OMNI


Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace, Justice, and Ecology.


What’s at stake: . Listen to Justice Jackson: "To initiate a war of aggression…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, U.S. Prosecutor, Nuremberg Military Tribunal). And read the UN Charter: “All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." (Article 2, Principle 4, United Nations Charter).

Here is the link to all OMNI newsletters:


My blog:
It's the War Department

http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/

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MILITARIZING JAPAN
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*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette,* “An Armed Japan Could Help.” *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* (July 10, 2014). Could help what, who? Listen to the imperial stumble bumble: Following its surrender in 1945, the (pacifist) constitution and leadership (imposed by the conquering US), “authorized its security forces to act only in self-defense.” This was in accordance with the United Nations’ Charter: “All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.” (Article 2, Principle 4). Now listen to the sentence that follows “only in self-defense”: “Now…Japan is moving to adopt a more militarized posture.” [That is, in opposition to the UN Charter, which is a binding treaty now part of the US Constitution. Now watch this offense-loving, threat-and-force-loving *Pittsburgh* editor.] “…the world, including…the United Nations and the United States” has asked Japan “to play an active role in foreign affairs, with aid and participation in peacekeeping. The latter obviously requires a stronger Japanese military.” *Peace*keeping? If you have been reading OMNI’s newsletters on US Westward domination across the Pacific and encompassing E. Asia you know the threat and threatening by armed force have come overwhelmingly from the US, with which Japan has signed a military alliance. The *Pittsburgh* logician recognizes the liability of further militarizing Japan: it will stimulate increased military strength by China, making “northeast Asia “a more dangerous place,” but a militarily stronger Japan “is better able to counterbalance China, which has become a major concern to countries of the region.” *Major?* We can only guess which countries the writer refers to, but we can suppose Japan, though over what is not stated. But not only will a more armed and unleashed Japan counterthreaten China, it will also take “North Korea seriously,” which is useful to the United States, too. That is, it will
counterthreaten countries that have been responding to US threats by increasing their military might and by N. Korea, their bombast.

The conclusion of this expression of US imperial policy is entirely familiar. “In general, a stronger Japan can take some of the load off the United States in terms of assuring Asian peace and quiet.” US westward Pacific-E. Asian militarization is producing peace and quiet?! What kind of peace and quiet does the Pittsburgh, virtual employee of the Pentagon, intend? Does s/he think the unconstitutional threatening of China and N. Korea will bring peace and quiet? In truth, NK has armed itself with nuclear weapons because they saw what happened to a fabricated “enemy” Iraq. And in response to US ten carrier battle groups (8 ships each) roaming the oceans to protect “our” oil China has built its first aircraft carrier toward its first battle group to protect its shores and I suppose its fossil fuels.

This newspaper is part of the mainstream media (MM) US warfare state, as is the Chicgo Tribune—see the following. –Dick

Japan back in the military fold

By Chicago Tribune, Reprinted in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (July 8, 2014), not available to nonsubscribers.

The AD-G reprinted only the opening sentence online: “Japan is a close friend and ally of the United States, and a crucial strategic military partner in Asia. But if the going got rough, and, say, North Korea attacked U.S. forces somewhere in the Pacific, could we count on Japanese military support?”

At the end of WWII, Gen. MacArthur forced Japan to renounce waging war in its new constitution, specifically in Article 9. In contrast to the US Department of “Defense,” Japan’s Defense Forces were truly defensive. For example, during the 1991 Iraq War Japan sent no troops (but did offer $13 billion). Now Prime Minister Shinzo Abe proposes to re-interpret the constitution to allow “some direct military cooperation between Japanese self-defense forces and the U.S. military or other partners.” The Tribune attributes this shift to Japan’s tensions with N. Korea and China. Of course, the US has long supported the change.

