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## Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Becomes International Law

*by Marie Braun*

*A version of this article was originally published in Southside Pride.*

On January 22, 2021, two days after Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th president of the United States, nations around the world celebrated the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. This international treaty makes it illegal to “develop, test, produce, acquire, possess, stockpile, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons.” The treaty was negotiated at the United Nations and has the support of over 120 countries, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movements, the Pope, the Dalai Lama, and millions of ordinary people across the globe.

This treaty is the product of work by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which won the 2017 Nobel Peace prize. The campaign was inspired by the successful international campaigns that led to the prohibition, under international law, of biological, chemical, and other inhumane and indiscriminate weapons, including landmines and cluster munitions.

Unfortunately, the U.S. government is unwilling to sign the treaty and, in fact, boycotted the negotiations. The other eight nuclear nations – Russia, the UK, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, and North Korea – will not sign it either. In fact, the U.S. and the other nuclear

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### Tell Congress:

“I urge you to listen to your constituents and demand that the U.S. sign and ratify the International Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”

Capitol phone:  
202-224-3121



*Minnesota peace activists, WAMM and VFP-27, demand the U.S. sign the treaty. Photo: Mike McDonald*

The statements and opinions reflected in this newsletter are the views of the author and not necessarily official positions of WAMM. We encourage a diversity of opinion to represent the range of perspectives that coexist under the banner of WAMM's mission statement.

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**Women Against Military Madness** is a nonviolent, feminist organization, founded in 1982, that works in solidarity with others to create a system of social equality, self-determination and justice through education, action and the empowerment of women. WAMM's purpose is to dismantle systems of militarism, economic exploitation and global oppression.

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# Pentagon Releases New Report on Offensive Spending by State

**Question:** Why do we accept referring to weapons manufacturing as “defense” spending when we know it’s offensive in every sense of the word? But just so everyone knows what we’re talking about, this is written in Pentagon-speak.

A newly released Pentagon report reveals breakdowns of defense spending in the United States in 2019. Lockheed received the most in defense contracts: \$45.6 billion. Boeing was next at \$25.7 billion, followed by Northrop: \$19.5 billion, General Dynamics: \$18.6 billion, and Raytheon: \$15.7 billion). On

## First 100 Days in Office:



**The U.S. ranks first in the world for military spending and has the fourth highest poverty rate.**

*for the new Washington, D.C. administration to address*

January 14, 2021, Marcus Weisberger, of Defense One, which reports on the military industry, said to “look for this ranking to change next year: the newly merged Raytheon and United Technologies have a combined total of \$26 billion.”

The report gives spending by state. California had the highest defense spending of any state: \$66.2 billion, followed by Virginia at \$60.3 billion, Texas at \$54.8 billion, Florida at \$29.8 billion, and Maryland at \$26.1 billion.

## First 100 Days in Office:



**The U.S. ranks first in military spending while 1 in 6 children in our country are food deprived.**

*for the new Washington, D.C. administration to address*

## Here is the breakdown in Minnesota:

Top Defense Contractors	(M = millions)
Northrop Grumman	\$448.2 M
BAE Systems	\$282.3 M
Avtron Industrial Automation Inc.	\$214.9 M
Lockheed Martin	\$168.6 M
Cummins	\$143.1 M
General Dynamics	\$94.5 M
Honeywell	\$81.3 M
United Technologies	\$52.0 M
UnitedHealth Group	\$40.5 M
Alcoa Extrusions Inc.	\$33.2 M

*Minnesota top defense contractors ranked in recent (2019) Pentagon report (tinyurl.com/y2kmarns)*

## Treaty on the Prohibition,

*continued from page 1*

powers are pursuing new nuclear weapons, even ones designed for battlefield use, rather than pursuing diplomatic courses to de-escalate tensions and reduce the chance that nuclear weapons will ever be used.

The U.S. could help avoid the possibility of a nuclear disaster by entering into arms control agreements with other nations. We can dismantle the 400 missiles that are on hair-trigger alert. We should reinstate and preserve the treaties that have already been negotiated, including the Open Skies Treaty, which increased confidence and transparency on military activities of states through information gathering from aerial imaging (Trump withdrew the U.S. on November 22, 2020), and the Intermediate-Range Forces Treaty (INF), a treaty that bans missiles with ranges between 310 and 3,400 miles (Trump withdrew the U.S. on August 2, 2019).

President Biden and Russian President Putin agreed to extend the New START Treaty, which expired February 5, 2021, to another five years. This limits the number of deployed nuclear warheads to 1,550 for each country. As the cost of the escalation of the arms race and the modernizing and developing of nuclear weapons and other weaponry continues, the real priorities facing our human family such as the fight against poverty, the promotion of peace, the undertaking of educational, ecological, and healthcare projects, and the development of human rights are relegated to second place.

