Conference on U.S. Foreign Military Bases

January 12-14, 2018

Learning Commons Town Hall
University of Baltimore

1415 Maryland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

Conference Program

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Welcome to the Conference on U.S. Foreign Military Bases
University of Baltimore, Maryland

Organized by:
Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases

This is the first conference on U.S. Foreign Military Bases organized by the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases. This conference is the product of months of discussion and planning by representatives of fourteen peace, justice and environmental organizations in the United States. Our goal is to create a broad-based coalition of peace, justice and environmental organizations and activists in the United States and around the world for an ongoing movement to close all U.S. foreign military bases. Please sign our Unity Statement and ask your organization and your friends and colleagues to do the same. Thank you.

CAUSFMB Coordinating Committee

Bahman Azad
Ajamu Baraka
Medea Benjamin
Leah Bolger
Sara Flounders
Bruce Gagnon
James Patrick Jordan
Tarak Kauff
Joe Lombardo
Alfred L. Marder
George Paz Martin
Nancy Price
Alice Slater
David Swanson
Ann Wright
Kevin Zeese

We thank the following organizations for their endorsement of this Conference:

- Alliance for Democracy
- Alliance for Global Justice
- Baltimore Nonviolence Center
- Bangladesh Bar Council
- Black Alliance for Peace
- Canadian Peace Congress
- CODEPINK
- Environmentalists Against War
- Gaza Freedom Flotilla Coalition
- Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space
- Granny Peace Brigade — NYC
- Greater Boston Chapter of the Green-Rainbow Party of Massachusetts
- Greater Brunswick PeaceWorks
- Green Party of the United States
- Hands Off Syria Coalition
- International Action Center
- Labor Fightback Network
- Liberty Tree Foundation
- MLK Justice Coalition
- Mt. Toby Peace & Social Concerns
- Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
- Okinawa Peace Appeal
- Pax Christi Baltimore
- PCUSA
- Peace and Solidarity Organization Srilanka (PASOS)
- Popular Resistance
- Roots Of Conflict
- Syria Solidarity Movement
- Trarpsrock Center for Peace and Justice
- United For Peace and Justice (UFPJ)
- United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC)
- Upstate (NY) Drone Action
- U.S. Peace Council
- Veterans For Peace
- War Resisters League
- Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom — U.S. Section
- World Beyond War
- World Peace Council
**Conference Schedule**

**Friday:**

3:00 – 5:00 PM — Anti-U.S. Foreign Military Bases Rally

5:00 – 7:00 PM — Dinner on your own

7:00 – 10:00 PM — Public Meeting: International Night
U.S. Foreign Policy and the Strategic Role of Foreign Military Bases

*Chair: Leah Bolger*

*Welcoming Remarks: Rev. C. D. Witherspoon, Baltimore*

*Opening Remarks: Alfred L. Marder, President, U.S. Peace Council*

*Keynote Speakers:*

— **Ajamu Baraka**, National Organizer, Black Alliance for Peace

— **Ann Wright**, Veterans For Peace, CODEPINK

*International Speakers:*

— **Rabindra Adhikari**, Member of the Secretariat, World Peace Council (WPC), Nepal

— **Miguel Figuera**, Canadian Peace Congress, Canada

— **John Lannon**, PANA; Shannonwatch; Ireland

— **Madhawa Palihipitiya**, Peace and Solidarity Organization Sri Lanka (PASOS)

— **Elsa Rassbach**, Stop Air Base Ramstein; Attac; Germany

*Cultural Presentations*

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**Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases**

**Unity Statement**

We, the undersigned peace, justice and environmental organizations, and individuals, endorse the following Points of Unity and commit ourselves to working together by forming a Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, with the goal of raising public awareness and organizing non-violent mass resistance against U.S. foreign military bases.

While we may have our differences on other issues, we all agree that U.S. foreign military bases are the principal instruments of imperial global domination and environmental damage through wars of aggression and occupation, and that the closure of U.S. foreign military bases is one of the first necessary steps toward a just, peaceful and sustainable world. Our belief in the urgency of this necessary step is based on the following facts:

While we are opposed to all foreign military bases, we do recognize that the United States maintains the highest number of military bases outside its territory, estimated at almost 1000 (95% of all foreign military bases in the world). Presently, there are U.S. military bases in every Persian Gulf country except Iran.

In addition, United States has 19 Naval air carriers (and 15 more planned), each as part of a Carrier Strike Group, composed of roughly 7,500 personnel, and a carrier air wing of 65 to 70 aircraft — each of which can be considered a floating military base. These bases are centers of aggressive military actions, threats of political and economic expansion, sabotage and espionage, and crimes against local populations. In addition, these military bases are the largest users of fossil fuel in the world, heavily contributing to environmental degradation.

The annual cost of these bases to the American taxpayers is approximately $156 billion. The support of U.S. foreign military bases drains funds that can be used to fund human needs and enable our cities and States to provide necessary services for the people.

This has made the U.S. a more militarized society and has led to increased tensions between the U.S. and the rest of the world. Stationed throughout the world, almost 1000 in number, U.S. foreign military bases are symbols of the ability of the United States to intrude in the lives of sovereign nations and peoples.

Many individual national coalitions — for example, Okinawa, Italy, Jeju Island Korea, Diego Garcia, Cyprus, Greece, and Germany — are demanding closure of bases on their territory. The base that the U.S. has illegally occupied the longest, for over a century, is Guantánamo Bay, whose existence constitutes an imposition of the empire and a violation of International Law. Since 1959 the government and people of Cuba have demanded that the government of the U.S. return the Guantánamo territory to Cuba.

U.S. foreign military bases are NOT in defense of U.S. national, or global security. They are the military expression of U.S. intrusion in the lives of sovereign countries on behalf of the dominant financial, political, and military interests of the ruling elite. Whether invited in or not by domestic interests that have agreed to be junior partners, no country, no peoples, no government, can claim to be able to make decisions totally in the interest of their people, with foreign troops on their soil representing interests antagonistic to the national purpose.

