

# Want to Stop Climate Catastrophe? End Militarism and War!



## The U.S. military's role in the destruction of the planet:

- The US military is the single largest consumer of oil in the world, some estimates are close to a million barrels a day.
- The annual carbon footprint of the military is larger than most countries on earth. **It's the single largest producer of greenhouse gases in the world.** And this doesn't even include the NSA, CIA, the nuclear arms program and other agencies of war.
- Since the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, the US military has emitted a staggering **1.2 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere.** For comparison, the entire annual carbon emissions of the United Kingdom amount to roughly 360 million tons.\*
- The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the proxy wars in Yemen, Syria, Libya and elsewhere have also created **massive deforestation and drought.**\*
- The **open burning of toxic waste**, the **use of uranium munitions** and other impacts of war have **spread vast amounts of toxins** over those countries and their neighbors. The intense fighting over the city of Fallujah (in Iraq) has caused the population to suffer "the highest rate of genetic damage in any population ever studied."

\*"How Military Build-Up and War Contribute to Climate Emergency" *The Intercept* (15 September 2019)

**With the possibility of war against Iran on the table**, it is more important now than ever to connect the dots between militarism, climate degradation, and capitalism's hunger for profits and resource extraction. Militarism and war have been essential to that expansion, from the settler wars against Indigenous peoples in the thirst for land and natural resources, to the Trump administration's strategy of global "energy dominance" through the expansion of fossil fuel production, which is spurring the climate crisis we face today.

## What's next for our movements?

The only way we can really confront the existential, ecological crisis we face is at its roots – by fighting to "keep it in the ground" and simultaneously demanding an end to the U.S. military's devastating assault on the planet and its people.

Resource prepared by Anti-War Working Group members:  
Catalyst Project: [www.collectiveliberation.org](http://www.collectiveliberation.org)  
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