The Militarization of the US Education System: Supporting war with recruiting and research.

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Militarism is the ideology that allows for the presumption of and the preparation for war.

Militarization is the process.
Militarism described by the left.

• The rationalization and expansion of government advertising and recruitment programs designed to promote military service

• The reliance on a relatively small number of volunteer fighters

• A heavy reliance on complex technologies

Increased R&D $$

DoD, other agencies, universities, industries

Citizen approval of defense spending

Lower costs for citizens-
Volunteer use

Technology driven enemy/citizen deaths

If we can use a lot of technology and few American bodies in order to kill, people won’t complain about paying for war.

Militarism described by the right.

Adapted from Jonathan D. Caverley, Democratic Militarism: Voting, Wealth, and War. Cambridge University Press, 2014
USA Education: College and university militarism.

• Complex technologies

• Government advertising and recruitment programs

• Volunteer fighters
Military recruiting does go on at universities*, colleges, academic and professional conventions.

(*1996 Solomon Amendment)
Cadet Command must aggressively focus on recruiting Scholars, Athletes, & Leaders (SAL) as future Army officers. "The Way Ahead" requires us to use our resources to target and recruit SALs. Recruiting events allow us to "spear-fish" the SAL. Battalion Marketing Action Plan (BMAP) utilizes targeted initiatives to effectively identify and engage potential SALs.
Universities support war by taking military money in exchange for technology.
The Department of Defense (DoD) is the main source of federal military money but there are many more sources.

- 15 Cabinet executive departments (DoD) but most can give military grants.
- 17 Intelligence agencies- DHS, FBI, CIA, DOJ, etc.
- Military contractors.
- Contracts, alliances, initiatives, Centers of Excellence, individuals.
How did we get here? Federal funding for universities started after WWII.

• Military wanted technology immediately available on campuses.
• Sciences were the main beneficiaries of funding.
• Cold War/Space Race.
• Culmination in overt militarism on campus.
Protest against the Vietnam War broke the militarization (and corporatization) of campuses.

ROTCs targeted, campus unrest, National Guard called.

Protest against military contractors (DOW).

Antiracist and anticorporate as well as antimilitary.
Science eased the way for corporations... and corporations eased the way for the military.

• Campuses were relatively quiet through 70’s, 80’s.
• Bayh-Dole and the commercialization of research-1980.
• Scientists began to think like entrepreneurs, and become more accepting of corporations through 80’s, 90’s.
• Decline in state funds, etc made corporate and military money more acceptable.
9/11 and the War on Terror brought militarism back in strength to campuses.

• "War" became "National Security."
• Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria- increased rationalization for military spending.
• More and more money went to the sciences from federal/military sources.
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) is seen as vital for USA competitiveness and for the success of the "War on Terror."

• National Academy of Sciences reports Rising Above the Gathering Storm and Rising Above the Gathering Storm, Revisited: Rapidly Approaching Category 5

• America Competes Legislation of 2007, 2010, 2015 increased spending for science and technology with collaborations btw universities, corporations, and various federal agencies, including the DoD.
Half of DoD’s basic research budget goes to universities. It pays for:

• 60% of aerospace, aeronautical, and aeronautical engineering
• 53.9% of electrical, electronic, and communications engineering
• 52.5% of industrial and manufacturing engineering
• 42.9% of mechanical engineering
• 41.9% of computer and information sciences
But military money also pays for seemingly non-technical research, blurring the association with war.

- Bioterrorism money- public health, microbiology
- Medical research eg Congressionally-directed Medical Research Programs
- Biology research- eg microbial ecology, protein folding
- Psychology.
- Neurology.
- Anthropology.
- Sociology.
- Linguistics.
- Languages.
Why does the Department of Defense Fund Basic Research?

• “The DoD dominates the world’s military organizations in being able to use basic research results to create new and enhanced military capabilities, by dint of financial resources, infrastructure, and national culture.”

• Defense Science Board, January 2012
The DoD’s priorities for basic university funding.

• Autonomy (unmanned systems)
• Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction
• Cyber Sciences
• Data-to-Decisions (big data use for situation awareness in warfare and unmanned weapon systems)
• Electronic Warfare
• Engineered Resilient Systems
• Human Systems
Military (defense/aerospace) contractors are vital partners with universities in the federally funded defense industry.