We must all unite to actively oppose the existence of U.S. foreign military bases and call for their immediate closure. We invite all forces of peace, social and environmental justice to join us in our renewed effort to achieve this shared goal.
Saturday:

9:00 – 10:00 AM — Opening Session
History and Economic Costs of U.S. Foreign Military Bases
Chair: Leah Bolger
Keynote Speaker:
— David Vine, Author of Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Overseas Harm America and the World

10:15 – 11:45 AM — Plenary 1: The Environmental and Health Impact of U.S. Foreign Military Bases
Chair: Nancy Price
Speakers:
— Patricia Hynes, Retired Environmental Engineer and Professor of Environmental Health
— Pat Elder, Member, Coordinating Committee, World Beyond War
— Susan Schnall, Co-Coordinator, Vietnam Agent Orange Relief and Responsibility Campaign
— Marie Cruz Soto, New York Solidarity with Vieques; Instructor at Gallatin School of Individualized Study

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM: Lunch

12:30 – 2:00 PM: Plenary 2: South America / Guantanamo
Chair: David Swanson
Speakers:
— James Patrick Jordan, Co-Coordinator, Alliance for Global Justice
— Berta Joubert-Ceci, Member of Americas Steering Committee, Women's International Democratic Federation
— Cheryl LaBash, Co-Chair, National Network on Cuba

2:15 – 3:45 PM — Plenary 3: Asia Pacific / Pivot to Asia
Chair: Bruce Gagnon
Speakers:
— Bernadette Ellorin, Chairperson, BAYAN USA
— Will Griffin, Member of Board of Directors, Veterans For Peace
— Hyun Lee, Task Force to Stop THAAD in Korea and Militarism in Asia and the Pacific

4:00 – 5:30 PM — Plenary 4: The Middle East: U.S./NATO Plan
Chair: Henry Lowendorf
Speakers:
— Matthew Hoh, Senior Fellow, Center for International Policy
— Sara Flounders, Co-Director, International Action Center
— Bahman Azad, Organizational Secretary, U.S. Peace Council

5:30 – 7:00 PM — Dinner on your own

7:00 – 9:00 PM: Cultural Event

Sunday:

10:00 – 11:30 AM — Plenary 5: Europe / Expansion of NATO
Chair: Ana Rebrii
Speakers:
— Phil Wilayto, Editor, The Virginia Defender
— Ray McGovern, Former CIA Analyst; Founder, Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity
— John Lannon, PANA, Shannonwatch, Ireland

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM — Plenary 6: AFRICOM / Invasion of Africa
Chair: Ajamu Baraka
Speakers:
— Margaret Kimberley, Editor, Black Agenda Report
— Maurice Carney, Executive Director, Friends of the Congo
— Netfa Freeman, Organizer, Pan African Community Action (PACA)

1:15 – 2:00 PM: Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 PM — Plenary 7: Coalition’s Future Plan of Action
Chair: Joe Lombardo

— February 23rd – Guantanamo Anniversary Protest
— International Conference Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases
— Planning other actions for the coming year

3:45 – 4:30 PM — Closing Remarks
Keynote Speakers

Ajamu Baraka
Ajamu Baraka was the Green Party candidate for vice president of the United States in 2016, and serves on the boards of the Center for Constitutional Rights, Africa Action, Latin American Caribbean Community Center, Diaspora Afrique, and the Mississippi Workers’ Center for Human Rights. He is the co-founder and president of Black Alliance for Peace. From 2004 to 2011, Baraka was the founding executive director of the US Human Rights Network, a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening human rights standards in the United States. He also taught political science at Clark Atlanta University and Spelman College. Baraka was honored in 1998 by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan as one of 300 human rights defenders brought to Paris to commemorate the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Ann Wright
Ann Wright has served 29 years in the US Army and retired as a Colonel. She was a US diplomat for 16 years and served in US Embassies in Nicaragua, Grenada, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sierra Leone, Micronesia, Afghanistan and Mongolia. She resigned from the US government in March, 2003 in opposition to the war on Iraq. Since her resignation, she has travelled to Gaza seven times, helped organize the 1,300 person Gaza Freedom March in 2009, was a passenger on the Challenge 1 in the 2010 Gaza Freedom Flotilla, was an organizer for the 2011 US Boat to Gaza and a boat leader on the 2015 Gaza Freedom Flotilla. She was also an organizer for Gaza’s Ark. She is an organizer for the 2016 Women’s Boats to Gaza and is serving as a boat leader. She is a leading member of VFP and CODEPINK.

David Vine

Plenary Speakers

Bahman Azad
Bahman Azad is a member of the Executive Board and the Organizational Secretary of the U.S. Peace Council, and NGO representative of the World Peace Council at the United Nations. He is a member of Coordinating Committee of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases; the Hands Off Syria Coalition; and the United National Antiwar Coalition. He is also the Chair of Iran Working Group of Veterans For Peace. Bahman Azad has has published numerous articles on these subjects (both in English and Persian languages) in various publications in the United States and Iran. His area of research also includes the political economy of Capitalism and Socialism, and his articles on this subject have appeared in such journals as Political Affairs, and Nature, Society and Thought. He is the author of the book: Heroic Struggle, Bitter Defeat: Factors Contributing to the Dismantling of the Socialist State in the USSR.

Leah Bolger
Leah Bolger retired in 2000 from the U.S. Navy at the rank of Commander after twenty years of active duty service. Her career included duty stations in Iceland, Bermuda, Japan and Tunisia and in 1997, served as the Navy Military Fellow at the MIT Security Studies program. Leah received an MA in National Security and Strategic Affairs from the Naval War College in 1994. She served on the national board of Veterans For Peace as the Vice President, and in 2012, she was elected as its first female president. In 2012, she was part of a 20-person delegation to Pakistan to meet with the victims of U.S. drones strikes. She is the creator and coordinator of the “Drones Quilt Project,” a traveling exhibit which serves to educate the public, and recognize the victims of U.S. combat drones. In 2013 she was selected to present the Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Memorial Peace Lecture at Oregon State University. She founded the Corvallis Branch of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in January 2014 and serves as the Chair of the Coordinating Committee of “World Beyond War,” an international coalition to abolish war.

Maurice Carney
Maurice Carney is an entrepreneur and human rights activist who co-founded Friends of the Congo and currently serves as its Executive Director. He has worked with Congolese for two decades in their struggle for peace, justice and human dignity. Mr. Carney tours the United States, Canada, Latin America and Africa speaking on the challenges of the Congo in particular and Africa in general. Mr. Carney is called upon often to provide analysis on the Congo for Pacifica News, Al Jazeera, ABC News, Democracy Now, Real News Network, Pambazuka News, International Business Times and a host of other media outlets. He has led workshops and teach-ins at a variety of institutions including universities, community colleges, businesses, faith groups, labor unions and think tanks. The more than 20 years of focused work on African affairs, international travel and life experiences contributes to Mr. Carney’s global perspective on challenges facing Africa and the global African family.