Disarming nuclear weapons is not a difficult process, since we have the technical expertise and verification procedures in place. The Pantex plant near Amarillo, Texas, is capable of disarming thousands of nuclear weapons in a relatively short time. In 1991, some 4,000 nukes in Europe were disarmed without a treaty under the cooperative leadership

of President George Walker Bush, President Mikhail Gorbachev, William Perry, Sam Nunn, and Senator Richard Lugar.

We can continue this process of disarmament, but we need the political will and popular support to do so.

As citizens, we can call on our legislators to take immediate steps to alleviate the threat of nuclear war. In working toward this goal, we must confront the reality that one of the reasons our government has failed to eliminate these weapons of mass destruction from our arsenals is that there are 26 powerful corporations that profit from making nuclear weapons. And these companies have significant control over the re-election budgets of many legislators.

And lastly, the U.S., the only nation to ever use nuclear weapons, should take the lead in convening talks with the other eight nuclear nations with the goal of working toward the elimination of these horrendous weapons and becoming signatories of the new landmark Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Impossible? Let us remember the words of Nelson Mandela: "It always seems impossible until it's done."

*Marie Braun is the chair of the End War Committee of Women Against Military Madness and is active locally with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.*



### WAMM Committees

#### Issues Committees:

- Book Club
- End Domestic Militarism
- End Military Madness Against the Earth
- End War
- Middle East
- St. Joan of Arc/  
WAMM Peacemakers
- Second Monday Movies
- Solidarity Committee on the Americas
- Tackling Torture at the Top (T3)

#### Standing Committees:

- Coordinating
- Finance
- Fundraising
- Membership/Outreach
- Newsletter
- Personnel
- Program/New Issues
- Silent Auction
- Social Media

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*United Nations General Assembly Hall Photo: UN/Amanda Voisard*

# Solidarity with Water Protectors: Resisting the Line 3 Pipeline

by Kim DeFranco

Enbridge Line 3, is an oil pipeline which cuts through the heart of lake and wild rice country.

The Canadian company is building, not replacing (as promoted), a massive new pipeline in northern Minnesota to transport oil from Canada's tar sands region to Superior, Wisconsin, from where it will be transported through other states for export from the United States. In Minnesota, the 337-mile pipeline route is currently proposed to run by and even under the Mississippi River at two points, cross through the Leech Lake and Fond du Lac reservations and violate the 1855, 1854, and 1842 treaty areas.

In a show of solidarity, on January 10, a contingent from Women Against Military Madness visited the Line 3 resistance encampment erected by water protectors on the edge of the Mississippi River in Palisade, MN. The encampment, one of several water protector encampments, sits on an 80-acre land trust from Akiing Purchases (Akiing translates to "the land to which we belong") that runs



*Enbridge Company's Line 3 oil pipeline will pass near and under the Mississippi River, as well as cross lakes, wild rice land, and Indigenous treaty land in northern Minnesota.*

*Photo: Kim DeFranco*

parallel to an Enbridge Line 3 drill-pad construction site.

On January 9, the day before we arrived, a massive gathering of 300+ water protectors led mainly by Indigenous women had occupied one of the construction sites north of Aitkin, MN, until sheriff's deputies ordered them to leave. Nine were arrested and face possible charges of gross misdemeanor trespass on critical infrastructure.

Just two months prior, on November 12, the last key permits for Enbridge's Line 3 were approved by state environmental regulators. While waiting for the approvals to come through, Enbridge brought all its equipment and pipes in anticipation of beginning immediate construction. As a result, the pipes sat out exposed to the elements, and had already begun to degrade. Additionally, one of the activists residing at the resistance encampment stated that even before the pipe is laid, drills go into the ground and chemicals poisonous to the earth are applied to assist in drilling; the poisoning of the land begins at the very start of the project.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner Laura Bishop is reported saying on November 17, 2020, that 12 out of 17 members of the Environmental Justice Advisory Group resigned because they "cannot continue to legitimize and provide cover for the MPCA's war on Black and Brown people." It is also worth noting that Governor Walz approved the go-ahead on construction at the same time that he issued COVID-19 restrictions. This means Enbridge can bring in thousands of workers who will not only potentially



*Women Against Military Madness visited a resistance encampment in northern MN.*

endanger their lives, but the lives of many Minnesotans through spread of the virus during this global pandemic.

