

February 21, 2003 ***MEDIA ADVISORY***

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JEWISH WOMEN VIGIL AGAINST WAR IN IRAQ

WHEN: Sunday, February 23, 12:45 PM

WHERE: in front of Barnes & Noble, at Bay & Shellmound
Sts. in Emeryville

WHAT: Building on the worldwide momentum against war in Iraq -- as 8.5 million people protested last weekend in 650 cities -- Bay Area Women in Black will move through the city streets in silence, representing the women, children and men whose voices are not heard as generals and corporate oil interests try to rouse the nation in support of an invasion of Iraq. We believe that such a war will be catastrophic, killing untold numbers of Iraqis, as well as U.S. servicepeople -- and carrying with it the threat of a brutally escalated regional war between Israel and the surrounding Arab states, endangering Israeli and Palestinian lives as well.

WHO: Bay Area Women in Black is a group of Jewish feminists and allies who stand in solidarity with Israeli Women in Black, who have held silent vigils weekly for most of the past 14 years, to protest the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, and to mourn all the Israeli and Palestinian lives that have been lost. We also stand with Women in Black around the world against war, militarization and violence. Contact us at bayareawomeninblack@earthlink.net.

PHOTO/VIDEO

Vigil includes giant puppets and drumming.

BACKGROUND: As Jews, we honor the fundamental teaching, "Choose Life, so that you and your children may live." In order to choose life, we must struggle for the conditions that allow the lives of all people to flourish.