

Peace Keepers or American Puppets?

I am extremely proud of Canada's Armed Forces whenever they serve the true purpose of saving innocent lives by stepping between an aggressor and a weaker victim society. When I passed through the border in the fall of 2006 from Bulgaria into Serbia, I was reminded of the great service Canada and her soldiers have extended to stop hate-filled genocide. The fact that my camper had several small Canadian flag stickers and that I had changed into my red and white maple leaf covered Canadian rugby jersey drew the attention of the many border officials to thank me profusely on some anniversary of the end of slaughter at the hands of Bosnian Milosovich and psychopaths. It brought tears to my eyes, I was so proud.

I wept tears of shame, however, when some time ago I read a Canadian General's account of the hacking to death of millions of Rwandan Tootsies by fellow Huttus... while the UN ordered Canada to stand down, testicles in hand until ordered to intercede. It was then too late.

But, I also decry the current Harper government's propaganda that billions in tax dollars will be allocated to Canada's fighting forces so they may assist in the freedom of Afghanistan. Canada should not even be there. The military aggression of our soldiers in helping subdue those who would fight against an Imperialist capitalist way of life is just plain wrong. Perhaps the current battle between male university students attempting to hold on to their male chauvinistic way of life under the banner the Taliban seems wrong to our Western liberal eyes, and personally I think it is an antiquated way of life. But we are in no position to judge. Women in our country have been fighting for equity in pay since 1967 and in forty years have moved all the way from 50¢ up to 83¢ on the male dollar. Women are still harassed as fire-fighters throughout Canada with spent condoms in lockers. The male dominated fashion industry dictates how women should look and what they should wear. Indigenous people throughout Canada live in third world conditions as a result of "cleverly designed" official

government policies and the never ending hundred plus years of land settlement negotiations that have been nothing more than a cash cow for lawyers. Who are we to judge and spend billions "collaterally damage" murdering innocent wedding party attendees, to say nothing of the senseless death innocent Canadian youth who signed up to be Peacekeepers, suffer needlessly. This is not what they signed up to do. They do their duty, but this is not it.

What it comes right down to is that support for an aggressive armed forces, is the Steven Harper government's kow-towing to the GW Bush government and their war-machine to keep Globalization and the for-massive-profit capitalist system in place. The cultural divide between our way of life and the more modest, perhaps religious based, lifestyle of the have-nots, has grown far beyond our ability to control them and keep them subservient in this, the consumer focus of our society. The Canadian military has been hijacked, as the government has been by the multinational corporations.

I love my Canadian Peacekeepers and want them to have what is necessary to stop murderous psychopathic aggressors such as Milosovich. I do not want or agree with our military being used as a private army of the Corporate elite of Canada who in turn are the lap dogs of Imperialist United States in their bull-shite self made war on terrorism.

By the way, USA? If terrorism is so darn right wrong - why do you keep five innocent, exemplary citizens in your jail for gathering non-classified intelligence in order to warn Cuba of further pending US /CIA funded Miami based terrorist activities in Cuba that have been responsible for the death of thousands. Oh! I guess I just answered my own question. GW just allocated US\$52 million for two more years of funding to see the anti-capitalist government of Cuba fall. I call bull-shite on your war against terrorism. I call bull-shite on Canada's war against terrorism as well. Let's go back to legitimate Peacekeeping, with our own military.

Lance Read - A Canadian in Cuba