The resistance movement is building, and the encampments have seen water protectors and solidarity activists come from New York to states across the Midwest, and even from as far away as New Mexico, to resist the pipeline construction. The main message that the water protectors left us with: spread the word, as more solidarity bodies are needed to slow down and halt pipeline construction. One water protector told us: "This is such a beautiful country, and our water is so important to us. We must do everything possible to stop this pipeline."

*Kim DeFranco is an active member of Women Against Military Madness. She visited the Line 3 construction site and the water protector resistance encampment at Palisades in northern Minnesota on January 10, 2021.*

## **ACTION:**

### **Stop Enbridge Line 3!**

As the resistance continues, your support is needed—donations and people in solidarity. Please go to the following sites: [stopline3.org](http://stopline3.org) and [welcomewaterprotectors.com](http://welcomewaterprotectors.com).

# PM: What's on Polly Mann's Mind? They Can Cage and Torture People But the Truth Will Out

*Polly Mann shares her thoughts in "PM." She is a member of the Women Against Military Madness Newsletter Committee and a co-founder of Women Against Military Madness.*

The United States is quick to point out human rights abuses in other countries but could do with some self-examination. The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment considers solitary confinement a form of torture, but it is practiced on political prisoners in the U.S. and among its own allies.

Solitary confinement drove U.S. Army Private Bradley Manning (now Chelsea Manning), who had the courage and conscience to expose the truth about war crimes, to suicide attempts. Today, *Wikileaks* founder Julian Assange, who published "The Iraq War Logs" which revealed soldiers killing civilians on the

expected not to, if international and national law was observed.

One who chose to deliberately take the risk of prison was Philip Berrigan. On September 11, 2001, Philip Berrigan, age 77, an antiwar activist dedicated to nonviolence, was serving the last months of a 30-month prison sentence for an act of conscientious objection when police removed him from his cell, handcuffed and shackled him, and placed him in a solitary cell ("for his own protection"?). Why would the authorities feel that other prisoners would harm Berrigan because of these incidents outside the prison that he had nothing to do with? Did they think he might react by expressing an opinion of some kind? Or is it likely that they wanted to cast shade on him as a dissenter and punish him further?

In total, for objecting to war and **nuclear disaster**, Berrigan was rewarded with eleven years of life in prison. This is how people of conscience who dare to tell the truth and resist war are treated. However, locking people up doesn't silence their messages —instead, it amplifies

them, as people realize that exposing the truth is such a threat.

Berrigan continued to speak out against war until his death in 2002. His last statement:

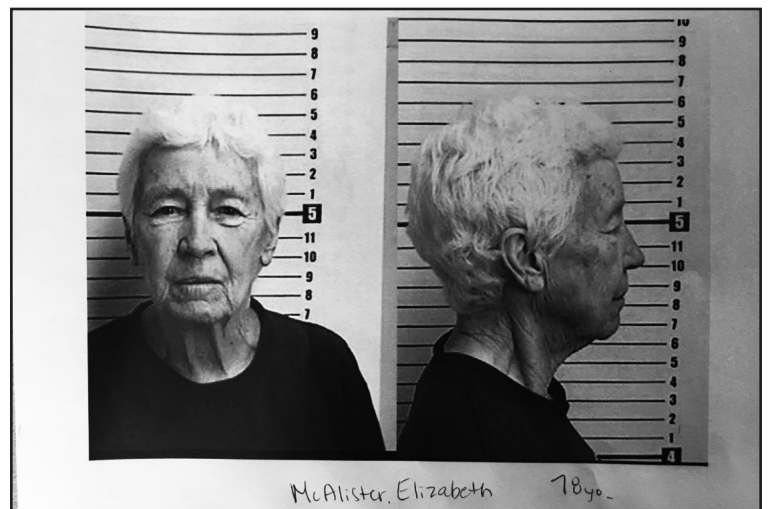
I die with the conviction, held since 1968 and Catonsville, that nuclear weapons are the scourge of the earth; to mine for them, manufacture them, deploy them, use them, is a curse against God, the human family, and the earth itself.

Nuclear resistance continues. Liz McAlister, 80, Berrigan's partner and widow, recently completed serving a 17-month sentence in jail for resistance actions against nuclear submarines at Kings Bay Naval Base in Georgia. And, on January 22, 2021, the International Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons went into effect, making the U.S. and the other eight nuclear nations who refused to sign it criminal outlaws (can we send Interpol to arrest them?). But even without the nuclear nations, the treaty gives us hope for the future that they will one day join the world community and end the nuclear threat.



