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WORLD NEWS



Protestors storm Central Park

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CHEEKY ANTI-WAR PROTESTS

Groups of protesters opposed to war with Iraq have been baring more than their souls in America and Australia.

Making their point with what could be described as a display of naked aggression, around 30 women scurried into the heart of New York's Central Park.

Splitting into groups to avoid arousing police suspicion on their way to the Bethesda Fountain, they stripped off their clothes.

As snow fell on the park and temperatures were low enough to give even the warmest person goosebumps, the women lay down and used their stark naked bodies to spell the words "No Bush".

'Wonderful statement'

The group, made up of students, executives and artists, had opted for an eye-catching alternative to the usual clothed rally in the streets.

Elizabeth Lorris Ritter, a 40-year-old activist housewife, said: "I have never done anything remotely like this before but I think it's incredibly cool.

"We're totally vulnerable out here, yet we're making a wonderful statement."

Meanwhile, more than 700 women staged a nude protest against Australia's likely involvement in military action against Iraq.

Lying naked end to end on a grassy knoll in the Australian beach town of Byron Bay, they formed a heart around the words "No War" for an aerial photograph.



Aussie girls let it all hang out

Desperate

Australia has sent troops and approved fighter jet deployments to join US and British forces in the Gulf preparing for a possible war in Iraq but has yet to publicly commit itself to joining any military action in Iraq.

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The women, ranging in age from about 20 to 60, gathered on a hillside in the beachside artists' haven in the far north of New South Wales state.

One middle-aged woman had the words "Bare it all for the boys Down Under" written down her back.

"I really realise now when I look up here and see all these women, they're desperate to let our prime minister hear how very, very angry they are at what he's doing and how much they disagree with what's happening," organiser Grace Knight said.

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