Top 10 Defense Companies, 2019

1. Lockheed Martin
2. Boeing
3. Northrop Grumman
4. Raytheon
5. Aviation Industry Corporation of China
6. General Dynamics
7. BAE Systems
8. China North Industries Group Corp. Ltd.
9. Airbus
Universities are actually military contractors and it is hard to follow the money.

Federal defense R&D money can go to military contractors, who collaborate and subcontract projects to universities.

While military money is usually defined as coming from DoD, it can also come for the Department of Veteran Affairs, Department of Energy, 17 intelligence agencies, etc. And those acronyms!

A projects funding can be moved from a military agency (eg DoD) to a civilian agency (eg NIH) and then back again.

Most universities do not distinguish between “federal” and “military” money in public reporting.
Raytheon funds UMass Lowell campus in Kuwait (Defense Offset)

Raytheon- UMass Lowell Research Institute Project (RURI)
UIC forms partnership with Central Intelligence Agency

February 28, 2018

The University of Illinois at Chicago has launched a new partnership with the Central Intelligence Agency that will enhance student career opportunities at the university, officials recently announced.

UIC will receive resources to support academic enrichment and workforce development activities for students. The new pilot partnership, called the Signature School Program, will also draw on UIC's rich academic programs, the graduation rate of its students, as well as the diversity of its student population.

The agreement "will establish a solid partnership between UIC and the CIA and provide our students a greater breadth of career opportunities," said UIC Chancellor Michael Amiridis. "The Signature School Program will provide UIC students with direct access to careers and internships within the agency for many years, a win-win situation for both of us."
Air Force S&T team deepens partnership with Carnegie Mellon University Center of Excellence

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs / Published May 01, 2019

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) --
The Air Force announced May 1 it will deepen its partnership with Carnegie Mellon University by embedding a 10-person science and technology team focused on robotics and associated technologies affiliated with Carnegie Mellon University’s Center of Excellence.

The Air Force team will be located at CMU to work through the center to connect with faculty from across the university and take advantage of CMU’s cutting-edge research and education.
US plans to spend $100,000 per minute over next 10 years for nuclear weapons

Schools of Mass Destruction - ICAN report.
But protests and sanctions are happening.

Peace Activists Conduct a Public Shaming of the University of Arkansas for its Links to a Prominent Nuclear Bomb Parts Supplier for the U.S. Government
University of Washington
University of Washington.

- Consistently ranked as one of the top 15 universities in the world.
- UW has been in the top 2 of federal research funded universities since 2009.
- UW is among the top three universities for university-aided startups.
- 4th largest non-federal employer in the state.
- 5% of the UW budget comes from industry.
- Only 6% of the UW budget comes from the state.
University of Washington

- # 43 in Arkin’s 100 most militarized universities.
- Member of post-9/11 Coalition for National Security Research.
- Conducts classified research.
- Is a Navy-managed DoD University Affiliated Research Center (UARC)
- The Navy uses the APL to develop fleet tactics, strategies, and systems.
Oceanography Building (OOB)

This first Oceanographic building constructed on campus contains the Puget Sound Model and teaching labs on the first floor. The second floor houses APL Center for Industrial and Medical Ultrasound faculty and labs and the third floor is home to ES&S, currently the GeoMapNW and part of the QRC library.

Building Manager: Jim Fahey

Map Link

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apl.uw.edu

Applied Physics Laboratory

How Military Funding Shaped What We Do and Don't Know about the Ocean

SCIENCE ON A MISSION

NAOMI ORESKES
Biggest grants from DoD are in College of Engineering in departments of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Bioengineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering and in the College of the Environment, in Oceanography.

Several faculty funded through the DoD Congressionally-directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) such as the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command Breast Cancer Research Program and Ovarian Cancer Research Program, Prostate Cancer Research Program, Joint Warfighter Medical, etc.
University of Washington

- Institute for National Security Education and Research is an Intelligence Community Center of Excellence sponsored by the Defense Intelligence Agency.
- Its Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity is a designated NSA/DHS Center of Academic Excellence.
- Has collaborated in the FBI's National Security Higher Education Advisory Board, a partnership between universities and law enforcement on national security issues.
University of Washington.5
DARPA
(Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency)

• DARPA Robotics Challenge- Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering.

• BRAIN- DARPA-funded program to restore memory loss- Physiology and Biophysics, with Neurology and Applied Mathematics.