*Sign held by a Julian Assange supporter. Photo: Facundo Arrizabalaga/EPA*

street in Baghdad, is held in solitary confinement in Britain's Belmarsh prison; supporters are gravely concerned about his deteriorating health and mental condition. While believing they were doing the right thing, Assange and Manning did not choose to go to prison, and could have



*Elizabeth McAlister, 78 at the time of her arrest for protesting nuclear submarines. Photo: News4JAX*

# Part II. The U.S. War on China: Panda Huggers and Panda Sluggers

by K.J. Noh

Second in a series by K.J. Noh

Note: In this article, China refers to the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Both China and the United States are **nuclear armed** nations. Very dangerous escalation of warfare is occurring now. In fact, the U.S. is already at war against China in multiple ways (multi-domain, hybrid warfare). Warfare just below the threshold of direct military engagement is being waged on the ground through:

## The Hybrid War on China

- **Economic Warfare:** trade sanctions and a tariff war
- **Technological Warfare:** attempted seizure of Chinese companies (TikTok), attacks on China's international 5G contracts; sanctions on the primary and secondary supply chains of key sectors of Chinese technology – e.g., Huawei's semiconductor supply chain; attacks on Jack Ma and Ant Finance's IPO (Initial Public Offering of stocks).<sup>1</sup>

- **Legal Warfare (“lawfare”):** includes over 380 anti-China bills in Congress, and 14 individual and state lawsuits<sup>2</sup> against China for over \$30 trillion in “Covid damages”; the long-arm “legal” kidnapping of Huawei's executive, Meng Wanzhou, by extending U.S. jurisdiction to Canada.<sup>3</sup>
- **Diplomatic Warfare:** includes consulate shutdowns, harassment of diplomats, breaching of diplomatic pouches (containers for official documents) and compounds, and calls for regime change and quasi-official recognition of Taiwan.<sup>4</sup>
- **Military Brinkmanship:** and *posturing* in the South China Sea, the East China Sea, the Taiwan Strait; complete encirclement of China with strategic weapons, surveillance, and 400 offensive bases (“The Pacific Pivot” – known under Obama as “Rebalancing”), the use of airbases in Taiwan for military surveillance, and (proposed) station-

ing of **intermediate range nuclear missiles** all along China's periphery.<sup>5</sup>

- **Civil Subversion and Color Revolution:** color revolution,<sup>6</sup> urban terror, destabilization and de-legitimation operations in Hong Kong<sup>7</sup> (and other places where China has interests), including millions of dollars funneled for organization and training, and encrypted communications infrastructure built to coordinate anti-government activities, support of Uighur separatists, and the de-listing of the UN-designated Uighur terrorist movement East Turkestan Independence Movement (ETIM) from U.S. official terror list.
- **Academic Warfare:** through the FBI's *China Initiative*, every ten hours a case is opened against a Chinese student or researcher in the U.S. (last summer: 2,700 cases) and all Chinese students are considered potential “non-traditional,” “collectors,” “spies” involved in a “thousand grains of sand” collection strategy.<sup>8</sup>
- **Information Warfare:** last but not least, we are seeing *total information warfare*. stories about so-called “massive human rights abuses,” “Chinese concentration camps,” “Chinese-made-and-released Covid,” “China has harmed us economically,” “China has stolen its way to the top,” “China is oppressing independent Hong Kong,” are part of this information warfare.<sup>9</sup> This information warfare against China has damaged us by creating a blindspot regarding Covid. First, it prevented us from taking the virus seriously (“this is a uniquely Chinese virus caused by their own political



Stars represent U.S. military bases and installations. Map: basenation.us

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## U.S. War on China,

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system, a Chinese Chernobyl,” “China is the sick man of Asia”), then in taking useful measures (“quarantines are authoritarian abuse”), and receiving Chinese assistance with testing and treatment.<sup>10</sup>

Unless we do something about it, President Biden’s doctrine toward China will likely be a continuation of the noxious U.S. arc of history, ideology, and planning. The think tank advising Biden on foreign policy, the Center for New American Security (CNAS), a rhyming clone to the neocon plan, Project for the New American Center (PNAC), has assumed most of the prior anti-China doctrine, and mapped out a highly destructive and dangerous strategy of confrontation. The architect of the “Pivot to Asia,” and the co-founder of CNAS, Kurt Campbell will have a key position in the administration handling U.S. relations with China. The key difference is that CNAS will attempt to “unite” countries more skillfully against China, reduce some of Trump’s protectionist policies, and likely restart the Trans Pacific Partnership, the twelve-nation economic bloc against China.

### Levers of Power: Panda Huggers and Panda Sluggers

To understand future possibilities, it’s a good idea to see how we, as a nation, arrived at this point.

Those hard-liners agitating for war against China referred to themselves as “Panda Sluggers”. But the U.S. government also facilitated the U.S. business class, “Panda Huggers,” who wanted engagement with China. These two threads of U.S.-China policy have developed in the last several decades, sometimes at odds with one another, and sometimes complimenting one another.



