

" THERE IS NO DEMOCRACY IN KUWAIT. THIS IS BUSH'S
WAR AND THE PEOPLE WANT NO PART OF IT. "

" THERE IS NO OIL CRISIS THERE IS A PROFIT CRISIS. "

CAUGHT: In The Middle Of The Crisis

A VIEWER'S GUIDE

"JUST BECAUSE WE ARE A POWERFUL COUNTRY DOESN'T GIVE
US THE RIGHT TO INTERVENE IN ANOTHER COUNTRY'S
GOVERNMENT OR THEIR POLITICS."

"AMERICA HAS ITS OWN PROBLEMS AT HOME, THEY SHOULD
NOT BE INTERVENING IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY'S AFFAIRS."

BUSH SAYS THAT THIS WAR IS TO PRESERVE OUR WAY OF
LIFE, BUT IT IS TO PRESERVE THE WAY OF LIFE FOR
EXXON AND TEXACO. "

" OUR COMMUNITIES ARE LACKING EDUCATION & SUFFICIENT
MEDICAL CARE, YET THEY ARE SPENDING BILLIONS OF
DOLLARS OVERSEAS. "

" IF THERE IS A WAR, MORE ARABS WILL DIE THAN AMERICANS
AND WE DON'T NEED GENOCIDE. "

" WORKING CLASS PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE DYING IN THE
MIDDLE EAST. THEY KILL US HERE, THEY KILL US THERE.
WE SAY TO HELL WITH THEM. "

THROUGH OUR EYES VIDEO AND HISTORY PROJECT

SCHOMBURG SATELLITE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

BRONX, NEW YORK

INTRODUCTION

"Caught: In The Middle Of The Crisis" is a documentary covering the Gulf Crisis. It was done by a group of students from Bx. Satellite Academy High School. We, the students, felt that there was a lack of knowledge amongst the people in our communities, concerning the crisis in the Gulf. We felt that it was a priority of ours to find out what was really going on, and how we were being affected by the crisis. We wanted to make the youth in our community aware of our findings and maybe encourage them to express their feelings toward the crisis.