Marie Cruz Soto
Marie Cruz Soto teaches at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University (NYU), and writes about the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico. She is particularly interested in how militarized colonialism has shaped the makings of the Vieques community and in how the long history of violent displacements and disposessions in the island has ensured a vulnerable and untenable population. She is accordingly interested in anti-colonial and anti-militarism social struggles. Cruz Soto is also a peace activist who has participated in Vieques community initiatives, in the organization New York Solidarity with Vieques and in transnational anti-U.S. bases networks of solidarity.
Pat Elder

Pat Elder is a member of the coordinating committee of World Beyond War, the author of Military Recruiting in the United States, and the Director of the National Coalition to Protect Student Privacy, an organization that works to counter the alarming militarization of America’s high schools. Elder was a co-founder of the DC Antiwar Network and a long-time member of the Steering Committee of the National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth. His articles have appeared in various newspapers, magazines and web sites. Elder has authored and helped pass legislation in Massachusetts and in the Hampshire to curtail recruiter access to student data. Pat Elder worked to pressure the UN’s Committee on the Rights of the Child to call on the Obama Administration to adhere to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict regarding military recruiting practices in the schools.

Bernadette Ellorin

Bernadette Ellorin is the current chairperson of the US Chapter of BAYAN, or BAYAN USA, an alliance of 20 Filipino organizations in the US fighting for genuine independence, sovereignty, and democracy in the Philippines and the rights and welfare of Filipinos in the US and the diaspora. BAYAN Philippines is the main political center of the historical and ongoing Filipino peoples struggle against US imperialist war and militarism in the country, and was instrumental in the shutting down of the former permanent US military bases in the Philippines in 1991. Ellorin is also a member of the International Coordinating Committee of the International League of Peoples Struggle or ILPS, a global anti-imperialist and democratic formation with over 300 member groups in over 45 countries and autonomous regions.

Sara Flounders

Sara Flounders is active in progressive and anti-war organizing since the 1960s. She is co-director of the International Action Center and a coordinator of United National Antiwar Coalition. She has co-authored 10 books on U.S. wars, sanctions and expanding bases, on opposing military recruiters and on U.S. use of depleted uranium weapons. She writes regularly for the Marxist Worker’s World newspaper and challenges U.S. wars on alternative and corporate media outlets. Flounders helped coordinate several major International War Crimes Tribunals to document the U.S. planned destruction of Iraq and Yugoslavia and U.S. crimes in the Korean War. Flounders hosted international delegations to Iraq during the years of starvation sanctions, to Sudan after a U.S. missile barrage destroyed a pharmaceutical complex and to Yugoslavia during 78 days of NATO bombing. She has organized solidarity delegations to Iran and to Syria and Lebanon during war and siege. She traveled several times to Gaza.

Netta Freeman

Netta Freeman is a long time Pan-Africanist and human rights internationalist and is currently an organizer in Pan African Community Action (PACA); a grassroots group of African/Black people organizing for community based power. He has been intimately involved with many movements, such as the 1986 International Peace Gathering in response to the U.S. bombing of Libya, was a founding member and a lead organizer in the No War On Cuba Movement, and is also currently an organizer in the International Committee for Peace, Justice and Dignity (formerly the International Committee for the Freedom of the Cuban 5). In 2011 Netta was a recipient of the Washington Peace Center’s Activists of The Year Award, was a workshop facilitator for the Wayside Center for Popular Education, Train the Movement. Initially Director of the Institute for Policy Studies’ (IPS) Social Action & Leadership School for Activists (SALSA) from 2000 to 2010, Netta now works as a political analyst and the Events Coordinator at IPS. He is also Host/Producer of the weekly radio show and podcast Voices With Vision on WPFW 89.3 FM, airing Tuesdays at 9 AM.

Bruce Gagnon

Bruce Gagnon is the Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space. He was a co-founder of the Global Network when it was created in 1992. Between 1983–1998 he was the State Coordinator of the Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice and has worked on space issues for 34 years. In 1987 he organized the largest peace protest in Florida history when over 5,000 people marched on Cape Canaveral in opposition to the first flight test of the Trident II nuclear missile. Bruce was the organizer of the Cancel Cassini Campaign (launched 72 pounds of plutonium into space in 1997) that drew enormous support and media coverage around the world and was featured on the TV program 60 Minutes. Bruce is a Vietnam-era veteran and began his organizing career by working for the United Farm Workers Union in Florida organizing fruit pickers. He is an active member of Veterans for Peace.

Will Griffin

Will Griffin is a member of the Board of Directors of Veterans For Peace. He graduated from California State University San Marcos, Global Studies program with an emphasis on U.S. Foreign Policy and International Conflict and Cooperation (2014). He served as U.S. Army Paratrooper 2004-2010, All-Wheel Mechanic, 4/25th BCT (ABN) in Alaska, Operation Iraqi Freedom 2006-07, Operation Enduring Freedom 2009-10. Will is also a member of the Board of Directors at the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, Steering Committee of the Task Force to Stop THAAD and Militarism in Asia & the Pacific, creator of The Peace Report social media, and an IVAW member. He has been on several VFP delegations to South Korea, Okinawa, Palestine, London, India, Nepal, and Standing Rock since joining VFP in 2014. He is documenting all of his experiences on camera and making anti-war videos through The Peace Report.

Matthew Hoh

Matthew Hoh is a member of the advisory boards of Expose Facts, Veterans For Peace and World Beyond War. In 2009 he resigned his position with the State Department in Afghanistan in protest of the escalation of the Afghan War by the Obama Administration. Matthew’s writings have appeared in the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Defense News, the Huffington Post, USA Today, the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post. In 2010, Matthew was named the Ridenhour Prize Recipient for Truth Telling. He writes on issues of war, peace and post-traumatic stress disorder recovery.

