
US Imperialism Newsletters
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“A people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.” James Madison

Knowledge and Action Against US Wars
An underlying theme of this newsletter and of all of the newsletters pertaining to war is the necessity of the US peace movement in all its local organization to be informed, to try to see through lies and secrecy, to think, and to act both locally and globally. “. . .the dominant interpretation of the past often enjoys its status not because of its superior historical accuracy but because of its proponents’ social power.” Karl Jacoby, Shadows at Dawn: An Apache Massacre and the Violence of History (p. 276).

Often the argument is made that peacemaking must begin with individual search for inner equanimity, steadiness, and strength, and nobody can deny that foundation for peace, but our leaders’ reckless lawlessness, making the world hostile and unstable and killing millions of people, destabilizes each and every one of us locally and individually, and must be stopped. “Of all the enemies to public liberty, war is, perhaps, the most to be dreaded, because it comprises and develops the germ of every other. War is the parent of armies; from these proceed debts and taxes. . . .” James Madison, “Political Observations,” April 20, 1795. In order to act, we are not compelled to wait until we have fully matured, and anyway a lifetime is seldom enough time to enable that ideal condition. –Dick
My blog: It's the War Department
http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/

Newsletters:
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

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http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/


Instead of Defense Department: War Department
Instead of War on Terror: War to Control Resources
Instead of Taliban: Afghan/Pakistan Pashtun Resistance to Occupation


Nos. 7 & 8 below.

Here is the link to all of OMNI’s newsletters

http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/  Laying the foundation for peace, justice, and ecology in knowledge.

Many books have been written prophesying the end of US Empire with titles like: Suicide of a Superpower; The Empire Has No Clothes; Taming American Power; Nemesis: the Last Days of the American Republic; Colossus: The Rise and Fall of the American Empire; and Selling Out A Superpower.

"To initiate a war of aggression, therefore, is not only an international crime, it is the supreme international crime differing only from other war crimes in that it
contains within itself the accumulated evil of the whole." -- Robert H. Jackson,
Chief U.S. Prosecutor, Nuremberg Military Tribunal

Verse for those who see no evil:
If we see right, we see our Woes,
Then what avails it to have Eyes?
From Ignorance our Comfort flows;
The only wretched are the wise. Matthew Prior

Nos. 7 & 8 below.

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Modernizing Repression: Police Training and Nation Building in the American Century (Culture, Politics, and the Cold War) [Paperback]
Jeremy Kuzmarov (Author)

Book Description
Publication Date: June 30, 2012 | Series: Culture, Politics, and the Cold War

As American troops became bogged down first in Iraq and then Afghanistan, a key component of U.S. strategy was to build up local police and security forces in an attempt to establish law and order. This approach, Jeremy Kuzmarov shows, is consistent with practices honed over more than a century in developing nations within the expanding orbit of the American empire.

From the conquest of the Philippines and Haiti at the turn of the twentieth century through Cold War interventions and the War on Terror, police training has been valued as a cost-effective means of suppressing radical and nationalist movements, precluding the need for direct U.S. military intervention and thereby avoiding the public opposition it often arouses.

Unlike the spectacular but ephemeral pyrotechnics of the battlefield, police training programs have had lasting consequences for countries under the American imperial umbrella, fostering new elites, creating powerful tools of social
control, and stifling political reform. These programs have also backfired, breeding widespread resistance, violence, and instability telltale signs of **blowback** that has done more to undermine than advance U.S. strategic interests abroad.

Dirty Wars is a Must See!

IVAW [feedback@ivaw.org]

To: James R. Bennett  Thursday, June 13, 2013  8:01 AM

Dirty Wars: Learn More

- Watch the Trailer
- See the Film
- Host a Screening
- Order the Book
- Praise and Reviews
- Jeremy Scahill on Democracy Now!
- More about Bradley Manning
- More on Edward Snowden

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- Give us your feedback

Dear Dick,

Last week marked the start of the historic trial of whistleblower Bradley Manning, who exposed the extent of Iraqi civilian casualties as well as problematic US diplomatic relationships worldwide. Within days, the reality of corporate and government surveillance of US citizens was exposed by former CIA employee and NSA contractor Edward Snowden. **There could not have been a better day than Friday to release the film Dirty Wars**, and **you need to see it**.

