

development of “bunker buster” nuclear weapons, while it denounces other nations that seek their own nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, the US is escalating attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan -- including the use of pilotless aircraft -- and retains plans for the use of military force against Iran, including nuclear weapons. You may be impressed by these planes, but other families cower in fear and dread at the sight and sound of these weapons. Why do we support this spiral of violence?

The fighting machines of all branches of the military have one purpose: to kill people and destroy property. For example, a nuclear powered missile-launching Trident submarine, the Centerpiece of the Navy’s arsenal, can launch 192 thermonuclear bombs in half an hour--obliterating millions of people, and destroying a continent. The Navy says that the submarines “will deter aggression” forever. Many scientists believe that they are accident-prone, constitute a lethal threat to the human species and, despite every precaution, eventually will be used. Many people believe that such weapons, and all other weapons of war, are contrary to the moral principles of Christianity, Judaism, Islam and other humanitarian religions.

Applicants that are fraudulently enlisted by recruiters are punished--however the recruiters are almost never punished. According to numerous recent reports, recruiters from all branches of the military engage in fraudulent recruiting practice. Women, African-American and Latinos are fraudulently enlisted at higher than average rates, but the Department of Defense Inspector General does little to stop this crime.

Most military persons suffer some degree of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or physical disability. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder occurs, in varying intensity, in 7 out of 10 persons in the military. These persons include, but are not limited to, those engaged in combat, those subject to sexual harassment and rape, and even the very perpetrators of these acts. Tens of thousands suffer from Gulf War Syndrome from the first Gulf war. In the current war, similar numbers of persons are suffering from PTSD and extreme physical injury, including severe brain injury. Don’t we deserve better than that in life?

We believe that young people should think carefully before joining any branch of the military. Are not our lives better spent combating poverty, illiteracy, racism, sexism, and homelessness here in the US and throughout the world? Are not the people of all nations better off teaching the next generation to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence?

More info: Paul Bossie, *What will we give/leave the children of the world coalition*, 773-826-8136

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Please help support our work.**

SAY “NO!!” TO THE AIR & WATER SHOW

Please join our 17th annual, nonviolent protest of Chicago’s Air and Water Show on Sat. & Sun., Aug. 15-16 at North Avenue beach. We will be there from 9AM-4PM each day but you may join us for any period of time you are able to do so. We hold signs and banners and distribute this leaflet to those who attend. We expect to be at the East end of the pedestrian bridge which crosses Lake Shore Drive about 2 blocks north of North Avenue. If you have trouble finding us, call our cell phone: 773-494-1421 or 312-307-4226. . . PLEASE JOIN US . . .



Welcome to the Air and Water Show which will be here at North Avenue Beach on Saturday and Sunday. Over 2 million persons will attend. But please remember, the military is not doing this to entertain you. *This is not family entertainment.* This show visits major cities on a “goodwill recruiting” tour to assist military recruiters in reaching their recruiting goal for this year. It also helps to gain support for military spending and the use of military force. So we ask . . .

**THE US ARMED FORCES
WHAT’S REALLY IN IT FOR YOU?**

The US Armed Forces recruiting literature paints an exciting, attractive picture for young women and men: the opportunity to operate high-tech submarines, surface ships, helicopters, tanks, and assorted electronic equipment; to fly fighter planes and to launch nuclear missiles. Military life is portrayed as epitomizing the ultimate in patriotism, teamwork and discipline, all with good pay. This message ignores some shocking and disturbing realities.

Military veterans constitute one of the largest categories of the unemployed.

According to a study by the Rand National Defense Research Institute, unemployment among veteran 20-24 years of age is consistently higher than non-veterans their age. In a study by Ohio State University, it was found that only about 12% of men and 6% of women use their military skills in civilian jobs.



Applicants do not necessarily get the job they want in the military. The enlistment document signed by applicants gives each branch of the military the power to change your job, status, pay, allowances and benefits, and extend your enlistment without notice.

Discrimination is rampant in the military. People of color represent 1/3 of enlisted personnel, but 1/8 of the officers. Discrimination against gays and lesbians is official military policy. And sexism and sexual violence are implicitly, if not explicitly, used in military training.

Military discipline and teamwork do not encourage free thinking and self-reliance. They are aimed at creating a conditioned reflex to obey orders which, if disobeyed, can lead to criminal punishment.

The Military is a major polluter of the environment, dumping tens of thousands of tons of radioactive water, garbage, sewage, and other wastes into the oceans each year. According to Greenpeace, thousands of acres of once agriculturally useful land and beautiful wilderness are now covered by military bases, airports and training and storage centers. Most recently, Depleted Uranium munitions has poisoned Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Kosovo. Military pollution poisons the very air we breathe.

The Military receives 54% of the money you pay to income taxes. The US military budget exceeds the military budget of all the other countries in the world combined.

Military spending produces no useful consumer goods. It represents a loss to medical, education and other needed services, as well as repair of roads and bridges. Military spending creates fewer jobs than almost any other kind of spending. The US economy is based more

and more on military spending.

All branches of the military may be used for political purposes of which you disapprove

For example, Navy ships (such as the battleship *New Jersey*) and Air Force B-52's were used to bombard Vietnam in a war that former Defense Secretary Robert MacNamar a has condemned as a *tragic error!*

Over the last years, US ships and planes attacked Sudan, Yugoslavia and Afghanistan which has taken the lives of tens of thousands of Afghans. The recent invasion/occupation of Iraq is based upon half-truths and lies and has already taken the lives of hundreds of thousands Iraqi civilians and military personnel, plus over 4000 US military personnel.

Torture at Abu Ghraib (Iraq), Guantanamo (Cuba) and Bagram (Afghanistan) prisons and other unnamed locations was government policy and can be reinstated by Obama or any future president. In fact, It's possible it has never stopped. Even now, the US pursues