Patricia Hynes

Pat Hynes is a retired environmental engineer and Professor of Environmental Health who worked on multi-racial and low-income issues of the urban environment (including lead poisoning, asthma and the indoor environment, safe housing, community gardens and urban agriculture); environmental justice; and feminism at Boston University School of Public Health. She has won numerous awards, including the US EPA Lifetime Achievement Award (2009); the 2003 National Delta Omega Award; the US EPA Environmental Merit Award (2004 and 2000); and the 1996 National Arbor Day Foundation Book Award for A Patch of Eden, her book on community gardens in inner cities. She is the author and editor of 7 books, including The Recurring Silent Spring and, most recently, the textbook Urban Health: Readings in the Social, Built and Physical Environments of U.S. Cities. She recently conducted an investigation of the ongoing legacy of Agent Orange in Vietnam and has created the Vietnam Peace Village Project to support scholarships for 3rd and 4th generation Agent Orange victims and also “10,000 Trees for Vietnam: An Environmental Justice Collaboration.”
James Patrick Jordan

James Patrick Jordan is a National Co-Coordinator for Alliance for Global Justice and responsible for its Labor, Ecology, and Colombia projects. In the past, he has directed AFGJ Venezuela and anti-mass incarceration projects. In 2004 and 2005, Jordan organized the campaign for the Build Unity and Trust Among Workers Worldwide resolution to end AFL-CIO dependency on US State Department funding and policies. He is a member of the Arizona Peace Council and attended the International Seminar for Peace and against Foreign Military Bases in 2015 in Guantánamo, Cuba. He has represented AFGJ in coalitions against US bases in Colombia, as well as mobilized against the expansion of the US military presence in Peru. Jordan is a member of the National Writers Union and co-author of a play about women political prisoners in Colombia. He is now working on a play about Fensuagro, Colombia’s largest union of agricultural workers.

Berta Joubert-Ceci

Berta Joubert-Ceci is a retired psychiatrist and a long time activist in Puerto Rican independence. She is a member of Americas Steering Committee of Federación Democrática Internacional de Mujeres (National Democratic Federation). Since her youth has been involved in the Puerto Rican independence struggle, from the committee to free Boricua political prisoners Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irvin Flores and Andrés Figueroa, to the recent struggle to free Oscar López and Ana Belén Montes. Was active in the movement to end the US Navy presence in Vieques. Has worked in solidarity with movements in Colombia, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela.

Margaret Kimberley

Margaret Kimberley has been Editor and Senior Columnist at Black Agenda Report (BAR) since its founding in 2006. She has produced original work for Counterpunch, the Dallas Morning News, and the American Herald Tribune. Her work has also appeared in Alternet, Common Dreams, Truth Out and the Zurich based magazine WOZ Die Wochenzeitung. Ms. Kimberley was a contributor to the 2014 book Killing Trayvons: An Anthology of American Violence. She is a regular guest on radio and internet talk shows and has appeared on Al Jazeera English, RT, WBAI, KPFA, PressTV Iran, The Real News Network, Government Moskva (Moscow Voice Radio) and CRITV. Kimberley has spoken widely in the United States at conferences and workshops. She serves on the Administrative Committee of the United National Antirwar Coalition (UNAC), the Coordinating Committee of the Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) and the Advisory Board ofExposeFacts.org.

Cheryl LaBash

Cheryl LaBash is one of five co-chairs of the National Network on Cuba. She organizes to end the illegal U.S. blockade, to end U.S. regime change programs and to close the U.S. base and torture prison at Guantánamo Bay to return that illegally occupied land to its rightful Cuban owners. In May 2017, she attended the Fifth International Seminar for Peace and the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases in Guantánamo Cuba, hosted by the Cuba’s MovFzt. The National Network on Cuba is the U.S. umbrella for organizations that recognize Cuba’s right to sovereignty and self-determination. NNOC works on a range of projects in the U.S. including for normalized relations with Cuba visible. They support travel to Cuba with or without approval from the U.S. government and encourage people to see and know Cuba for themselves. The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the People is the NNOC’s sister organization. Cheryl has traveled to Cuba frequently since 1985.

Hyun Lee

Hyun Lee is a contributing writer for ZoominKorea, an online resource for critical news and analysis on peace and democracy in Korea. She is a spokesperson of the Minjung Party—a progressive party of workers, farmers and urban poor—that formed in the wake of the candlelight revolution that ousted former South Korean President Park Geun-hye. She is a child of war survivors and has traveled to both North and South Korea. She is a Korea Policy Institute fellow and a member of Nodutdol for Korean Community Development. She also serves on the steering committee of the Task Force to Stop THAAD in Korea and Militarism in Asia and the Pacific.

Joe Lombardo

Joe Lombardo is a life-long antiwar and labor activist. He is the co-coordinator of the United National Antirwar Coalition (UNAC). During the Vietnam War, he was a staff person for the National Peace Action Coalition, one of the two major antiwar coalitions during that period. He is a life-long union member, a member of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) and the Troy Area Labor Council. He has appeared as a commentator on a number of news outlets and he is the author of many articles on peace and social justice topics. He has spoken throughout the US and in many foreign countries on antirwar topics.

Henry Lowendorf

Henry Lowendorf co-chairs the Greater New Haven Peace Council, is a member of the executive committee of the US Peace Council and a representative to the World Peace Council, an NGO of the United Nations. Henry is treasurer of the USPC Peace Education Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit. He co-founded the New Haven chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace. In 2017 year Henry participated in and gave peace presentations at a seminar on the US military base at Guantánamo, Cuba; Bridgetown, Barbados; and Hanoi, Vietnam. Henry co-led the US Peace Council’s peace and fact-finding delegation to Syria in July 2016 aimed at “seeing for ourselves what is happening in that war-torn country.” Henry is a coordinator of a campaign to pass resolutions by city councils throughout the US and the US Conference of Mayors calling for converting war spending to peacetime needs. Henry has a Ph.D. in Biology and is a former Associate Director of Yale University’s Office of Cooperative Research.

Alfred L. Marder

Alfred Marder is the President of the U.S. Peace Council and Vice President of the World Peace Council. He is the Honorary President of International Association of Peace Messenger Cities and NGO Representative at the United Nations. Al is also a member of the US Committee on International Peace, President of Amistad Committee, Inc., and Chairman of State of Connecticut’s USA Freedom Trail Committee. His Awards include: Mexico Legion of Honor; Government of Sierra Leone, Honor of the Rokal; Medal of Peace, Cuban Movimiento de la Paz; Honor, Union of Dominican Journalists for Peace; Communist Party of Russia; State of Connecticut, USA. He is a Veteran of World War II, Bronze Star.

