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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance

pursuant to Rule 50(1) of the Rules of Procedure

by Jean-Marie Le Pen, Charles de Gaulle, Bruno J.-J.M. Gollnisch, Carl Lang and Jean-Claude Martinez

on behalf of the TDI Group

on the assessment of the embargo against Iraq

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B5-0364/2000**Resolution on the assessment of the embargo against Iraq***The European Parliament,*

- A. noting that the embargo imposed on Iraq almost ten years ago is nothing less than a blockade which is preventing 20 million Iraqis from meeting their most basic needs in the form of food and medical care, as well as depriving them of access to scientific and technological know-how and to cultural exchanges,
- B. whereas, unlike Ethiopia, Iraq, a nation which was amongst the most highly developed in the Arab world in 1989 and is descended from the Sumerian, Babylonian and Ninevite civilisations, is not asking for food aid to feed its people, but merely for the right to trade freely,
- C. noting that this blockade is compounded further by the raids which the US and British air forces have been conducting with complete impunity for several years, and which claimed dozens of civilian lives on 6 and 9 April last,
- D. whereas the pretext for these air raids is the ban preventing Iraq from exercising sovereignty in the north and south of the country,
- E. stressing that it is in the interest of OPEC, and in particular of the United States' traditional allies, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, to prevent Iraqi oil from entering the market in order to keep the price of crude oil high, primarily to the detriment of European economies,
- F. noting that the international sanctions are affecting all Iraqis, be they Moslems or Christians, Sunni or Shiite Moslems, Arabs or Kurds,
- G. whereas this blockade, which has already resulted in the death of over one million Iraqi children, is tantamount to genocide,
- H. whereas Iraq, whose army was wiped out during the Gulf War in 1991 and whose economy has been destroyed by a ten-year blockade, cannot pose a military threat to a region in which the real threat to peace comes from other powers such as Israel and Pakistan, which possess nuclear weapons,
- I. Believes that the alleged breaches of international law by Iraq scarcely warrant such treatment in a region in which countries such as Israel in the occupied Palestinian territories, Syria in Lebanon and Turkey in Cyprus have been violating international law and UN resolutions for decades with complete impunity;

2. Denounces this crime against humanity and its perpetrators, namely the US authorities and their allies around the world, which form the military wing of a new totalitarian ideology, internationalism;
3. Condemns these atrocities all the more because they are being committed by the most powerful nations in the world against a small country of 20 million inhabitants and, moreover, in the name of human rights and peace;
4. Demands that the United Nations Security Council lift the blockade and the other sanctions imposed on the Iraqi people forthwith;
5. Salutes the bravery of four Europeans - three Italians and a French priest - who, on 5 April, defied the aerial blockade and all other measures imposed by the West in order to come to the aid of the Iraqi people, and its children in particular;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.