VIEWER'S GUIDE

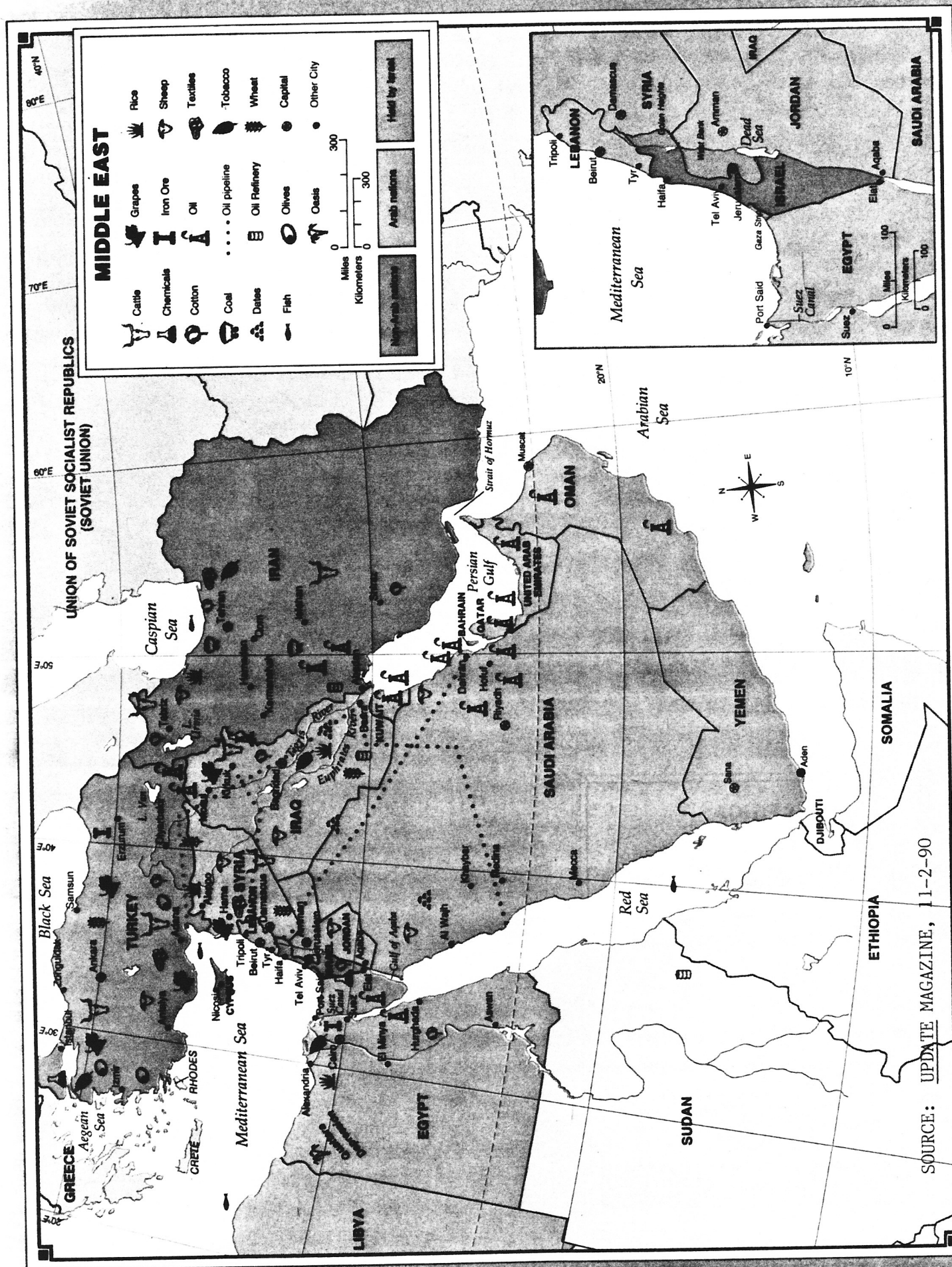
We, the students felt that our tape made good discussion, and raised a lot of questions for the youth in our community.

This viewer's guide contains discussion questions about the tape, some articles that give background to & update of the events in the war, and a resource guide for further information.

Shakish Hargrove
Melvin Burgos
THROUGH OUR EYES VIDEO & HISTORY PROJECT

Pam Sporn
Faculty Advisor

June, 1991



ACTIVITY

WHAT IS THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO YOUR MIND WHEN
YOU THINK OF WAR? DRAW A PICTURE OF WHAT IT IS THAT
SEE.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

SEGMENT 1

1. Do you think the deployment of U.S troops to the Persian Gulf was an aggressive or a necessary defensive act taken by the U.S.?
2. Some people say that it was necessary to send U.S. troops to the Persian Gulf to make sure the U.S. industries could get oil. Others say that troops were sent so that the U.S. could get oil at a price they wanted. What do you think?
3. Should the U.S. think of other energy sources to use so that they may be less dependent on oil?
4. Do you think that the Bush administration had the right to send troops to intervene in the affairs of Middle Eastern countries?
5. (Here are 2 points of view of patriotism expressed in the tape.)
Bush says " We will stand by our friends, and stand up to aggression . " A Vietnam Veteran, says " It's okay to be patriotic and love your country, but when they say it's for a just cause it's not. What is patriotism to you?
6. What could have been done by the U.S. to help solve the conflict between Iraq & Kuwait in a less threatening and non-military manner?