Ray McGovern

Raymond McGovern is a former CIA officer turned political activist. McGovern was a CIA analyst from 1963 to 1990, and in the 1980s chaired National Intelligence Estimates and prepared the President's Daily Brief. He received the Intelligence Commendation Medal at his retirement. He was heavily critical of the government's handling of the Wen Ho Lee case in 2000. In 2002, he was publicly critical of President George W. Bush's use of pre-emptive war in the lead-up to the war in Iraq. In 2003, together with other former CIA employees, McGovern founded the Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity or VIPS. The organization is dedicated to analyzing and criticizing the use of intelligence, specifically relating to the War in Iraq. In 2006, he returned his Intelligence Commendation Medal in protest at the CIA's involvement in torture. On October 9, 2013, McGovern, along with three former winners, gave the Sam Adams Award for integrity in intelligence to Edward Snowden in a Moscow ceremony.

Nancy Price

Nancy Price is Co-chair of the Alliance for Democracy working to realize AfD’s mission to build a populist movement to end corporate domination, establish true democracy, and build a just society with a sustainable and equitable economy. She edits and writes for AfD’s Justice Rising: Grassroots Solutions to Corruption. She is a national board member of the People’s Vote Must Count. She is a founding member of Move To Amend, is on the board of the Liberty Tree Foundation, the Advisory Council of California Trade Justice Coalition, and an associate of the National Election Defense Coalition (NEDC). She is also a member of the Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom's Earth Democracy Committee and writes for WILPF’s Peace & Freedom magazine.
Ana Rebrii

Anna Rebrii is a student and activist; engaged in Odessa Solidarity Campaign, maintains the website UkraineAfterMaidan.wordpress.com with updates on state oppression and right wing violence in Ukraine; participated as an interpreter and presenter at several conferences in the U.S. And Europe; helped to organize events with activists from Odessa in the US and a conference at the UN in Geneva on the war in Donbass, titled “What future for Donbass,” with the participation of international and Ukrainian academics and political analysts, as well as victims of the conflict.

Susan Schnall

Susan Schnall is a co coordinator of the Vietnam Agent Orange Relief and Responsibility Committee, President of the New York City Veterans For Peace, and a member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War. She organized and led a delegation of Science/Public Health professionals to Vietnam in 2013 to survey the land that had been contaminated by the US use of Agent Orange/dioxin and visit the people who had been harmed by the chemicals. Susan was an active duty Navy nurse (LTJG) during the American conflict in Vietnam and in 1969 was tried and found guilty by general court martial for: conduct unbecoming an officer for dropping anti-war leaflets over five military bases in the San Francisco Bay area and wearing her uniform in the GI and Veterans March for Peace on October 12, 1968 in San Francisco. She has been active in the Medical Committee for Human Rights, Medical Aid for Indochina, and the GI coffeehouses. Susan has been an Assistant Adjunct Professor, New York University, School of Professional Studies, Healthcare Management for the past 20 years. In April, 2015 she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humanities by Ohio Wesleyan University.

David Swanson

David Swanson is an author, activist, journalist, and radio host. He is director of WorldBeyondWar.org and campaign coordinator for RootsAction.org. Swanson’s books include War Is A Lie and When the World Outlawed War. He blogs at DavidSwanson.org and WarIsACrime.org. He hosts Talk Nation Radio. He is a 2015, 2016, 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee. David’s books on war and peace include War Is A Lie; War Is Never Just; and When the World Outlawed War; as well as (co-author) A Global Security System: An Alternative to War (a vision of a world of nonviolent institutions). He hosts a weekly radio show called Talk Nation Radio.

Phil Wilayto

Phil Wilayto is a writer, speaker and organizer based in Richmond, Virginia. He is a founding member of the Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality, an all-volunteer community organization, Coordinator of Odessa Solidarity Campaign, and editor of the quarterly newspaper The Virginia Defender. In 1970, he co-founded the Potemkin Collective, a GI organizing project in Newport, Rhode Island, and co-edited its newspaper, All Hands Abandon Ship, while earning a living as a factory worker, tenant organizer and, briefly, commercial fisherman. Among other efforts, the Potemkin organized the first GI protest against U.S. military involvement in Southern Africa. In 2007 Phil organized a five-member People’s Peace Delegation to Iran, which became the basis for his 2008 book In Defense of Iran: Notes from a U.S. Peace Delegation’s Journey through the Islamic Republic. Phil’s writings have appeared in Z Magazine, Southern Exposure, Southern Changes, the (UK) Guardian and the Iranian Fars News Agency, as well as many online sites, including TruthOut, AlterNet, MRZine, AfterDowningStreet, MediaTransparency and CASMII.org. Phil currently is a member of the UNAC Continuations Committee, as well as the Board of Directors of the Campaign to End Sanctions & Military Intervention in Iran (CASMII.org).

International Speakers

Rabindra Adhikari

Rabindra Adhikari is a member of the Secretariat of the World Peace Council and the National Coordinator of Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council. He is also a member of the Foreign Relations Department of the Communist Party of Nepal (UML). Rabindra is former General Secretary of Youth Federation Nepal, one of the largest youth organizations in that country. He has a Masters Degree in political science.

Miguel Figueroa

Miguel Figueroa is a member of the Executive Committee of the World Peace Council and Acting President of Canadian Peace Congress, the Canadian affiliate of the World Peace Council. He has been a peace and solidarity activist for over four decades, and served as the national leader of the Communist Party of Canada from 1992-2015.

John Lannon

John Lannon is a founding member of Shannonwatch, whose primary focus is ending US military use of the civilian airport in Shannon, Ireland. He has been actively involved in human rights and anti-war campaigning for over two decades, and has made numerous oral and written submissions to governmental and intergovernmental fora. He is a member of the national executive of PANA (Peace and Neutrality Alliance), and is also actively involved in initiatives to support refugees and asylum seekers in Ireland. John works as a lecturer and researcher at the University of Limerick, and has published several academic works in the fields of human rights and development.

Madhawa Palihipitiya

Madhawa Palihipitiya heads the research and evaluation unit of the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration (MOPC) at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies. He also conducts fundraising and organizational development for the office and is a lecturer in the Conflict Resolution Program. Mr. Palihipitiya has over ten years of experience in the conflict resolution and violence prevention. He was the director of programs at the Foundation for Co-Existence in Sri Lanka where he engaged in high-risk mediation and violent conflict prevention efforts.