*The U.S. is mocked for an exaggerated fear of China while it pokes the bear.  
Cartoon: Craig Stephens/South China Morning Post*

To see how U.S. relations arrived where they are with China today, we have to trace the threads back to the decade of the 1970s, when splitting the communist bloc by engagement with China was seen as a way to diminish the Soviet Union (USSR), which was perceived as a competing super power.

In 1989, the Cold War began to thaw and the Berlin Wall fell, American political theorist Francis Fukuyama would postulate that it was “the end of history” and a new era was born, as “an unabashed victory of economic and political liberalism.” This triumphalism was reinforced by the fall of the USSR. The ruling class believed that neoliberalism was destined to dominate – meaning that the nations of the world would eventually become capitalist and incorporate into a U.S.-led global system with free markets, limited regulation, and the privatization of public sectors – *or else* they would collapse like the USSR. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher claimed that “there is no alternative” in a phrase that became so much a part of the vernacular, that it was known by the acronym, TINA.

With changes occurring in the world, powerful people in the West believed that they knew what had to take place *inside* China, and generally fell into these sometimes overlapping groups:

- Collapsists believed that China was a Potemkin state, a deck of cards, that would collapse as a state from its internal contradictions: corruption, economic inefficiencies in planning, and demographic factors.
- Assimilationists/integrationists hubristically believed that engagement with China would result in China’s liberalization and total transformation – the inevitable result of engaging with a “superior Western political ideology and economic system. Its people would become enthralled with economic freedom, “one of democracy’s most cherished values,” as President Bill Clinton saw it while recommending that China be admitted into the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the year 2000.<sup>11</sup> “Liberty will spread by cell phone and phone modem,” Clinton proclaimed, and resisting the liberalizing power of

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## U.S. War on China, *continued from page 7*

the internet would be, he said, “like nailing jello to the wall.”<sup>12</sup>

- Opportunists/exploiters in the U.S. business class saw China as a high-profit global workshop and factory floor for their companies – a source of cheap labor and outsourced production.

In spite of these laissez-faire predictions about China internally, U.S. engagement, of any kind, was up against aggressive plans that had been percolating for years within the U.S. These would take concrete shape when it became clear, in the 2007 financial crash, that China was not likely to collapse or assimilate anytime soon. In fact, it was clear that it was the U.S.-led capitalist order that was in danger of collapsing, whereas China was powerful and resilient.

### The Pentagon's Oracle of China Policy and the Graduates of St. Andrew's Prep School

If there is one person most responsible for the hawkish strategy in U.S.-China relations for the past several decades, it's Andrew Marshall, who died at the age of 97 in 2019. Often referred to as “Yoda,” he was the Pentagon's oracle, directing its secretive internal think tank, the Office of Net Assessment, for 42 years, and was top advisor to twelve Secretaries of Defense. Marshall was originally part of an elite group (Herman “Dr. Strangelove” Kahn, James Schlesinger, Daniel Ellsberg, and Albert Wohlstetter) at the powerful think tank, RAND, who worked on military gaming theory and modeling, including the unthinkable and the insane: how to win at nuclear Armageddon.

Throughout his long tenure at the inner sanctum, Andrew Marshall

had two key obsessions: U.S. military supremacy, first over the USSR; then after its fall, over China, which meant preventing China's rise as a power in the world.

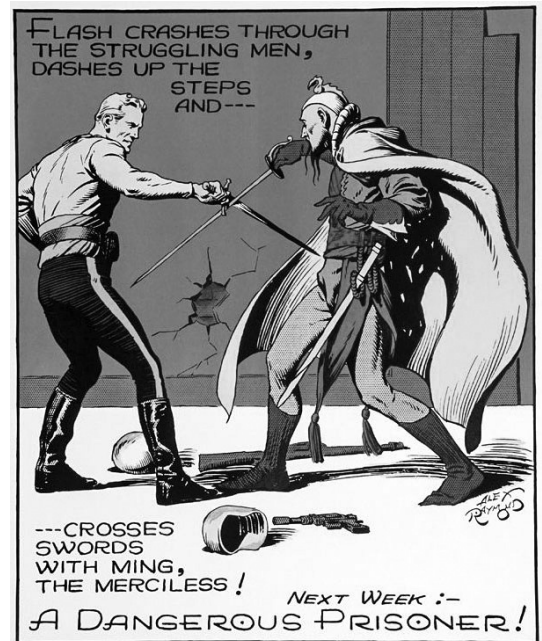
Marshall mentored many into his worldview and strategies who would become neocon heavy-weights. Graduates of what was known as “St. Andrew's Prep School” were: Paul Wolfowitz, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Elliot Cohen, Andrew Krepinevich, Michael Pillsbury, Herman Kahn, Richard Perle, Richard Armitage, Michael O'Hanlon, as well as countless others.