except on Long Island

\$1.50

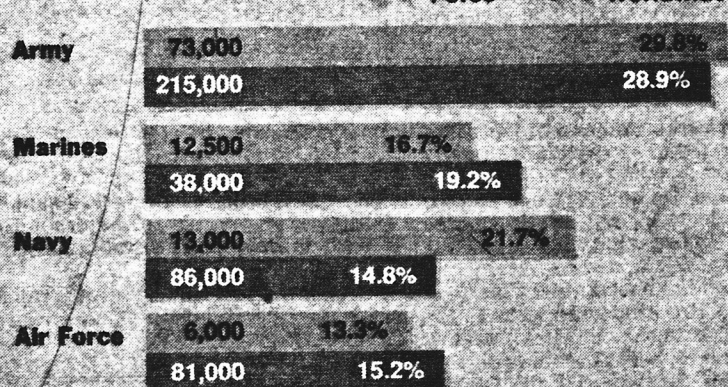
Opposing America's **SAUDI OIL EXPORTS** **The Persian Gulf**
'Manifest Destiny' **RISE TO NEW HIGH,** **is not Vietnam**
ERASING SHORTAGE
EMBARGO LOSS REPLACED
Riyadh Official Sees Further
Increase in 1991 as Other
Producers Reach Limit
By YOUSSEF M. IBRAHIM
Special to The New York Times
RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Nov. 3 —
Saudi Arabia's oil production ^{on}
passed 8.2 million barrels
week and is

SEGMENT 2

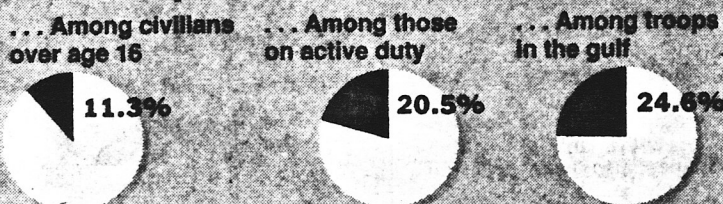
1. Do you believe that blacks & other minorities of color face racism within the military? Do you know of any examples?
2. Approximately 1/3 of the U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf were people of color, many were women. Some people say this is a sign of advancement for blacks & women, while others say it is a sign of limited opportunities in our society. What do you think?
3. Why do you think that more poor and middle class people die in wars than rich people?
4. During the Vietnam War, poor & middle class men were sent to combat, while the sons of rich senators and state representatives were given deferments. How does this make you feel?
5. Do you think the Military uses their college education funds as a way to entrap less fortunate minorities into joining? Why/Why not?
6. If you were considering going into the Military, has this recent Gulf War given you any doubts, as to whether you would ever enlist? Or, has the war made you more interested in enlisting?

Black U.S. Troops

Estimates as of Dec. 15.



Black Representation . . .



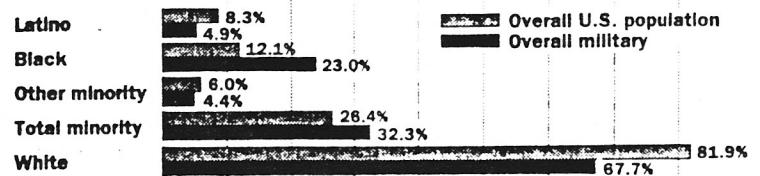
Source: Defense Department

NY TIMES, 1-25-91

ENLISTED PERSONNEL: A RACIAL MIX

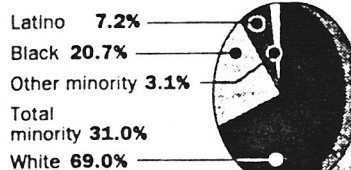
Here is the racial makeup of the U.S. military services as of June, 1990.

U.S. POPULATION* AND MILITARY OVERALL RACIAL MAKEUP

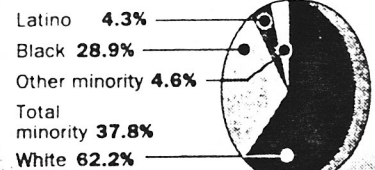


* Totals are more than 100% because the U.S. Census Bureau lists Latinos as a sub-category of either black or white.