Elsa Rassbach

Elsa Rassbach is a German-American filmmaker, journalist and peace activist. Her mother was American; her father left Germany in 1938. Elsa grew up in Colorado, where she still has a home. Since 2006 has helped pioneer discussion of the strategic role of US military bases in Germany (Ramstein, AFRICOM, Ansbach). In 2013 Elsa co-founded the German Drone Campaign against acquisition of armed drones for the German military, which won a significant victory in the German parliament in June 2017. She is the Speaker on Drone Warfare of the German affiliate of Attac and a member of the National Council of Attac. She also serves on the Coordinating Committee of the Campaign “Stop Air Base Ramstein.”
World Beyond War is a global nonviolent movement to end war and establish a just and sustainable peace.

The mission of World Beyond War is to abolish the institution of war itself, not just the war of the moment. We believe that the closure of U.S. foreign military bases is crucial to our mission.

Please go to our website worldbeyonddwar.org and join the more than 75,000 people from 156 countries who have taken the pledge to end war forever:

I understand that wars and militarism make us less safe rather than protect us, that they kill, injure and traumatize adults, children and infants, severely damage the natural environment, erode civil liberties, and drain our economies, siphoning resources from life-affirming activities. I commit to engage in and support nonviolent efforts to end all war and preparations for war and to create a sustainable and just peace.

U.S. Peace Council
Peace is Everybody’s Business

All U.S. Foreign Military Bases Must Be Closed!

USPC, as a proud co-founder of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, salutes all peace, justice and environmental organizations and activists who have joined hands in this Coalition to put an end to all imperialist wars, military aggression and occupation, and environmental destruction.

UNITY OF OUR MOVEMENT IS THE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS

Please Support Our Non-Profit Peace Education Fund

www.uspcpef.org

U.S. Peace Council is a member of the World Peace Council
USPC@USPeaceCouncil.org • USPeaceCouncil.org • Facebook.com/USPeaceCouncil/
As a founding member of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, UNAC congratulates all who helped make this conference a success.

UNAC’s Principles of Unity  ~ full text @ http://UNACpeace.org
1- Opposition to all U.S. wars and interventions
2- Support for the right of all oppressed peoples to self-determination
3- Connect the issues at home and abroad
4- Independence from the parties of Big Business
5- Mass mobilizations as a primary means of struggle
6- Quick response to events at home and abroad
7- Defense of civil liberties
8- Mutual self-defense and solidarity
9- Commitment to a democratic decision making process

If you agree with these principles, and if your organization is not a member of UNAC, we urge you to join. It is only by working together that we can end the wars at home and abroad. Your organization can join UNAC and you can add yourself to our email list by going to the UNAC website at http://UNACpeace.org. While there, also check out our new blog where members and friends post articles on the events of the day.

UNACpeace.org  UNACpeace@gmail.com

CLOSE ALL FOREIGN MILITARY BASES
STOP ENDLESS WAR • DISARM
MOVE THE MONEY: fund our communities, not war
www.unitedforpeace.org

Looking for antimilitarist resources? Check it out!

warresisters.org/store
Veterans For Peace

Supports the Conference Against Foreign Bases.

Opposing U.S. bases on foreign soil for more than 30 years.

veteransforpeace.org
**OPPOSE ALL U.S. WARS & BASES**

The International Action Center - IACenter.org is an activist organization that for 25 years has opposed all U.S. wars, occupations, sanctions and foreign military bases. Our thanks to No Foreign Bases Conference for highlighting the criminal and destructive role of U.S. bases around the globe.

The IAC exists to bring people into the streets and to provide information to help mobilize resistance to U.S. militarism and corporate exploitation of the world’s resources and people. Washington fights no ‘humanitarian wars.’ IAC has organized solidarity delegations opposing U.S wars to Iraq, Sudan, Yugoslavia, Libya, Syria, Palestine, People’s Korea, Philippines and Honduras among others. We publish articles, pamphlets, books and videos and hold meetings and protests always linking the fight against U.S. aggression abroad to the fight at home against white supremacy and all forms of oppression.

Our contribution is to confront Washington’s ‘Big Lie’ that is used to demonize enemies each time the U.S. empire prepares a new invasion. The first ‘weapon of mass destruction’ is corporate propaganda, and that must be combated.

We join the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases in this task.

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**Continuing the work of our founder Jerry Gordon (1928–2016)**

Close all U.S. foreign military bases!

Dismantle the U.S. nuclear arsenal!

Money for jobs and human needs, not war!

Bring all the troops home now!

Labor Fightback Network
P.O. Box 187
Flanders, NJ 07836

Telephone: (973) 903-8384
Fax: (973) 252-1926
E-Mail: conference@laborfightback.org
Web: http://laborfightback.org

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**Denver Peace Council**

salutes the

**Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases**

and all peace, justice and environmentalist forces in the U.S. and around the world, who are fighting for the closure of all U.S. foreign military bases.
The most urgent issue in Syria is putting an end to the violence of foreign intervention that has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people and the displacement of millions of Syrians both internally or as refugees abroad.

HOSC demands:

- An immediate end to the U.S. policy of forced regime change in Syria and full recognition and compliance by the U.S., NATO and their allies with principles of international law and the U.N. Charter, including respect for the independence and territorial integrity of Syria.

- An immediate end to all foreign aggression against Syria, and serious efforts toward a political resolution to the war.

- An immediate end to all military, financial, logistical and intelligence support by the U.S., NATO and their regional allies to all foreign mercenaries and extremists in the Middle East region.

- An immediate end to economic sanctions against Syria. Massive international aid for displaced people within Syria and Syrian refugees abroad.

It is not our business to support or oppose President Assad or the Syrian government. Only the Syrian people have the right to decide the legitimacy of their government.

Only in a peaceful and independent Syria, free of foreign aggression, can the people of Syria freely exercise their sovereign rights, express their free will and make free choices about their government and their country’s leadership.
The Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom, United States Section (WILPF-US) is proud to be a founding organization of the Coalition Against US Foreign Military Bases and enthusiastically supports this inaugural Conference!

Today, we are still confronted with the great challenge to end the root causes of war, militarism and imperialism.

One step to do this is to engage with organizations and communities here and internationally to expose the issues related to the US justification of its military presence in countries worldwide, working collaboratively in a Coalition such as this, both nationally and internationally. WILPF-US will be working through our national DISARM-End Wars, Advancing Human Rights and Earth Democracy committees.

