we are experiencing.

To the great nation, to the people of our country, and humanity: Many of you have known the writer of this letter to be faithful, honest, caring for others, wise, of sound judgment, just, decisive, careful with the wealth of the people and the state... and that his heart is big enough to embrace all without discrimination.

His heart aches for the poor and he does not rest until he helps in improving their condition and attends to their needs.

His heart contains all his people and his nation, and he craves to be honest and faithful without differentiating between his people except on the basis of their efforts, efficiency, and patriotism.

'Sacrifice'

Here I am speaking today in your name and for your eyes and the eyes of our nation and the eyes of the just, the people of the truth, wherever their banner is hoisted.

You have known your brother and leader very well and he never bowed to the despots and, in accordance with the wishes of those who loved him, remained a sword and a banner.

This is how you want your brother, son or leader to be... and those who will lead you (in the future) should have the same qualifications.

Here, I offer my soul to God as a sacrifice, and if He wants, He will send it to heaven with the martyrs, or, He will postpone that... so let us be patient and depend on Him against the unjust nations.

In spite of all the difficulties and the storms which we and Iraq had to face, before and after the revolution, God the Almighty did not want death for Saddam Hussein.

But if He wants it this time, it (Saddam's life) is His creation. He created it and He protected it until now.

Thus, by its martyrdom, He will be bringing glory to a faithful soul, for there were souls that were younger than Saddam Hussein that had departed and had taken this path before him. If He wants it martyred, we thank Him and offer Him gratitude, before and after.

'The enemies'

The enemies of your country, the invaders and the Persians, found that your unity stands as a barrier between them and your enslavement.

They planted and grounded their hateful old and new wedge between you.

The strangers who are carrying the Iraqi citizenship, whose hearts are empty or filled with the hatred that was planted in them by Iran, responded to it, but how wrong they were to think

that they could divide the noble among our people, weaken your determination, and fill the hearts of the sons of the nation with hatred against each other, instead of against their true enemies that will lead them in one direction to fight under the banner of God is great: The great flag of the people and the nation.

Remember that God has enabled you to become an example of love, forgiveness and brotherly co-existence...

I call on you not to hate because hate does not leave a space for a person to be fair and it makes you blind and closes all doors of thinking and keeps away one from balanced thinking and making the right choice ...

I also call on you not to hate the peoples of the other countries that attacked us and differentiate between the decision-makers and peoples...

'Forgiveness'

Anyone who repents - whether in Iraq or abroad - you must forgive him...

You should know that among the aggressors, there are people who support your struggle against the invaders, and some of them volunteered for the legal defence of prisoners, including Saddam Hussein...

Some of these people wept profusely when they said goodbye to me...

Dear faithful people, I say goodbye to you, but I will be with the merciful God who helps those who take refuge in him and who will never disappoint any faithful, honest believer... God is Great... God is great... Long live our nation... Long live our great struggling people...

Long live Iraq, long live Iraq... Long live Palestine... Long live jihad and the mujahideen.

Saddam Hussein President and Commander in Chief of the Iraqi Mujahid Armed Forces

[Additional note:]

I have written this letter because the lawyers told me that the so-called criminal court - established and named by the invaders - will allow the so-called defendants the chance for a last word.

But that court and its chief judge did not give us the chance to say a word, and issued its verdict without explanation and read out the sentence - dictated by the invaders - without presenting the evidence.

I wanted the people to know this.