

T098

**Iraq: war not the ugliest of things**

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Lancaster says war with Iraq would be 'catastrophic' (Letters 26 December 2002). I would remind him of what John Stuart Mill said about being forced to go to war in a good cause-

'War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things: the decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks nothing worth a war, is worse.' (Cited *Schott's Original Miscellany* Bloomsbury, 2002, page 115).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *The Times*, 30 December 2002.

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