**Why Dirty Wars is so Important**

September 11, 2001 changed more than just air travel. Within days of those powerful events, congress essentially...
check by passing the **Authorization for Use of Military Force**. The language contained within this resolution set the stage for the so-called "War on Terror." We now know that there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and that many of us were manipulated into fighting an unjust, pre-emptive war of aggression. What **Manning, Snowden, and Scahill** confirm is that manipulation, lies, and covert operations are much more pervasive than we may have understood previously.

**All of these operations have something in common: They're being performed in your name, and you are paying for them.**

US wars and occupations are not limited to Afghanistan as some might believe. With the increased use of drone technology, our military is capable of conducting warfare without ever having boots on the ground or pilots in the sky. The civilian casualties have been targeted. In *Dirty Wars*, Scahill exposes the realities of US military intervention in Yemen, Somalia, and - a covert war conducted outside the range of the press without effective congressional oversight or public debate. Unprecedented access, Scahill tells the chilling story of an American citizen marked for assassination by his own government.

The film, directed by **Rick Rowley**, has won the Cinematography Award for U.S. Documentary at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival and the Grand Jury Prize at the Boston Independent Film Festival. *Variety* calls it "jaw-dropping ... [with] the power to pry open government lockboxes." The Sundance jury said it is "one of the most stunning looking documentaries [we've] ever seen."

Find out why Manning and Snowden's revelations are so important. **See what's really going on in our name and attend a screening of Dirty Wars near you.**

In Solidarity,

Maggie Martin and Matt Howard

Director of Organizing and Director of Communications

Iraq Veterans Against the War is a 501(c)(3) charity, and welcomes your tax deductible contributions
Synopsis

As a prelude to war in 2003, the administration of George W. Bush did its utmost to convince the public that Saddam Hussein's Iraq posed a threat to American security from the secret development of weapons of mass destruction. Within a year of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, it became clear that no such weapons existed. Sadly, this was not the first time the American public was urged to support a war for reasons that turned out later to be scarcely credible. As law professor John Quigley amply demonstrates in a damning indictment of U.S. military interventionism since World War II, the Bush administration's decades-old pattern of going to war on a pretense rather than informing the public of the government's true reasons.

This newly updated and revised paperback edition of The Ruses for War analyzes each instance of military intervention abroad by the United States since World War II from the perspective of what the government told the public, or did not, about the reasons for war. Quigley concludes that the government's explanations differed greatly from reality.

What emerges from his research is a tale of coverups, distortions, and manipulation of the media by our country's leaders for the purpose of gaining public support.

American imperialism
Spheres of influence during the final phase of the Cold War in the 1980s. The US and USSR are shown in dark green and orange respectively, and their spheres of influence in light green and orange.

A 1900 Campaign poster for the Republican Party. "The American flag has not been planted in foreign soil, but for humanity's sake.\[1\]", President William McKinley, July 12, 1900. On one side is shown the situation before McKinley's presidential election victory: "Gone Democratic: A run on the bank, Spanish rule in Cuba the situation was in 1900, after four years of McKinley's leadership: "Gone Republican: a run to the bank, (the Spanish–American War took place in 1898).

American imperialism is the economic, military, and cultural influence of the United States on other countries. The concept of an American Empire was first popularized during the presidency of James K. Polk who led the United States to war with Mexico over the American War of 1846, and the eventual annexation of California and other western territories via the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Gadsden purchase.\[3\][4]
Imperialism and empire

Further information: Modern empires, Overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii, History of the Philippines (1898–1946), and Philippine–American War.

On the cover of Puck published on April 6, 1901, in the wake of gainful victory in the Spanish–American War, Columbia—the National personification of the U.S.—wears an Easter bonnet in the form of a warship bearing the words "World Power" and the word "Expansion" on the smoke coming out of its stack.