The Tribune approves the change: “Japan will join its allies as a greater partner in security,” just as it approves US global domination: “The U.S. military is stretched thin and needs the help.” Dick

“China, S. Korea Pan Japan Memorial Trips.” Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (August 16, 2014). China and S. Korea together criticize our Japanese ally? They dislike Japanese Cabinet ministers visiting the Tokyo Yasukini Shrine, that honors war heroes, including war criminals? But one of the ministers said “his visit was a vow to never wage war again.” China considers the shrine “a spiritual tool and symbol for the Japanese militarists.” And adds: “Sino-Japanese relations can develop in a healthy and stable way only if Japan can face up to and reflect on the history of invasion and make a clear break with militarism.” Here is another case where the need for empathy is essential in national conflict. Japan sent its officials around the world to apologise to countries for its WWII aggressions, something the US has not done about Hiroshima and Nagasaki or
its several illegal invasions and interventions after the war. Article Nine of Japan’s Constitution forbids aggressive military forces, and the majority of Japanese supported it. The US, which insisted on the Article originally, now wants it removed. And now China and Japan are talking at instead of with each other, because they cannot see the world, especially “enemies,” as others see them, the title of the last chapter of the last book by former Senator J. William Fulbright: “Seeing the World as Others See It.” “What we can begin to do is to change the attitudes of the two sides.”

CHINA

http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/2013/03/colonial-pacific-world-war-ii.html

China joke of the year, program on NPR 9 a.m. CST, April 28, 2014: US response to “China’s Territorial Expansion.”

AND VIETNAM

“China Pulls Oil Rig from Disputed Area.” Compiled by staff of Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (July 17, 2014) 6A (3”). After two months of drilling, China removed its rig from the S. China Sea because 1) the typhoon season was beginning and 2) “the work had been completed.” Vietnam demands China never drill again in claimed Vietnam territory. What’s the story here? How much does it cost to start up a drilling platform at sea? China would plan to spend that money for just two months of drilling? They found no oil? Vietnam did not go to the World Court? —Dick

US AND OUR NEW ALLY VIETNAM

“Army Gen. Martin Dempsey became the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to visit Vietnam since 1971 seeking to boost military ties between the former foes at a time when Hanoi is embroiled in territorial disputes with China.” Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (Aug. 15, 2014). Again, what’s the story? The full story? Our longest war (until Afghanistan): 56,000 of our troops killed, perhaps as many as 3 million Vietnamese killed, perhaps hundreds of thousands wounded on both sides—and our leaders are only now thinking the real enemy is not Vietnam’s “communism” (another tentacle of the huge Red Octopus reaching around the world from Moscow), but China’s alleged expansion and real economic competition? And how cleverly diplomatic of bully Pentagon to send arms to China’s neighbor, what a good way to build peace. But what good luck to the US that its policy during the Vietnam War to “kill everything that moves” failed, and today we can use the survivors to threaten China. —Dick

WHY THE US IS ENCIRCLING CHINA
One of the examples of “the story of centuries of European and U.S. plunder and expansion” is US “containment” of China (a main topic of these newsletters). In What Every Environmentalist Needs to Know About Capitalism (2011), the authors Fred Magdoff and John Bellamy Foster say this:

“China, a rapidly growing economic power, increasingly integrated into the world capitalist economy, is searching the world for investment opportunities in raw materials and is starting to build up its navy to protect shipping lanes, especially for oil from the Persian Gulf. China is in effect simply attempting to survive like any other major economy in the global capitalist system, but its outward expansion is being treated as aggression by the established imperial powers and being used as a justification for their own renewed scramble for resources in the Central Asia, the Persian Gulf, and West Africa. The result is a growing intensification of world geopolitical struggles.” Drawing from C. Wright Mills’ The Power Elite, they observe (65-66,69) how a militarized economy in “a resource race” turns “all world problems…into military problems. . . .in which the military becomes more and more prominent, threatening world stability and even survival.” --Dick
After the Cold War ended, and Germany reunited in 1990, there was a debate in NATO about continued expansion eastward. In 1999, Poland, Hungary, and the ...

May 2, 2014 - No one in Russia can vent his anger over NATO's eastward expansion quite as vehemently as Viktor Baranez. The popular columnist with the ...