• Low-power wave energy system to restore tactical data in a contested system- Applied Physics Laboratory and Columbia Power.

• Low resource Languages for Emergent Incidents (LORELEI) Program- UW Natural Language Processing (UWNLP): Linguistics, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering, Biomedical & Health Informatics.
Boeing and the University of Washington

• Boeing is the 2nd largest military contractor in the world.
• There are many stand alone projects funded by Boeing, and many involving UW, Boeing, and the DoD.
• William E. Boeing Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics.
• Boeing Advanced Research Center, housed in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.
• (Former Board of Regents Chair 2017 Pat Shanahan- 30 years Boeing. Missile Defense Systems, was acting Deputy Secretary of Defense.)
“….SPARC is organized by the William E. Boeing Department of Aeronautics & Astronautics and the Jackson School of International Studies and convenes space related faculty, research, and initiatives from all over the UW and the region, including the departments of Astrobiology, Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship, the iSchool, Mechanical Engineering, Materials Science, Human Centered Design, Industrial Systems, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Earth & Space Sciences, the Law School, Environmental Sciences, Math, UW Medicine, the Joint Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation, and more. “
The Space Force- 6th branch of the Department of Defense, established 2020.

How Space Became the Next ‘Great Power’ Contest Between the U.S. and China

The Biden administration faces not only waves of Chinese antisatellite weapons but a history of jumbled responses to the intensifying threat.
Something described as neutral technology-

USAF Science & Technology 2030 Forum

The U.S. Air Force is on a mission to invent the future for 2030 and beyond. As our adversaries close the technology gap, the U.S. needs to push the boundaries of what is possible in the areas of science and technology in order to defend America.
From the military’s point of view is for killing.
Science and scientists’ training and attitudes enable acceptance of war.

• Science is neutral and objective.
• Science has nothing to do with politics.
• Science is the superior human endeavor.
• More data, more tech, will solve all problems.
• All money used for science is good.
• No code of ethics, history of science not taught.
As STEM majors soar at UW, interest in humanities shrinks — a potentially costly loss

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Military funding probably affects faculty and administrative attitudes on campuses and is a challenge to academic freedom.

- Decline in tenure track positions (33.5% vs 66.5% non-tenure track).
- Corporate and military confidentiality agreements.
- Money for humanities decreasing.
- 20% of US college professors in 2012 came from fields outside academia, including the military.
Military/corporate money and influence likely to be a conflict of interest for a university?

• Are alternatives other than war given equal weight in hiring, in courses, and in discussions and expectations at colleges?

• Is military money buying compliance? Are funded academics, for example, less willing to speak out against war?

• Is USA foreign policy affected? e.g. Increases in Cold War attitudes, especially vs China?
USA Education: K-12 militarism.

• Volunteer fighters

• Government advertising and recruitment programs

• Complex technologies
The USA has a “volunteer” military because the Viet Nam War draft/conscription caused dissent.

- Inequities of the draft for the Viet Nam war led to a lottery.
- The lottery became a target of antiwar activists, allies with civil rights and women’s rights activists.
- More than 58,000 Americans and 2,000,000 Vietnamese people were killed in Vietnam.
- The draft was ended in 1973.
- The military since then has been staffed by volunteers.
- Selective Service was reactivated in 1980, and exists today....
- Need for recruits increased post 9/11.
Public schools are the main target of military recruiting efforts for those volunteers.
Military recruiting in schools ramped up after 9/11.

Section 9528 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and Section 544 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002

NCLB/ESSA require public high schools to:

- Turn over students’ contact information to the military
- Provide the same access to students as is given to other recruiters
- ...Or risk losing federal funding and be subject to intervention by the Department of Defense.

This *mandated* that military recruiters be in schools.
Federal laws/policies support or enforce military recruiting in high school.

• National Defense Authorization Act and No Child Left Behind /Every Student Succeeds Act (NCLB/ESSA)
• Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)
• Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
• Future Soldiers/ Delayed Entry Program (DEP)
JROTC- Junior Reserve Officer Training Program.

- 3,402+ schools have JROTC
- More than 557,000+ students enrolled
- “…one of the best recruitment programs we could have…. Former Secretary of Defense William Cohen

Daniel Boone JROTC on the march
May 4, 2016
JROTC is promoted in schools as a leadership program.