Thomas Jefferson, in the 1790s, awaited the fall of the Spanish empire until “our population can be sufficiently advanced to gain it from them piece by piece.” In turn, historian Sidney Lens notes that “the urge for expansion – at the expense of other peoples – goes back to the beginnings of the nation.”

Stuart Creighton Miller says that the public’s sense of innocence about Realpolitik impairs popular recognition of U.S. imperial conduct.
occupying foreign territory has led to policies of exerting influence via other means, including governing other countries via surrogates, where domestically unpopular governments survive only through U.S. support.[7]

The maximum geographical extension of American direct political and military control happened in the aftermath of World War II, in the occupations of Germany and Austria in May and later Japan and Korea in September 1945 and before the independence of the Philippines.

American exceptionalism

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American exceptionalism

American exceptionalism is the theory that the United States occupies a special niche among the nations of the world[8] in terms of its national evolution, and political and religious institutions and origins.

Philosopher Douglas Kellner traces the identification of American exceptionalism as a distinct phenomenon back to 19th century French observer Tocqueville, who concluded by agreeing that the U.S., uniquely, was "proceeding along a path to which no limit can be perceived."[9]

American exceptionalism is popular among people within the U.S.,[10] but its validity and its consequences are disputed.

As a Monthly Review editorial opines on the phenomenon, "in Britain, empire was justified as a benevolent 'white man's burden'. And in the United States, empire does not even exist; 'we' are merely protecting the causes of freedom, democracy, and justice worldwide."[11]

Imperialism at the heart of U.S. foreign policy

Further information: Military history of the United States, Overseas interventions of the United States

Historian Donald W. Meinig says that imperial behavior for the United States dates at least to the Louisiana Purchase, which he described – imperial in the sense of the aggressive encroachment of one people upon the territory of another, resulting in the subjugation of that people – policies towards the Native Americans he said were "designed to remold them into a people more appropriately conformed to imperialism.

Writers and academics of the early 20th century, like Charles A. Beard, in support of non-interventionism (sometimes referred to in a derogatory manner as
"isolationism"), discussed American policy as being driven by self-interested expansionism going back as far as the writing of the Constitution, and do not agree. Pat Buchanan claims that the modern United States' drive to empire is "far removed from what the Founding Fathers had intended the young Republic to become."[13]

Andrew Bacevich argues that the U.S. did not fundamentally change its foreign policy after the Cold War, and remains focused on an effort to expand its control across the world.[14] As the surviving superpower at the end of the Cold War, the U.S. could focus its assets in new directions, the future being "up for grabs" according to former Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Paul Wolfowitz in 1991.[15]

In Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media, the political activist Noam Chomsky argues that exceptionalism and the denials of imperialism are the result of a systematic strategy of propaganda, to "manufacture opinion" as the process has long been described in other countries.

### Views of American imperialism

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Caricature showing Uncle Sam lecturing four children labelled Philippines, Hawaii, Porto Rico [sic] and Cuba in front of children holding books labelled with various U.S. states. The caption reads: "School Begins. Uncle Sam (to his new class in Civilization): Now, children, you've got to learn these lessons whether you want to or not! But just take a look at the class ahead of you, and remember that, in a little while, you will feel as glad to be here as they are!"
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Journalist Ashley Smith divides theories of the U.S. imperialism into 5 broad categories: (1) "liberal" theories, (2) "social-democratic" theories, (3) "Leninist" theories, (4) theories of "super-imperialism", and (5) "Hardt-and-Negri-ite" theories.[17][page needed] There is also a conservative, anti-interventionist view as expressed by American journalist John T. Flynn:

The enemy aggressor is always pursuing a course of larceny, murder, rapine and barbarism. We are always moving forward with high mission, a destiny imposed by the Deity to regenerate our victims, while incidentally capturing their markets; to civilise savage and senile and paranoid peoples, while blundering accidentally into their oil wells.[18]