Jun 4, 2014 - The head of the Russian presidential administration has attacked NATO expansion towards Russia's borders and dismissed the possibility of ...

If NATO moves eastward, the United States will be undertaking new and potentially ... Clinton administration officials and other supporters of NATO expansion ...
Nov 27, 2013 - Russia's relations with the Western countries are troubled and dangerous in the Ukraine dispute, and an important opportunity may be lost.

Five Years Ago, Documents Exposed NATO's Lies About Eastward Expansion. March 23, 2014 • 2:50PM. In demanding written legal guarantees from NATO that...

Russia warns against any eastward expansion or military build-up by the NATO near Russia's borders.

NATO expansion eastward. Red-lining the Baltic states

NATO Expansion: The Source of Russia's Anger? | The...
May 1, 2014 - "NATO expansion has been neither an anti-Russian plot nor a means ... at best, ambiguous with respect to NATO's further eastward expansion.

□  OPINION: Ukraine Crisis Exposes NATO's Eastward ...

en.ria.ru/.../OPINION-Ukraine-Crisis-Exposes-NATOs-East...

RIA Novosti

May 13, 2014 - The first event commemorated the fifteenth, tenth and fifth anniversaries of North Atlantic Treaty Organization expansion in the post-Cold War ...

NO BASES - International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases  Google Search, July 13, 2014

Search Results
1.  NO BASES - International Network for the Abolition of Foreign ...

International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases ... On the ground, foreign military bases affect the lives of ordinary citizens in more ...
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2.  NO BASES - International Network for the Abolition of Foreign ...

International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases .... Google Earth overlay map of foreign military basesA google Earth overlay that shows ...
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3.  www

Mar 9, 2007 ... The Declaration from the International Conference for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases indicates what the Network stands for and its ...
www.nobasesnetwork.org/ - Cached - Similar

4.  No Bases The international network for the abolition of foreign ...

NO BASES NETWORK. International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases. No Bases Coalition Ecuador. American Friends Service Committee (USA) ...
www.thirdworldtraveler.com/.../NO_BASES_Network.html - Cached - Similar

5.  Transnational Institute | Foreign Military Bases and the Global ...

Jump to The growth of an international network against foreign military bases: The groups formed the International Network for the Abolition of ...
6. **Ecuador: International Conference for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases**

Mar 14, 2007 ... The *International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases* is a global network of individuals, organizations, social movements, ...

7. **The Worldwide Network of US Military Bases**

Jul 1, 2007 ... The setting up of the *International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases* turns out to be an extraordinary means to oppose the ...

8. **No Bases Conference**

Come to this inaugural conference of the *International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases* in Quito and Manta, Ecuador on March 5 to 9, ...

9. **Global Article 9 Campaign**

Co-organized by the Global Article 9 Campaign to *Abolish War*, Peace Boat and the *International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases* (NO ...

You have removed results from this search. [Hide them](#)

### Contact President

From the White House: Write or Call

President Obama is committed to creating the most open and accessible administration in American history. That begins with taking comments and questions from you, the public, through our website.

Call the President

PHONE NUMBERS

Comments: 202-456-1111
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
TTY/TTD
Comments: 202-456-6213
Visitor's Office: 202-456-2121

Write a letter to the President

Here are a few simple things you can do to make sure your message gets to the White House as quickly as possible.

1. If possible, email us! This is the fastest way to get your message to President Obama.
2. If you write a letter, please consider typing it on an 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper. If you hand-write your letter, please consider using pen and writing as neatly as possible.

3. Please include your return address on your letter as well as your envelope. If you have an email address, please consider including that as well.

4. And finally, be sure to include the full address of the White House to make sure your message gets to us as quickly and directly as possible:
   The White House
   1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
   Washington, DC 20500

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TRANSPACIFIC 19TH CENTURY: MELVILLE’S BENITO

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From Ann Wright
Thanks so much Dick!
Great newsletter-wow you covered a lot if issues!
Ann
Ann Wright
Www.voicesofconscience.com
808-741-1141

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Dick Bennett

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