As the USSR dissolved, the U.S. hawks began to lay out their plans. In 1992, a group of Marshall's top protégés (Zalmay Khalilzad, Lewis Libby, Paul Wolfowitz) drew up the Defense Planning Guidance document, an ambitious and aggressive plan for U.S. unipolar hegemony, positioning the U.S., alone, as the dominant global power, unrestricted by any sense of proportion, rationality, or morality. The plan asserted the right to wage pre-emptive, aggressive war using U.S. power without regard to international law.

This plan was leaked, and an embarrassed Pentagon disavowed and redacted the document, but it was reworked into “The Project for a New American Century (PNAC): Rebuilding America's Defenses.”

<sup>13</sup> This document became the foundation for the Bush Doctrine and its aggressive, illegal wars in the Middle East. It also laid out specific plans “to cope with the rise of China to great-power status.”

Among Marshall's protégés, some will most be remembered for their roles in PNAC, the doctrine of pre-emptive war, and post 9/11 attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq, but some of



*Pulp fiction's Flash Gordon, a polo player and Yale graduate, became a “freedom fighter” against Ming the Merciless.*

them also had a strong influence on U.S.-China policy.

Andrew Krepinevich was the brain behind the current China war doctrine, “AirSea Battle,” a strategy for taking war to the Chinese: decapitating strikes deep into Chinese territory, invoking Marshall's “revolution in military affairs,” while strangling it by choking off its trade routes. *AirLand Battle* was the war doctrine against the Soviet Union during the Cold War. In line with *AirSea Battle*, in 2011, the Obama administration announced the “Pivot to Asia,” which in practical terms is a comprehensive plan to encircle and contain China with U.S. bases, offensive weapons, and alliances.

Another of Marshall's mentees, Michael Pillsbury, assisted in the creation of the regime-change NGO known as the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), the arming of Mujahideen in Afghanistan, the implementation of the genocidal covert subversion program in Latin America (the Reagan Doctrine); but most importantly, he is credited with

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## U.S. War on China,

*continued from page 8*

initiating in 1973, the “China card,” the idea that the U.S. could use China as a balance of power against the USSR. He eventually became a key hawk in the Trump administration. In 2015, he published a book, with the help of Marshall, called “*The Hundred Year Marathon*,”<sup>14</sup> foreshadowing the massive threat inflation and anti-Chinese scare-mongering that is common currency now. In 2019, the Trump administration withdrew from the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF). This was widely understood as simply the continuation and implementation of the vision of Marshall.

As the original U.S. reason for allying with Beijing – to counterbalance Moscow – became moot, another group of China-bashers, those who still had old axes to grind, began to crawl out of the cracks. These were red-baiting ideologues with unresolved Cold War paranoia left over from the 1950s. The business class (“Panda Huggers”) wanted to continue engagement with China but ideologues

(“Panda Sluggers”) saw China as a mortal and irreconcilable threat.

### Blue Team Unleashed

During President Bill Clinton’s administration, anti-communist ideologues cross-pollinated with Marshall’s neocon followers – a rogues gallery of high-powered political operators: Michael Ledeen, Frank Gaffney, Robert Kagan, Bill Kristol, and Michael Pillsbury, who brought their neocon dreams of global domination into loose coalition, came together and used the influential right-wing and neocon newspapers, *The Washington Times* and *The Weekly Standard*, as their platforms. Although the “Blue Team” had no official offices, no official members, no overt policy statements, they included key Congress members/staff of both parties (Tom DeLay, Nancy Pelosi, and Robert Byrd among them), think tankers, journalists, lobbyists.<sup>15</sup>

Blue Team propagandists, former CIA analyst William C. Triplett, with Edward Timperlake, a national security analyst, went on to write a lurid series of conspiracy books alleging

quid-pro-quo between the Clinton administration and China: *Year of the Rat* (published in 1998) and *Red Dragon Rising* (published in 1999).<sup>16</sup> They alleged Taiwanese lobbyists with Chinese mafia connections were acting as agents for the PRC government and manipulating the White House. They also alleged Chinese theft of military secrets, slave labor, the proliferation of WMD to Iran and other rogue states, and insinuated that Clinton’s “constructive engagement” was knowingly undermining the U.S. for the benefit of the Chinese. These allegations became an underlying mythology about a dangerous, corrupt, and belligerent China.