We support the commitment of Members of this Coalition to work to educate and convince the American public and our lawmakers that overseas bases must be closed despite justifications offered for their continued existence.

We must work to stop the US military presence in foreign countries where on-base activities pollute air, land and water that then impact the health of surrounding communities and ecosystems. Furthermore, exploitation of local on-base workers and of local women and children of surrounding communities through the sex industry, sexual violence and rape cannot be tolerated and must be prosecuted as the campaign to close foreign bases proceeds.

With the advent of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (https://www.un.org/disarmament/ptnw/), WILPF-US is focusing efforts on our Petition to the US President and Senate to ratify this nuclear ban treaty. We welcome endorsements and signatures from Conference individual and organizational participants! We invite everyone to assist us with publicizing this petition through social media and gathering signatures.

Access the online Petition at bit.ly/wilpfus-bantreatypetition
If you’d rather circulate the petition on paper, find it at bit.ly/WILPFpaperBanTreatyPetition
Contact us for further information at info@wilpfus.org (Subject: Attn: DISARM-End Wars)

Dismantle the Empire of Bases • Rescue Democracy at Home • Restore the Earth

ENVIRONMENTALISTS
AGAINST WAR
www.envirosagainstwar.org
Help Us Sail to Gaza to Break the Israeli Blockade!!

As a part of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla Coalition, the US campaign joins other national campaigns in Australia, Canada, Italy, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Turkey to purchase boat(s) to sail to break the illegal Israeli blockade of Gaza in the summer of 2018.

Our U.S. goal is to contribute $50,000 to the international coalition's purchase of boats. We thank you for your support to the 2016 Women's Boat to Gaza and the 2017 Solidarity with Gaza Fishers project. Fishing materials distributed in the ports of Gaza City and Deir Balah include fishing nets for 140 fishers, fishing suits for 79 fishers and 342 pieces of marine boat lighting equipment distributed to over 200 fishers.

Our fiscal sponsor is Nonviolence International, 501(c)(3), tax ID 52-164578. Donations can be made through:

https://womensboatgaza-nonviolenceinternational.nationbuilder.com/contribute

or by check can be mailed to:

2018 Boats to Gaza  
c/o Nonviolence International  
4000 Albemarle Street, NW, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20016

It is 5,900 miles between Washington, D.C. and Gaza. Every $5 brings us one mile closer to reaching the families in Gaza. Be a part of the journey. Contribute today!
The Queens NY Peace Council
Salutes the First Conference to Shut Down
All U.S. Foreign Military Bases

May this Conference be the beginning of a coordinated world movement to dismantle the hundreds of U.S. bases girdling the earth. The bases are the tentacles of the imperial octopus.

The Trump Administration has brought the world to the brink of war on the Korean peninsula. Trump's appalling and reckless "Fire and Fury" comment was a thinly veiled threat to use nuclear weapons on North Korea.

We demand that the U.S. reverse course.

- No more provocative rhetoric from Trump and no more provocative actions from the US military. Intensified diplomacy now. De-escalate tension now.
- The United States and South Korea must immediately cease military maneuvers in the region, providing North Korea with an opportunity to reciprocate.
- The THAAD missiles near the North Korea-South Korea border must be de-activated and removed. They enable a U.S. first strike against North Korea.
- The United States must engage in good faith, direct talks with North Korea without pre-conditions, both on immediate issues and on a peace treaty formally ending the Korean War (1950-53).
- All states in the region must stop military actions that could be interpreted as provocative, including such actions as the forward deployment of additional military forces by the United States.
- Korea — all of it; it is one nation — has a right to its sovereignty and independence. The U.S. regime-change policy with respect to North Korea is illegal and immoral.

The regime-change policy and the nuclear targeting of North Korea by the U.S. are the reason North Korea left the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and embarked on a nuclear weapons program.

The U.S. has no right to decide the nature of the government in North Korea, or enforce the partition of the Korean peninsula, or block steps to unity and social progress desired by the people of Korea, North and South.

The National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund

Are you concerned that your income tax payment to the US Government is used for war and military purposes? Are you a person of conscience who would prefer that your income taxes are not used to support war? Then join us in helping to pass a law so that your taxes go for human needs and non-military purposes.

Our bill, recently introduced by Rep. John Lewis, is H.R. 1947 and is called the "Religious Freedom Peace Tax Act of 2017". When passed into law a fund would be created in which your conscripted tax dollars, going to The Pentagon and other military programs, would only be used for non-military purposes. People of conscience would no longer be paying for war.

Help support our work and join us in making this law a reality. Let us expand conscientious objection to tax payment for the sake of peace, liberty, and conscience. Contact us: info@peacetaxfund.org or 202-483-3751

www.peacetaxfund.org
THE PRESIDENT IS A CIVILIAN

The President is not a lawful combatant.
You might think that the President is in the military because he is "Commander in Chief".
Not so.
The President was given power over the military to be sure that their goals are the society's goals.
The President cannot kill, or order a person to be killed. 5th Amendment

The Bill of Rights is the Bill of Human Rights.

There are some ways that the Government cannot act towards anyone on earth.
5th Amendment
Killing people
8th Amendment
Cruelty to criminals
8th & 9th Amendment
Cruelty to anyone
THE BILL OF RIGHTS PRECEDES THE FLAG

Defending democracy does not justify foreign bases.

In the service of American imperialism and corporate interests worldwide, the health and environmental impacts of these bases on military personnel, surrounding communities and ecosystems is a violation of human rights and the rights of nature.

www.theAllianceForDemocracy.org

Alliance for Democracy
Ending corporate domination Establishing true democracy
**CLOSE GUANTANAMO**

*Five classes of reasons why the 1903 Lease is VOID*

1. The lease was never valid
   - Cuban president Palma, who signed the lease, exceeded his authority under the Cuban Constitution, which contained the restriction "That the Government of Cuba shall never enter into any ... compact with any foreign power ... which will ... permit [them] ... to obtain ... control over any portion of the island."

2. The initial conditions have never been met.
   - The lease was for Guantánamo and Bahía Honda. The US has never and will never occupy Bahía Honda.

3. Breach
   - Cuba offers the lease of the properties to the United States for the purpose of the protection of the Cuban people, and the Cuban Government. Cuba has a right to this protection.
   - The rental is $2000 in gold, not $2000 in dollars, or cardboard.
   - $2000 in gold is 99 ounces as of the date that the US went off the Gold standard.
   - Zoning violation - "for no other purpose".