The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth
June 8 at 2:00pm

14 and 15 year-olds doing combat simulation, their objective "is to secure a compound held by 'terrorists' that have taken two journalists hostage", and they're "learning to kick down doors, clear buildings, they're going down a 50 foot repel tower"... but no, this program has NOTHING to do with the military 😊

KOAMTV.COM
Air Force JROTC @10PM (5-24)
KOAMTV.com provides news, weather and sports for Carthage,...
Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test is marketed to schools, teachers, and families as a free aptitude test.

• **Discover Yourself: The ASVAB**  Once students discover what the ASVAB can tell them about their aptitudes and abilities, they will rush out to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). This test should help them (and their parents) figure out what career directions may be most appropriate.
The Department of Defense says the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery is for recruiting.

• On ASVAB, from the Department of Defense Instruction NUMBER 1304.12E 9/20/05

3.2.1 The purposes of the DOD Student Testing Program are to:
3.2.1.1 Provide the military services with access to the high school market and recruiters with prequalified recruiting leads.
Future Soldiers/Delayed Entry Program.
International law seeks to restrict the recruiting of minors.

- **1977** UN Additional Protocols to 1949 Geneva Conventions prohibited military recruitment and use of children under the age of 15.

- **1989** UN Convention on the Rights of the Child- Defined a child for the 1st time as any person under 18.

- **1999** Africa Union Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child prohibits state armed forces from recruiting volunteers under 18.

- **2000** UN Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OPAC)- UN prohibits the conscription of children under 18 and their participation in hostilities.
What is recruiting, anyway?
• Vans, helicopters, climbing walls, video games, etc.
• Post Covid- eSports, social media
Social norms enable acceptance of military recruiters in schools.

• Militarization of police and other parts of society.
• History textbooks.
• Reverence for military.
• Fear of the military.
• Fear of appearing unpatriotic.
Recruitment support outside the school.
Recruiting for volunteers in schools is more like a game for children.
SCHOOL RECRUITING PROGRAM

............... 9-1 Introduction
...............9-1
High School Relations . 9-1
Things to Avoid ..........9-2
School Profile ............9-3
Influencers ..............9-3
Decision Points ..........9-3
School ASVAB ...........9-4
Postsecondary Schools ....9-4
Stop-Out Cycle (Decision Points)......9.5
Predatory grooming is...

- ...the process by which a child is befriended by a would-be abuser in an attempt to gain the child’s confidence and trust, enabling them to get the child to acquiesce to abusive activity. It is frequently a prerequisite for an abuser to gain access to a child.

1. Grooming is an insidious part- perhaps the basis- of the military recruitment process.

2. Poverty/backdoor draft.

3. Worse outcomes for younger enlistees.
Counter- military recruiting.

• Protect student contact info from the military.
• Give students information about the military and war.
• Counter the dominant belief in the righteousness of war and militarism.
• Give information on jobs, training, and college funding.
• Change policy and rules to limit recruiter access to what is legally allowed.
Changing military recruiting policies in Seattle Public Schools.

• The 2\textsuperscript{nd} war against Iraq generated antiwar sentiment.
• Increased military recruiting in schools.
• Multiple stakeholders- School board, school administrators, teachers, career counselors, staff, students, parents.
• Multiple collaborators- ACORN, Socialist Alternative, Veterans for Peace, local and national peace groups, religious groups, student clubs, counter-military groups.
The Garfield PTSA took a stand against war...

Garfield High School PTSA resolution adopted 09/02:

Garfield High School's PTSA Opposes War in Iraq

The Garfield PTSA affirms its historic mission of promoting the education and well-being of our entire school community.

The lives of the young people we graduate from this institution are valuable and precious to us. The financial costs of fighting a new war will come directly from the public's resources that would be better spent improving the quality of education for our children, and advancing their opportunities for higher education.

We, therefore, declare our opposition to a military attack on Iraq, without the support of the United Nations and in the absence of a clear and present danger, as it is an undertaking that runs counter to the health, education, and well-being of our school, regional and national interests. We call on the Congress and the President to redirect our resources to efforts that promote the well-being of our young people and the strength of our educational systems, and we urge our fellow members in PTSA's across the nation to do the same.
And then called for an end to recruitment in schools.

Full text of the resolution endorsed by the Garfield PTSA board on April 7, 2005 and passed by the membership on May 9, 2005:

Each Garfield student should be made aware of—and be assisted in accessing—appropriate and affordable career opportunities and educational programs, including the military. But, given the level of commitment required of those who join the military, the school should make a special effort to ensure that students are given full disclosure of the possible consequences of the decision to join the military.