The most virulent of Panda sluggers was Frank Gaffney, who was so hawkish he had been forced out of the Defense Department in the Reagan administration. In 2019, he recycled an old paranoid Cold War group into the current “Committee on the Present Danger: China,” contending that “there is no hope of coexistence with China.” Though he built a reputation as an outlier extremist, Gaffney’s ideology and guiding principles<sup>17</sup>

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*Shanghai, the financial center of China. Photo: Wikimedia Commons*

**U.S. War on China,**  
*continued from page 9*

approximate official positions on China which guide key U.S. foreign policy toward China today and now control the levers of power in both parties, setting the groundwork for war against China.

The Blue Team built powerful commissions and institutions focused on attacking China, including the Congressional Executive Commission on China,<sup>18</sup> and the U.S.-China Security Review Commission.<sup>19</sup> The Taiwan Security Enhancement Act was also written at this time. [Editor's Note: The Taiwan Security Enhancement Act was never passed by Congress, but as a parting gift to the Biden administration, on January 9, 2021, Secretary of State Pompeo made its intention official by dropping limitations on U.S. involvement with the island, which China considers its own. Also, in 2020: "Blue Team" Nancy Pelosi hosted Hong Kong overthrow dissidents and Ted Cruz joined them in Hong Kong riots.]<sup>20</sup>

*K.J. Noh is a special correspondent on Asia for KPFA Radio's Flashpoints, and has been a political analyst for Loud & Clear, and other news programs. His writing can be seen at Asia Times, Counterpunch, Black Agenda Report, and other publications. A veteran of the ROK Army, he is a member of Veterans for Peace.*

**Endnotes**

- 1 <https://www.fbi.gov/new/stories/wray-addresses-china-threat-at-doj-conference-020620>
- 2 <https://www.lawfareblog.com/whats-many-coronavirus-related-law-suits-against-china>
- 3 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/sep/28/meng-wanzhou-huawei-canada-us-extradition-cherry-picking-evidence>
- 4 <https://2017-2021.state.gov//index.html>
- 5 <https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/08/04/esper-us-to-soon-put-intermediate-range-missile-in-asia>
- 6 <https://www.qiaocollective.com/en/articles/hong-kong-color-revolution>
- 7 <https://hksar.org/washington-finally-admits-it-has-been-interfering-in-hong-kong>
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- 9 See Women Against Military Madness newsletter vol. 38 no. 6 Winter 2020, pp. 6-9, [tinyurl.com/y3mweula](https://tinyurl.com/y3mweula).
- 10 Capitalism on a Ventilator: The Impact of COVID-19 in China & the U.S., edited by Sara Flounders and Lee Siu Hin 2020, World View Forum
- 11 <https://www.wsj.com/articles/when-the-world-opened-the-gates-of-china-1532701482>
- 12 <https://www.nytimes.com/2000/03/09/world/clinton-s-words-on-china-trade-is-the-smart-thing.html>
- 13 [https://militarist-monitor.org/profile/project\\_for\\_the\\_new\\_american\\_century](https://militarist-monitor.org/profile/project_for_the_new_american_century)
- 14 <https://thehundredyearmarathon.com/>
- 15 [http://www.rushfordreport.com/2002/8\\_2002\\_Yankee\\_trader.htm](http://www.rushfordreport.com/2002/8_2002_Yankee_trader.htm)
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- 17 <https://presentdangerchina.org/guiding-principles/>
- 18 <https://www.cecc.gov/>
- 19 <https://www.uscc.gov/>
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# WAMM Calendar

Please note that WAMM's provision of information on other groups' events is not meant to convey or endorse any action contrary to public policy that would be inconsistent with exempt purposes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), i.e., charitable purposes.

## Ongoing Peace/ Justice Vigils

### *Vigil to End War*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Every Wednesday, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., Lake Street/Marshall Avenue Bridge. Signs available on St. Paul side. Brief circle up for announcements after the vigil on St. Paul side. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *Vigil to End the Occupation of Palestine*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Every Friday, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., corner of Summit Avenue and Snelling Avenue, St. Paul. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *Peace Vigil*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Every Tuesday, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the east side of the Franklin Avenue Bridge, Minneapolis. Sponsored by: Prospect Hill Neighbors for Peace. FFI: 612-379-7398.

### *Grandmothers for Peace Vigil*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Every Wednesday, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. 50th Street and Halifax (1 block west of France), Edina. FFI: Call Marian Wright 612-927-7607.

