

Press Release  
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## **BEANTOWN WOMAN RISKS ARREST TO PROTEST AGAINST BOMBING OF AFGHANISTAN**

27 May 2009: Beantown resident, Minnie the Minx will be risking arrest next Wednesday, when she joins a 'Die-in for NATO's Victims in Afghanistan' outside Britain's military nerve centre in Northwood.

The die-in is taking place on the second anniversary of the attack on a wedding party at Haji Nabu in Afghanistan in which 47 civilians were killed by US bombing - one of many Afghan wedding parties to have been massacred by US/NATO action.

The peace campaigners, who will wear wedding clothes and hold signs bearing the names of Afghan civilians killed by US/NATO forces, will march from Northwood tube station to the base, where the die-in will take place.

On 4/5 May 2009, as many as 120 civilians – including dozens of women and children – were killed by US/NATO airstrikes in Afghanistan's Farah province [1].

Ms Minx said in advance: '68 per cent of people in Britain want all British troops home from Afghanistan [2], but we're still there and we're putting more troops in - at the request of President Obama. The blood of Afghan brides and grooms is on our hands, thousands of Afghan civilians have been killed by US/NATO bombing - this has to stop, and that's why I will be taking part in nonviolent civil disobedience at Britain's Afghan war headquarters on 27 May 2009.'

The organisers of this demonstration (Voices in the Wilderness etc), which will be the first large-scale civil disobedience against the war in Afghanistan, organised a similar blockade of Northwood on 19 January 2003 when 400 protesters blocked the main gate of HMS Warrior (which is a land-based headquarters) for eight hours, and 70 people were arrested for sitting down in the road.

More information: [INSERT PHONE NUMBER HERE]

### NOTES

[1] '120 die' as US bombs village, Independent, 7 May 2009, <<http://tinyurl.com/cfxfe7>>

[2] In a 31 October - 2 November 2008 ICM/BBC poll, 68% of the British public said that all British troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan

within 12 months. <http://tinyurl.com/6cq4bx>