Students should not be harassed by military recruiters. Students and their families who do not want contact from military recruiters should be respected. It is the responsibility of the school and the district to ensure that student information is not improperly shared with military recruiters.

All Garfield students should learn the basic tenets of international law, including: the U.N. charter, the Geneva Conventions, the Nuremberg Code, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
Garfield volunteers for recruiting battle

Military told ‘we don’t want you’ at high school

Sgt. Melissa Porter had just spread out the freebies yesterday on her Army of One table – give-away pens, pencils, computer games, slick brochures – when the anti-recruiting leader arrived ready to do battle.

“Do you understand that we don’t want you here?” said PTSA co-Chairwoman Amy Hagopian, who came to the Garfield High School luncheon carrying pictures of Iraqis maimed in war.

“At a previous recruiting event, our students’ and faculty’s reactions were so negative that the recruiter left early,” added Mike Brown, who is a former teacher at Garfield High School. 

Do you see these pictures of people who come home with prosthetics? Do you see them?" challenged Hagopian, a University of Washington assistant professor in health administration and the mother of a senior at Garfield.

“My uncle was injured in Iraq in March,” responded the young new recruit.
Ingraham High School students Anna Wingfield, left, and Genna White exit as they leave school to take part in Wednesday’s student protest against the Iraq war. Many students took buses to the downtown rally.

- Made it easier for opt out of student info to recruiters
- Students notified of right to leave Delayed Enlistment Program.
- Access....Visits limited to 2 per year, by app’t. etc.
- Counter recruiters also given access at the same time as military recruiters.
The military has the money to constantly adapt to changing policies and politics.
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) as a recruiting tool.
STEM camps—high school (and middle school!)

Vision Statement

To be the premier Department of Defense youth outreach program for raising the interest in learning and improving the knowledge and skills of our nation’s at risk youth so that we may develop a highly educated and skilled American workforce who can meet the advance technological requirements of the Department of Defense.
Military (defense/aerospace) contractors also run STEM camps.
Universities, Military, Contractors work together on STEM camps.
Javier Velasquez, 18, a student in U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Explorer Program, shoots during a firearm training class in Nogales, Ariz., in June 2017. Velasquez’s shot is steady, and he is one of the top shooters in the program.

In an empty parking lot of a Border Patrol station in Kingsville, Texas, a small group of high school students practices stop-and-search arrests on one another in July 2017. The exercise is part of U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Explorer Program. In the background, officers correct the students’ form and tactics and yell instructions.

Credit: Sarah Blesener for Reveal
In May 2020 Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said Space Force was necessary because “our adversaries in the last several years have weaponized space. They’ve made it a warfighting domain.”
Air Force and Space Force Office Hours

March 9, 2021  eBark News

Interested in the Air Force or Space Force? Join this event to chat with your regional advisor.

RSVP HERE: https://afrotc.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIscurpz8jHNW9PgwfaEi_W3EDL8ky5g
Congress debated restrictions on military recruiting.

Progressives Applaud AOC Proposal to Ban 'Insidious Practice' of Military Recruiting in Schools
"It's important that our youth understand that joining the military isn't the only way to pay for college or find stability in life."
by Eoin Higgins, staff writer
With women in combat roles, a federal court rules male-only draft unconstitutional.
Military recruitment in schools and military funding at universities remain unlinked:

• To militarism to international policy to war.
• To the physical and psychological harm done to people, families, and cultures all over the world.
• To militarism to racism, sexism, poverty.
• To violence.
But militarism is linked to....everything.

- What is specific to the military dispositive in present global capitalism is its trans-planetary presence and its expansion into civilian social space. While many still think of it as connected to nation-states, the military dispositive, which includes flows of weapons, soldiers, commodities, refugees and technologies, is a manifestation of global interconnections (Ferguson, 2009). As a result of this deterritorialization, Ferguson notes, it erases what were once clearly established distinctions between civilians and enemies, weapons and civilian technologies, domestic and foreign, war and peace, creating a permanent in-between space.

- From “War, trauma, and the militarized body.” FC Andreeescu, Subjectivity 9, 205-223 (2016).
Resources

• The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth (NNOMY)
nnomy.org

• Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR)
https://www.srg.org

• Divest from War campaign
https://www.divestfromwar machine.org