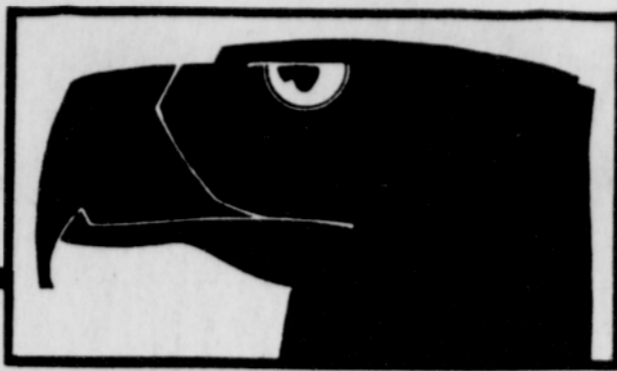


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In a dark time the eye begins to see.
- Theodore Roethke

**JAN & FEB
1992**

DRAWING BY HENK PANDER



NO BLOOD FOR OIL

A year has passed since Henk Pander penned this poster for a rally last January against the Persian Gulf War. Some of the largest demonstrations against the exchange of blood for oil took place in Portland, but no one seemed to pay much attention, or perhaps they were too wrapped up in yellow ribbons and afraid of being associated with such blatantly unpatriotic activities.

This particular protest against the war was held only a few days before the first American jet bombers flew into the Arabian night to unleash smart bombs over ancient Baghdad. After a month of airwar, massive fleets of land machines mopped up the dead.

The war was as short as the American attention span and as exciting as a video game. Hundreds of thousands died but it was of little concern because few Americans were killed (it was somehow comforting that most U.S. deaths were from friendly fire) and the Super Bowl was not interrupted.

A year later the dying continues among the ordinary citizens of Iraq, but we have turned our backs on the great pain they suffer. We celebrate our cheap victory and extol it as proof of our national virility. Our leaders call upon us to show the same solidarity toward the increasing problems of daily life as the boosterism we gave the war. We are, after all, the mightiest nation in history. Surely we are capable of enduring the internal apocalypse we must pay for world supremacy.

— MICHAEL PAUL McCUSKER