A "social-democratic" theory[ attribution needed] says that imperialistic U.S. policies are the products of the excessive influence of certain sectors of government—the arms industry in alliance with military and political bureaucracies and sometimes other industries such as oil and finance, a combination often referred to as the "military–industrial complex". The complex is said to benefit from war profiteering and the looting of natural resources public interest.[19] The proposed solution is typically unceasing popular vigilance in order to apply counter-pressure.[20] Johnson held

Alfred T. Mahan, who served as an officer in the U.S. Navy during the late 19th century, supported the notion of American imperialism...
Influence of Sea Power upon History. In chapter one Mahan argued that modern industrial nations must secure foreign markets for their goods and, consequently, they must maintain a maritime force that is capable of protecting these trade routes. Mahan's argument also justifies imperialism by industrial nations such as the United States.

A theory of "super-empire" says that imperialistic U.S. policies are driven not simply by the interests of American businesses, but by the interests of the economic elites of a global alliance of developed countries. Capitalism in Europe, the U.S., and Japan has become too entangled to permit military or geopolitical conflict between these countries, and the central conflict in modern imperialism is between the global core and global periphery rather than between imperialist powers. Political scientists Leo Panitch and Samuel Gindin hold versions of this view. Their view was wishful thinking.

Empire

In the book "Empire", Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri argue that "the decline of Empire has begun". Hardt says the Iraq War is a classically imperialist war, and is the last gasp of a doomed strategy. This new era still has colonizing power, but it has moved from national military forces based on the supply and distribution of goods to networked biopower based on an informational and affective economy. The U.S. is central to the development and constitution of international power and sovereignty, termed Empire, but is decentralized and global, and not ruled by one sovereign state; "the United States is in a privileged position in Empire, but this privilege derives not from its similarities to the old European imperialist powers, but from its differences." They draw on the theories of Spinoza, Foucault, Deleuze, and Italian autonomist marxists.

Geographer David Harvey says there has emerged a new type of imperialism due to geographical distinctions as well as uneven levels of development. There has emerged three new global economic and politics blocs: the United States, the European Union, and Asia centered around China and Russia. He says there are tensions between the three major blocs over resources and economic power, citing the 2003 invasion of Iraq as an example of the U.S. rivals from controlling oil. Furthermore, Harvey argues there can arise conflict within the major blocs between capitalists and politicians due to their opposing economic interests. Politicians, on the other hand, live in geographically fixed locations and are, in the U.S. and Europe, accountable to the electorate. The 'new' imperialism, then, has led to an alignment of the interests of capitalists and politicians in order to prevent the rise and expansion of potential rivals from challenging America's dominance.

Neoconservative Victor Davis Hanson dismisses the notion of an American empire altogether, mocking it to other empires that sent proconsuls to reside over client states, which in turn impose taxes on coerced subjects to pay for the legions. Instead, American bases are based on contractual obligations — costly to us and profitable to their hosts. We do not see any profits in Korea, but instead accept the risk of losing almost 40,000 of our youth to ensure that Kias can flood our shores and that shaggy students can protest outside our embassy in Seoul.

U.S. military bases

Further information: List of United States military bases

Chalmers Johnson argues that America's version of the colony is the military base. Chip Pitts argues similarly that enduring U.S. bases are "Iraq as a colony".

While territories such as Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico remain under U.S. control, the U.S. allowed many of its overseas territories or occupations to gain independence after World War II. Examples include the Philippines...
zone (1979), Palau (1981), the Federated States of Micronesia (1986), and the Marshall Islands (1986). Most of them still have U.S. bases within their territories. In the case of Okinawa, which came under U.S. administration after the battle of Okinawa during World War II, this happened despite local opposition.[41] In 2003, the United States had bases in over 36 countries worldwide.[41]

Benevolent imperialism

Main article: Neoconservatism

Max Boot defends U.S. imperialism by claiming: "U.S. imperialism has been the greatest force for good in the world during the past century. It has defeated communism and Nazism and has intervened against the Taliban and Serbian ethnic cleansing." Boot willingly used "imperialism" to describe United States policy, not only in the early 20th century but "since at least 1803".[42][43]

