



Campaign Nonviolence - www.paceebene.org

Sept 15-18 is the 2018 Campaign Nonviolence National Week of Actions. Campaign Nonviolence is a longterm grassroots movement for a culture of peace and nonviolence free from war, poverty, racism, environmental destruction and the epidemic of violence. Today we celebrate International Day of Peace (Sept 21) and focus on militarism because it is one of the main drivers of our culture of violence.

What is Militarism?

Militarism – not to be confused with the military – is the subordination of social interests to military values and institutions.

- A militaristic society: 1) prioritizes the use of force over peaceful methods of conflict resolution and problem solving, 2) consumes the greater portion of its resources for the military, and 3) encourages blind obedience to authority and promotes security-based fears over critical thinking.
- Militarism diminishes our overall quality of life and turns us away from developing the true economic, social and environmental bases of national security, thus threatening the long-term well-being of citizens and of our democracy. It also makes us less secure because each war's death and destruction plants the seeds for the next war.

Militarism promotes violence and use of force as ways to solve problems

- Since the beginning of the U.S. "war on terror" at least 1,170,000 have been directly or indirectly killed in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, not to mention the deadly wars in which the U.S. participates in Syria and Yemen. <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/figures>
- In the U.S. so far this year, there have been 10,238 gun deaths and 20,115 people have been injured. (This doesn't include 22,000 suicides using a gun.) <http://www.gunviolencearchive.org/>
- In the U.S an average of 20 people experience intimate partner physical violence every minute. This equates to more than 10 million abuse victims annually. https://www.speakcdn.com/assets/2497/domestic_violence2.pdf
- Local law enforcement agencies have become militarized as evidenced by the 1,551 individuals – disproportionately people of color - shot or killed by police officers, the use of SWAT teams and the purchase of surplus weapons of war, including Madison's MRAP tank.

WE NEED TO CREATE A CULTURE OF PEACE INSTEAD

Militarism diverts TRILLIONS of our tax dollars towards destruction.

- Every hour, taxpayers in the U.S. are paying \$32.08 million for the cost of wars since 2001 totaling more than \$4.6 trillion dollars. See <https://www.nationalpriorities.org/cost-of/> to see what else we could have done with that money.
- The Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act recently passed is \$717 billion.
- The F-35 Fighter jet that will likely be based at Truax, cost over \$1 trillion to develop and the current cost per plane is \$85 million.



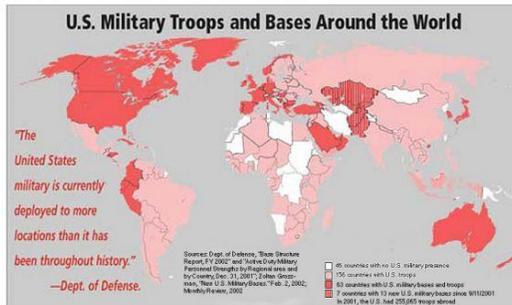
WE NEED TO PROMOTE PROSPERITY FOR ALL INSTEAD

U.S. Military interventions disrupt world cultures and indigenous societies.

The United States military has been intervening in other countries for a long time, toward the goal of controlling the world economy and its resources, generally to the detriment of indigenous people and in support of white colonial powers and sympathizers. For a complete list see

<https://sites.evergreen.edu/zoltan/interventions/>.

- In 1898, the US seized the Philippines, Cuba, and Puerto Rico from Spain...
- In the first half of the 20th century it repeatedly sent Marines to “protectorates” such as Nicaragua, Honduras, Panama, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. All these interventions directly served corporate interests, and many resulted in massive losses of civilians, rebels, and soldiers...
- From 2000-2017, U.S. interventions included Yemen (3x), Macedonia, Afghanistan, Philippines, Colombia, Iraq (2x), Liberia, Haiti, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria (2x), Libya, and Niger.



The United States maintains nearly 800 military bases in more than 70 countries and territories abroad—from giant “Little Americas” to small radar facilities.

www.geocurrents.info

WE NEED TO CELEBRATE CULTURES

Militarism is a deterrent to peaceful resolutions.

- The FY 2019 State Department authorization is \$54 billion compared to the \$717 billion for the Defense Department.
- Foreign Aid is less than 1% of the federal budget.
- The United Nations was set up after WWII to try to prevent future wars. The US pays only \$3.3 billion to the UN each year. <https://www.politifact.com/global-news/statements/2017/feb/01/rob-portman/us-contribution-un-22-percent/>

WE NEED DIPLOMACY FIRST—NOT WAR

The U.S. Military is the single LARGEST consumer of fossil fuels, contributing to climate change.

- The US military consumes more than 100 million barrels of oil to power ships, vehicles, aircraft, and ground operations. (Union of Concerned Scientists)
- About 900 of the 1200 or so Superfund sites (heavily contaminated sites eligible for federal clean-up grants) in America are abandoned military facilities or sites that otherwise support military needs. (Newsweek 7/7/14)
- Many military leaders see climate change as a security risk <https://climateandsecurity.org/>



WE NEED A HEALTHY PLANET