4. The termination conditions have occurred
   - The lease is for "as long as necessary". Cuba no longer needs the protection of the United States.

5. International law
   - Clausula rebus sic stantibus - the underlying conditions have evaporated. The US is no longer the ally of Cuba
   - Pacta sunt servanda - Promises must be kept.

**YANQUI, GO HOME**

*Latin American Solidarity Committee
WNY Peace Center*

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**The Baltimore Phil Berrigan Memorial Veterans For Peace**

welcome the

No Bases Conference to Baltimore!

**Come Back to Baltimore in May 2018**

to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Catonsville 9 Viet Nam Draft File Burning


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**EINSTEIN EXPLAINS**

THE CURVATURE OF POLITICAL SPACE, REGULATORY CAPTURE, AND THE PROBLEM UNDERLYING THE CONCEPT OF THE FREE MARKET AND THE LEVEL PLAYING FIELD.
During the Vietnam War, U.S. draftees and enlistees threw a wrench into the Pentagon’s war machine, emerged as anti-war leaders and organized for a union in the armed forces. Letters and interviews of GI war resisters combine with memoir and historical research to highlight the relation between rank-and-file troop resistance and the struggle to smash state power from the Paris Commune to the Portuguese revolution.

**Turn the Guns Around**, by John Catalinotto
To buy: tinyurl.com/zu04a2v; or see: facebook.com/turngunsaround/

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The Jeju Navy Base is a South Korean base close to China. We are concerned that it will be a US military foothold serving the US strategy to contain China. Despite our 10-year struggle to stop the construction, the base was opened in 2016. Ten foreign warships came in 2017, including the first US nuclear submarine, which entered the Jeju navy base in November. For years US-led joint war exercises have been held in the Jeju Sea. We are now witnessing a move for the building of an air force base, under the name of the 2nd Jeju Airport project. Jeju was declared Island of World Peace in 2005, and 2018 is the 70th year since the Jeju April 3rd people’s uprising and US-led massacre. The Jeju navy base should be closed! The militarization of Jeju should be stopped! War exercises should be stopped! We say No War! Yes Peace! (Gangjeong Village Anti-Navy Base Committee, Jeju Island, Korea)

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**Inter-Island Solidarity Peace for the Sea Camp**
July 25-29, 2018*

**Jeju Grand March for Life and Peace**
July 30-August 4, 2018*

*tentative dates

Join in solidarity for peace and no bases on Jeju Island and around North-east Asia!

More information forthcoming: www.savejejunow.org
Facebook Groups:
"No Naval Base on Jeju" and "Inter-Island Solidarity for Peace"
Greater Brunswick PeaceWorks
Supports the No foreign Bases Conference

Pax Chrisi Baltimore
supports the aims of the No Foreign Bases Conference

More than 30 years of advocacy in Baltimore for justice and peace

Chuck Michaels
cwmichaels@igm.org

Mt. Toby Friends Meeting
Peace & Social Concerns
applauds Coalition efforts to oppose and close U.S. Foreign Military Bases in Baltimore
Thank you for this Conference

Party of Communists USA
supports the fight to close US bases abroad
PartyOfCommunistsUSA.org
718-979-6563
For peace, equality and socialism

Films + Community Can Change the World

An initiative of Bullfrog Films, Bullfrog Communities offers community screening packages to groups that are looking to raise funds, inspire, engage, and educate using the power of documentary films!

Former Israeli and Palestinian combatants join together, transforming from soldiers committed to battle to non-violent peace activists.

John Pilger reveals that the U.S. and China, both armed with nuclear weapons, may well be on the road to war.

Chronicles Costa Rica’s abolition of its army almost 70 years ago and commitment to fostering a peaceful society.

Connect with us online at
www.bullfrogcommunities.com/bc_warpeace

www.bullfrogcommunities.com • www.bullfrogfilms.com
info@bullfrogcommunities.com • (610) 779-8226
Some Basic Facts Everybody Should Know About U.S. Foreign Military Bases

- United States has as many as 1,000 military bases and tens of thousands of troops in more than 170 foreign countries.
- 72 years after WWII and 64 years after the Korean truce, there are still scores of bases in Germany, Japan and South Korea.
- The ten foreign countries with the most U.S. troops are: Japan 40,000, Germany 34,000, South Korea 23,000, Italy 12,000, Afghanistan 10,000, UK 8,100, Kuwait 7,100, Iraq 6,100, Bahrain 5,900, and Guam 4,300.
- In addition, United States has 19 Naval air carriers (and 15 more planned), each as part of a Carrier Strike Group, composed of roughly 7,500 personnel, and a carrier air wing of 65 to 70 aircraft — each of which can be considered a floating military base.
- In 2017, as the Pentagon pivots from massive deployments to elite troops and drone warfare, U.S. Special Operations Forces are deployed to 149 countries around the world, about 75% of the nations on the planet.
- The annual cost of these bases to the American taxpayers is approximately $156 billion. The support of U.S. foreign military bases drains funds that can be used to fund human needs and enable our cities and States to provide necessary services for the people.
- Lethal agents such as nerve gasses, depleted uranium, live ordnance and nuclear weapons are stored on bases. Dumping of toxic chemicals, radioactive contaminants and massive amounts of wastes pollute the environment, leak into ground water and adjacent seas destroying agriculture and fisheries, none of which the U.S. military admits being responsible to clean up.
- U.S. military bases and Naval fleets encircle the world, including in outer space, to ensure U.S. military, economic and financial domination. They are intended to guarantee corporate access to markets, resources and cheap labor. They are NOT in defense of U.S. national security.
- Bases are sources of aggression, espionage, sabotage, provoke conflict and generate a target for opponents. U.S. bases surrounding countries such as Russia, China, Iran, Syria and North Korea understandably creates defensive military reactions and is destabilizing.
- Bases are used for extra-judicial transport, imprisonment and torture of people caught in conflict.
- Bases are centers for prostitution, high levels of rape and sexual abuse and neglected children with absentee fathers. Local authorities cannot punish crimes by foreign military personnel because of Status of Forces agreements.
- The U.S. Declaration of Independence justified revolution in part because the British King was “quartering large bodies of armed troops among us,” and absolving them for murdering local inhabitants.