Columnist Charles Krauthammer says, "People are now coming out of the closet on the word 'empire.'" This embrace of empire is made by many, including British historian Paul Johnson, and writers Dinesh D'Souza and Mark Steyn. It is also made by some liberal hawks, such as Brzezinski, and Michael Ignatieff.[44]

For instance, British historian Niall Ferguson argues that the United States is an empire, but believes that this is a good thing. Ferguson sees the British Empire and the imperial role of the United States in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, though he describes the United States' political and social structures as more like those of the Roman Empire than of the British. Ferguson argues that all these empires have had both positive and negative aspects, but that the positive aspects of the U.S. empire will, if it learns from history and its mistakes, greatly outweigh its negative aspects.[45][page needed]

Another point of view believes United States expansion overseas has been imperialistic, but this imperialism as a temporary phenomenon, a corruption of American ideals or the relic of a past historical era. Historian Samuel Flagg Bemis argues that Spanish–American War expansionism was a short and "a great aberration in American history", a very different form of territorial growth than that of earlier American history.[46] Historian Joseph Nye argues that Spanish–American War expansionism not as an aberration, but as a culmination of United States expansion westward.[47] But both agree that the occupation of the Philippines marked the end of U.S. empire, hence denying that present United States foreign policy is imperialistic.[48]

Historian Victor Davis Hanson argues that the U.S. does not pursue world domination, but maintains worldwide influence by a system of mutually beneficial exchanges.[48]

Liberal internationalists argue that even though the present world order is dominated by the United States, the form taken by that dominance is not imperial. International relations scholar John Ikenberry argues that international institutions have taken the place of empire.[49]

International relations scholar Joseph Nye argues that U.S. power is more and more based on "soft power", which comes from cultural, military or economic force.[50] This includes such factors as the widespread desire to emigrate to the United States, the prestige and influence of foreign students at U.S. universities, and the spread of U.S. styles of popular music and cinema. Thus the U.S., no matter how hegemonic, can no longer be considered to be an 'empire' in the classic sense of the term.

Factors unique to the "Age of imperialism"

A variety of factors may have coincided during the "Age of Imperialism" in the late 19th century, when the United States and the other great powers rapidly expanded their territorial possessions. Some of these are explained, or used as examples for the various perceived forms of American imperialism.
The prevalence of racism, notably Ernst Haeckel's "biogenic law," John Fiske's conception of Anglo-Saxon racial superiority, and call to "civilize and Christianize" – all manifestations of a growing Social Darwinism and racism in some schools of American political thought.

Early in his career, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Roosevelt was instrumental in preparing the Navy for the Spanish–American War. He was an enthusiastic proponent of testing the U.S. military in battle, at one point stating "I should welcome almost any war, for I think this country needs one."

Debate over U.S. foreign policy

Main articles: Foreign relations of the United States, Foreign policy of the United States, and Covert United States foreign regime change actions.

Some scholars defend the historical role of the U.S., and certain prominent political figures, such as former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, that "[The U.S. does not] seek empires. We're not imperialistic. We never have been."

Thornton wrote that "[...]

Colonization finds analysts and analogies, imperialism must contend with crusaders for and against." Political theorist Michael Walzer term hegemony is better than empire to describe the US's role in the world; political scientist Robert Keohane agrees saying, a "balance is not aided...by the use of the phrase 'empire' to describe United States hegemony, since 'empire' obscures rather than illuminates the differences in form of rule between the United States and other Great Powers, such as Great Britain in the 19th century or the Soviet Union in the twentieth."

Other political scientists, such as Daniel Nexon and Thomas Wright, argue that neither term exclusively describes foreign relations of the United States, can be, and has been, simultaneously an empire and a hegemonic power. They claim that the general trend in U.S. foreign relations has been away from imperial modes of control.