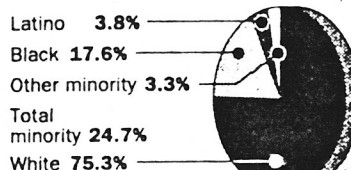
MARINES



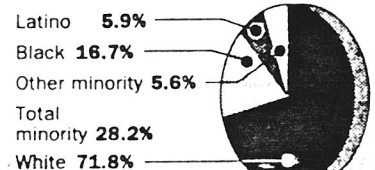
ARMY



AIR FORCE



NAVY

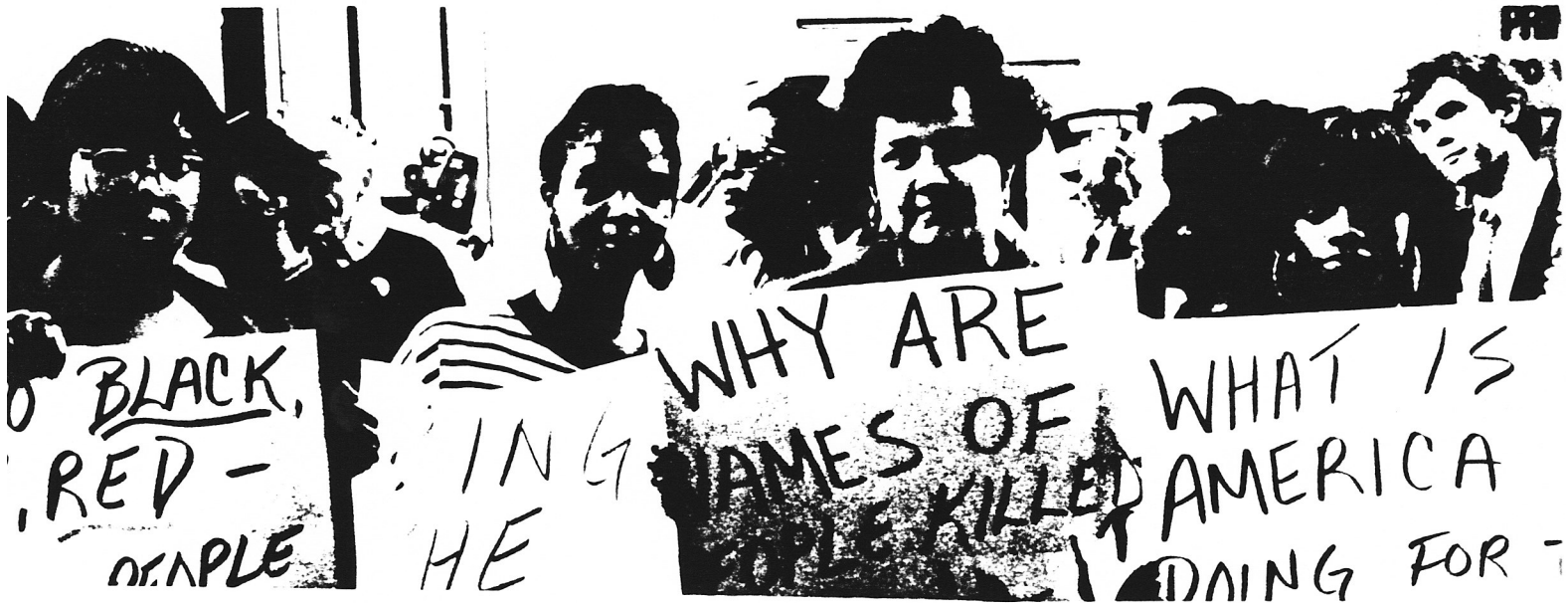


Source: Department of Defense; U.S. Census Bureau.

L.A. TIMES, 12-6-90

SEGMENT 3

1. How do you feel about the U.S. spending billions of dollars overseas to finance the war?
2. Do you think that money could have been spent to help solve the problems we face here at home in the U.S., or was it necessary for our communities to make that sacrifice in order to support the U.S. goals overseas?
3. How did the spending of funds in the Gulf, affect your community?
4. If you were given the money instead of it being spent on the war, how would you use it to make changes in your neighborhood?
5. How does city cutbacks affect us, and our community? What kind of affect does it have on our education system?



SEGMENT 4

1. Why did people protest the war? Were the anti-war protestors unpatriotic for protesting?
2. What are the different ways of protesting?
3. Do you think that military reservists or active duty soldiers have the right to claim conscientious objector status? Why? Why not?
4. If you were a teenager in the reserves or Active Duty Military and were called to go to the Persian Gulf, how would you feel? Would you have any objections to going there? Why? Why not?

A BRIEF POST-WAR UPDATE

FACTS: The Destruction Of Iraq

Up to 200,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed, the Pentagon estimates.