## Immigrant Solidarity Vigils

### *Every Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Stand up for justice, say NO to family separation, deportation. Gather weekly with signs (bring your own or use one provided) at ICE entrance closest to Fort Snelling light rail station. Vigil on Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis by the sign at the driveway entrance to ICE. Rain or shine. (If using GPS—6000 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis). FFI: Call Pepper 612-701-6963

### *Second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 a.m.*

*Wear masks and practice social distancing!* Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM) gathers in solidarity with immigrants and refugees to achieve justice and stand up to systems of oppression. Vigil outside the Bishop Whipple Building, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, St. Paul. FFI: Facebook: Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM).

## WAMM Committee Meetings

### *Board Meeting*

Third Tuesday of every month via Zoom, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *Book Club*

Times/dates pending. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *End Domestic Militarism*

Every other Monday via Zoom, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *End Military Madness Against the Earth*

Time/dates pending. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *End War*

First Monday of every month via Zoom, 6:00 p.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *Middle East*

Second Monday of every month via Zoom, 10:00 a.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *St. Joan of Arc/ WAMM Peacemakers*

Fourth Tuesday of every month via Zoom, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. FFI: Call Barbara 612-722-4444 or Bill 612-926-8459.

### *Solidarity Committee on the Americas (SCOTA)*

Every Thursday via Zoom, 1:00 p.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

### *Tackling Torture at the Top (T3)*

Second Wednesday of every month via Zoom, 10:00 a.m. FFI: 612-827-5364.

## Ongoing Events

### *Grandmothers for Peace*

First Wednesday of every month, 12:45 p.m. via Zoom. Justice issue programs for understanding our role in changing systems. FFI: 701-260-7566.

### *Middle East Peace Now*

Usually second or third Saturday. Program 10:00 a.m. Location varies. FFI: Visit mepn.org.

### *WAMM Second Monday at the Movies*

During the pandemic, we are no longer screening movies. However, the Movie Committee is posting links to important movies available on line. Check WAMM's Calendar and Facebook page for details. FFI 612-827-5364.

## Special Events

### *Saturday, February 27, 10:00 a.m., "How Global Struggle Can Address War, Climate Change, and Pandemics: The View from Palestine."*

Dr. Mazin Qumsiyeh via Zoom from Bethlehem University. Co-sponsored by WAMM's Middle East Committee and Middle East Peace Now (MEPN). Please register for live Zoom forum at MEPN.org.

Access Zoom events through the Women Against Military Madness Calendar at [wome-nagainstmilitarymadness.org](http://wome-nagainstmilitarymadness.org) and Women Against Military Madness Facebook. All events on CST zone.

## Announcements

### *Join End Military Madness Against the Earth (EMMAE)*

A new WAMM Committee is forming and seeking new members. Committee will focus on environmental destruction, racist policies, and the climate crisis caused by war, military bases, arms manufacture, and resource extraction including fossil fuel. FFI: WAMM office at 612-827-5364.

### *The First 100 Days: "Money for Human Needs Not War!" Campaign*

will send a message each day on Facebook and Instagram during Biden's first 100 days in office. Please like and share these posts! Sponsored by WAMM End War Committee

### *Certified Fair Trade Extra Virgin Olive Oil from Palestine.*

A delicate, full-bodied olive oil with a sweet, smooth taste; peppery finish. 750 ml bottle olive oil \$20 from Zatoun, a registered non-profit. All sale proceeds go to projects serving Palestinian youth education, planting olive trees in Palestine, promoting awareness of Palestine. Available at WAMM office. Call first: 612-827-5364.

### **Are You Interested in Serving on the WAMM Board?**

Please contact the WAMM office at 612-827-5364.



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## **How Global Struggle Can Address War, Climate Change, and Pandemics: The View from Palestine with Dr. Mazin Qumsiyeh**

**Saturday, February 27, 2021 • 10:00 -11:30 a.m. CST**

*Presentation and Q&A via Zoom. Register at [MEPN.org](http://MEPN.org)*



Dr. Mazin Qumsiyeh, Palestinian professor and activist, will discuss how we retain our principles, our humanity, and our activism when oppression is hidden. By late February people will have seen President Biden folding to the same corporate interests and engaging in wars on countries like Venezuela, Syria, Iran, and Yemen, while continuing U.S. support for repressive regimes like Israel and Saudi Arabia. Qumsiyeh will engage in audience discussion, and encourage positive ways in which humans around the world can work together to save our planet from catastrophe.

Professor Mazin Qumsiyeh teaches and conducts research at Bethlehem and Birzeit Universities. He is founder and director of the Palestine Museum of Natural History (PMNBH) and the Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability

(PIBS) at Bethlehem University and has written over 150 scientific papers and several books. He serves on the board of a number of Palestinian youth and service organizations.

**Sponsored by Middle East Peace Now and Women Against Military Madness.  
Please email [mepn@mepn.org](mailto:mepn@mepn.org) with any questions regarding this event.**