Cultural imperialism

Some critics of imperialism argue that military and cultural imperialism are interdependent. American Edward Said, one of the founders of cultural studies, that,

"[...], so influential has been the discourse insisting on American specialness, altruism and opportunity, that imperialism in the United States turned up only rarely and recently in accounts of the United States culture, politics and history. But the connection between imperial politics and culture in North America, and in particular in the United States, is astonishingly direct."

International relations scholar David Rothkopf disagrees and argues that cultural imperialism is the innocent result of globalization, with U.S. and Western ideas and products that many non-U.S. and non-Western consumers across the world voluntarily choose to consume. He offers a similar analysis, but argues further that the global cultural influence of the U.S. is a good thing.

See also

This section may be in need of reorganization to comply with Wikipedia's layout guidelines. Please help by editing the article to make improvements to the overall structure. (January 2013)

- 51st state
- American Century
- American stereotypes
• Americanization
• Anti-Americanism
• Anti-imperialism
• Criticism of American foreign policy
• Inverted totalitarianism
• Loss of China
• Manifest Destiny
• Neocolonialism
• New Imperialism
• Non-interventionism
• Territories of the United States

Notes and references


2. ^ However, regarding "American rule in Cuba", the 1898 Teller Amendment had mandated that the U.S. could not annex Cuba but only leave "control of the island to its people." After Spanish troops left the island in December 1898, the United States occupied Cuba until 1902 and, as promised in the Teller Amendment, did not attempt to annex the island. Under the Platt Amendment, crafted in 1901 by U.S. Secretary of War Elihu Root however, important decisions of the government of Cuba remained subject to override by the United States. This suzerainty bred resentment toward the U.S.


18. Flynn, John T. (1944) As We Go Marching. p. 240


22. Leo Panitch, "What you need to know about May Day"


31. Autonomism#Italian_autonomism


34. Harvey 2005, pp. 77–78.


36. Harvey 2005, pp. 76–78

37. VDH's Private Papers::A Funny Sort of Empire

38. America's Empire of Bases


42. American Imperialism? No Need to Run Away From the Label *USA Today* May 6, 2003


56. ^ See, for instance, Michael Mann (2005), Incoherent Empire(Verso); Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. (2005), "The American Empire? Not so fast", Policy, Volume XXII, No 1, Spring;


63. ^ Rothkopf, David In Praise of Cultural Imperialism? Foreign Policy, Number 107, Summer 1997, pp. 38-53


Further reading

Wikiquote has a collection of quotations related to: American Imperialism

Wikiquote has a collection of quotations related to: American benevolence


US NAVY, US IMPERIALISM

GOOGLE SEARCH JULY 3, 2013, PAGE ONE

[See: US Westward Imperialism, Pacific, E. Asia Newsletters. –Dick]

1. American imperialism - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
   en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_imperialism

Alfred T. Mahan, who served as an officer in the U.S. Navy during the late 19th century, supported the notion of American imperialism in his 1890 book titled The ...

Lesson 8 The US Navy and American Imperialism, 1898-1914.ppt
Lesson 8: The U.S. Navy and American Imperialism, 1898-1914. Learning Objectives. Know the influence of the mass media in U.S. relations with Spain and the...

2. American Imperialism - SparkNotes
   www.sparknotes.com › ... › The Spanish American War (1898-1901)

   The US switch to imperialist behavior that occurred in 1898 has been a topic of great... but because the US... a naval base from which the US...

3. U.S. Savage Imperialism - Z Communications
   www.zcommunications.org › ZMag › Noam Chomsky

   It's the only country other than Israel which has been granted the privilege of attacking a U.S. naval vessel in complete impunity. In the Israeli...

4. North Korea Says 'U.S. Imperialist Aggressor Forces' Preparing...
   www.usnews.com › News › Newsgram

   by Steven Nelson - in 71 Google+ circles

   Apr 5, 2013 - The KCNA also complained of the presence of U.S. Navy ships... means of the U.S. imperialist according to the KCNA.