U.S bombs destroyed Iraqs electrical system, water and sewage systems. Hospitals have no medicine. Prescriptions are needed in order for sick children to get powdered milk.

1990 Harvard University study has reported that 55,000 kids under the age 5 have already died due to U.S. bombings and sanctions. They are also predicting that 170,000 more children will die due to starvation & other epidemics.

The U.S. still has economic sanctions on Iraq. Iraq can't sell any oil or import any medicine & medical supplies.

FACTS: Many U.S soldiers filed for Conscientious objector discharges.

Over 2,500 U.S. soldiers filed for Conscientious Objector discharges. Many are now being held in military prisons waiting to be court marshalled. They face up to 7 yrs. in prison for Desertion & Missing Movement.

U.S. CASUALTIES OF THE U.S. WAR WITH IRAQ: 369 deaths reported, 330 names released, 5 listed missing. (Source: Vietnam Veterans Against The War, 5/28/91).

FACTS: Is America trying to sell patriotism to it's young people?

Operation Desert Shield/Storm products hit the store shelves so quickly, one wondered if someone in the toy industry had a direct line to the Pentagon. Even before the bombing started manufactures produced war toys to excite the young kids about the war.

The war made a crossover with war toys for girls. One evening news broadcast showed a girl carrying a rifle saying she wanted to be just like the female reservists in Saudi Arabia.

How do you feel about America trying to influence it's young kids into joining the military?

SUGGESTED RESEARCH TOPICS FOR STUDENTS AFTER VIEWING
"CAUGHT: IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CRISIS"

1. What impact did the U.S. War against Iraq have on the Kurdish people?
What are the current conditions of the Kurds?
2. What are the short, and long term, environmental effects of the Persian Gulf War?
3. What have the U.S. troops who served in the Middle East "come home" to?
Interview several veterans of the war to find out their opinions on the war, and the current conditions they face on their jobs, in their communities, and in their families.
4. Is Kuwait more "democratic" since the U.S. pushed out Iraqi troops?
Research the conditions and social status of women, Palestinians, and other "foreign" workers in Kuwait.
5. The Proposed Middle East Peace Conference: Who called for it and why?
What are the positions of the United States, the Soviet Union, Israel, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Arab countries on such a "peace conference?"
6. Oil: Research the industrial and consumer prices for oil and gasoline, before and after the war; what U.S. oil corporations are now functioning in Kuwait; the current reserves of oil in various countries; alternative energy sources for the United States.

RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION ON THE GULF WAR AND THE MIDDLE EAST

MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH & INFORMATION PROJECT

"Middle East Report"

475 Riverside Drive

NY, NY 10115

AMERICANS FOR MIDDLE EAST UNDERSTANDING, INC.

475 Riverside Drive, RM. 771

NY, NY 10115

UNDERCURRENTS

c/o WBAI-FM

505 8th Ave.

NY, NY 10018

212-691-7370

: Daily radio show covering foreign affairs.
Did extensive, alternative coverage of the
Gulf Crisis and War.

FAIRNESS AND ACCURACY IN REPORTING

130 W. 25th St.

NY, NY 10001

212-633-6700

Studied mainstream news coverage/censorship
of the Gulf Crisis and War.

EDUCATORS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

475 Riverside Drive, RM. 450

NY, NY 10015

212-870-3318

Has a large collection of clippings on
the war and its aftermath.

COALITION TO STOP U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

36 E. 12th St.

NY, NY 10003

254-5385

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

339 Lafayette St.

NY, NY 10012

212-228-0450

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR

P.O. Box 74, Van Brunt Station

Brooklyn, NY 11215

718-826-1789

P.O. Box 7053

Jersey City, NJ 07307

201-963-3380

Will send speakers to classes.

VIDEOS

GULF CRISIS TV PROJECT

c/o Paper Tiger Television

339 Lafayette St.

NY, NY 10012

212-420-9045

A series of 10 half hour videos
on the crisis and war.

"NO PLACE TO HIDE"

Available from the Coalition To Stop U.S. Intervention In The Middle East

Footage from Iraq after the bombings.