5. AMERICAN IMPERIALISM: 1890-1913 - Curie Metro High School
   www.curiehs.org/ourpages/Web_based_instruction/us.../9-1.htm

   ... U.S. into imperialism; Germany sought colonies in Africa, Asia, Latin America ... U.S. should build large defensive bases and refueling stations

   web.pdx.edu/~kollinr/Portfolio/communication/imperialism.html

   The U.S. military would be the primary enforcer of President Roosevelt's imperialistic policies. To show that he said, he sent a naval task...
How was the **US Navy** used to justify American **Imperialism**? A modern navy needed coaling stations around the world in order to refuel and power its boats.

**US Imperialism** SA2 Presentation Transcript ... The **US** needed a powerful **navy** and military bases throughout the world to protect its economic interests. Need a ...

**Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism**, 1915-1940 ... They pointed, for example, to the work of the Corps and to the construction of ...

**Searches related to US Navy, US imperialism**

- United States imperialism
- US military dictionary
- US military socialism
- US military world war 1

**IMPORTANCE OF US NAVY TO US EMPIRE: SUSTAINED AND QUICK SUPPORT OF US INTERESTS ANYWHERE, TIME BY DICK BENNETT.**


"Maintaining a strong Navy is a significant investment, but it is also a very prudent and sound one—valuable return in terms of protecting our nation's security, prosperity and the American way of life," writes McCollum. The Navy is "patrolling what is essentially the world's interstate ocean highway system, ensuring the free flow of goods and goods, and in turn, preserving America's economic prosperity."

Let me get this straight. The US Navy is the only highway patrol, as if the Arkansas Highway Patrol would patrol the other states' highways, or the US Army would be the International Highway Patrol controlling speeding cars in France or Sri Lanka? And the other nations' navies, they are protecting their security, their prosperity, and their way of life; you don't discuss that issue. But it sounds rather risky for the other nations. Don't they want to protect their prosperity, and way of life; don't they wish to preserve their economic prosperity? You overlooked that?

You also say the US Navy is there "around the clock, far from our shores, defending America at all times. ..."
interest anywhere and at any time."

Slow down there Admiral. It sounds like you are saying our Highway Patrol of international waters is for the nation of the world, but for the US only. Doesn’t that put the other nations of the world at a considerable disadvantage, particularly when they remember that the US commands eight carrier battle groups, more than all the other nations possess together?

“When America’s national security is threatened by the existence of an adversary on the other side of the world, being there matters.”

Hold on Admiral, you’re racing full speed ahead. What do you mean by US national security? What sort of adversary are you referring to? A nation that dislikes having a carrier battle group parked near their shore?

“Where these threats exist, chances are high that Navy ships, submarines, aircraft, and special forces have the ability to mitigate the threat, even if the threat is hundreds of miles inland.”

I asked you to slow down. Or do you think you are talking to a class of midshipmen? What kind of threat are you referring to? Are you saying that thanks to the US Navy full spectrum dominance is generally available to attack any nation regardless of the UN Charter and other treaties? That sounds like an irresponsible bully. Like invasion.

Why I believe it would be. Who can and would do such a thing? And by the way, by “mitigate” do you mean cluster bombs, cruise missiles?

“When the decision is made to act on one of these threats, the solution may involve launching attack jets from aircraft carriers, firing cruise missiles from ships or submarines, or inserting a team of Navy SEALs to do what only Navy SEALs can do.”

You already made your point, but I suppose an Admiral can’t be expected to overlook special praise for illegal and unconstitutional, though does he really want to praise the SEALs’ unique capability of murdering an unarmed man and dumping his body in the ocean? But back to my question, though I already guess the answer: who can violate international law so extremely?

“The Navy can do all of these things, and do them all from the sea, without the need to get another country’s permission to operate within its borders.”

But what are we to say to Justice Jackson? "To initiate a war of aggression, therefore, is not only a crime, it is the supreme international crime differing only from other war crimes in that it contains within itself the accumulated evil of the whole." -- Robert H. Jackson, Chief U.S. Prosecutor, Nuremberg Military Tribunal
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Bacevich: American Century Ended
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