

This is the anniversary of the end of Israel's last massacre in Gaza. The outrage of conscious citizens of the world continues, as corporate media continues its charade of blaming the victim, something we are very accustomed to in the US as we hear meaningless and false explanations about police murders in our own country. And friends, what happened in Gaza had the complete support of the United States. Our country poured in the most diabolical lethal power to make sure Israel could conduct its heinous massacre and make sure there was no escape for the Gaza prison.

Our country poured in more lethal aid to the Egyptian dictatorships. If our citizens had studied some hundred interventions in Latin American history, they would instantly see its repetition in the Middle East. Our beloved Mr. Sisi is actually the reincarnation of General Augusto Pinochet of Chile, September 11, 1973. I'm fortunate today to have one of a growing number of truth tellers as a guest. Max Blumenthal is the author of *Republican Gomorrah*, a New York Times and Los Angeles Times bestseller. Max was also the winner of the Lannan Foundation Cultural Freedom Notable Book Award for his book, *Goliath*. He's also a senior writer for *Alternet*. His writings and documentaries have appeared in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, the Nation, the Guardian and many other media. His book is praised by a former speaker of the Knesset, and author of *The Holocaust Is Over. We Must Rise from its Ashes*. Reza Aslan says that "Blumenthal's is one of the most vital voices in journalism today, always speaking truth to power with fearlessness and integrity, as with his previous books. *The Fifty One Day War* is sure to be talked about for years to come."

And today we will talk about his new book, *Ruin and Resistance in Gaza: The 51 Day War*, "Welcome, Max Blumenthal.

Max: Good to be on with you.

Blase: One of the problems for me, Max, is the fact that people don't seem to be able to distinguish between oppressor and oppressed. Should there be any difficulty with this?

Max: I think people are seeing the power balance in this situation, particularly as it relates to the Gaza Strip, where we're at the anniversary of the cessation of hostilities of last year's war. Eighteen thousand homes were completely or partially destroyed and are uninhabitable, and remain unreconstructed.

The Gaza Strip remains in ruins. The problem is people who can see the power imbalance - if they can see it - the problem is obtaining accurate information on Israel and Palestine. Or any information at all, any news coverage. It's really difficult to do for Americans. It took me years to get to the point where I am. And that is because information is either hidden from you or it's so badly obscured, distorted and warped. Americans often take the lead from the president, their political leadership and their societal leaders, and the Israel lobby works on elites. It doesn't care about us. Although it's freaking out about what's happening at the University of California where a majority of campuses have voted to divest from companies involved in Israel's occupation, it's mostly interested in the student government. It only focuses on the "elite."

And the message Americans hear from elites is very pro Israel, it's about Israel as the victim against the historical backdrop of the holocaust and 3,000 years of suffering, which was basically

only related to the European nightmare. And they don't hear about the Palestinian situation, the Palestinian narrative is frozen out. And if you look at the opinion pages of any major newspaper, you watch CNN, there are no Muslim or Arab-American commentators. And if there are, they are tokens who are sort of native informants who are sympathetic to the war on terror and to the Israeli and American narratives. So that's the situation Americans are faced with, and it's why I wrote this book, *the 51 Day War*, to help people understand the narrative of the war. To provide them with some context and explain what it's like in the Gaza Strip, which I was able to visit during the war and spent some time there afterwards. And it's why I wrote *Goliath: Live and Loathing in Greater Israel*. To help Americans understand the real Israel they don't know, which is a comprehensively racist society. It's the only aggressively active settler colonial state in the world. So that's the problem.

Blase: Has there ever been a successful ethnic state? We've seen Christendom, we've seen so many other examples, we see Arab states, we Islamic states, can we look to success in trying to identify ethnicity and state anywhere?

Max: Well, we can look right here in the United States. The US actually committed genocide in order to consolidate its settler colonial project. And then it proceeded on a path toward the kind of bourgeois liberal democracy that enabled multi-culturalism and mass immigration. And while there are elements in this country that want the US to be an ethnic state, specifically and white Christian state, and those are the elements that are most supportive of Israel and are being cultivated by the Israel lobby as their kind of grassroots space, this country is going in a different direction. Now Israel is in a situation where it hasn't consolidated its settler colonial project, and Gaza is resisting. Gaza is a warehouse for people Israel has to keep out. They have legitimate claims in Israel. 70-80 percent of them are refugees from Israel. And they're considered demographic threats because they will contaminate the ethnic purity of the Jewish state. And so Israel has to keep the warehoused forever. And they resist. People in the West Bank are held behind a wall and being ghettoized. They don't have weapons, they're not militarized. It takes on different forms. But this is all a sign that Israel failed to do what the United States and Australia and New Zealand did when they were in the settler colonial phase, the phase of high settler colonialism, which is to eliminate native resistance. Israel has a choice now. It can either find a way out by signed an agreement that normalizes its role in the region, or it can commit genocide. Or it can continue maintaining the occupation indefinitely, which is Netanyahu's current strategy.

What became clear to me during my time in the Gaza Strip, when I watched the bombs fall, when I went through these border regions which had been wiped off the face of the earth, was that Israeli society, under the leadership of the most right wing, religious nationalist, messianic government in history was poised for genocide.

Blase: Well, you know, we see in an oppressed people the ability to celebrate. What you relate in Gaza is what we saw in Nicaragua when it was being oppressed, and the people continued to celebrate until they had the government. And the same in El Salvador. They continued to celebrate as they were being oppressed. They would have fiestas and we were sometimes shocked, saying "Don't you realize the enemy is on the other side of the mountain?" "You can't

stop us from celebrating life." And the FLMN is their government today. I think it's a sign of victory. And I see that so many of the Palestinians recognized what happened as a moral victory.

Max: Yes. I wrote in the book about the victory celebrations that ensued at the end of the war. For most of my friends, it was simply a celebration of survival. The malevolent capacity of Israel and its destructive force reached elements of Palestinian society that it had never reached before. The war was signified by Israel bringing down entire civilian residential towers that were home to forty or fifty families who have nothing to do with the conflict. They were just doing that to set the stage for the end of war scenario in which large sections of Gazan society were demoralized and devastated. So everyone in the Gaza Strip, including me, felt their life could be snuffed out by the flick of a button of Israeli drone shots - it's absolutely terrifying to be there in that environment. And when it finally ended, they poured out into the street to celebrate. But they were also celebrating their resistance and the fact that they held out against the most powerful military in the Middle East backed to the hilt by the United States without giving up on their demands, which were entirely humanitarian in nature but also entailed not giving up on armed resistance. The demand has always been there that for the Gaza Strip to realize any change in the siege, they would have to demilitarize, give up their weapons. So people in the Gaza Strip came out with their guns and fired them in the air saying "we're not going to do what the West Bank did."

Look at the West Bank right now. Look at what's happening in Mahmood Abbas' little bantustan. Palestinians have never had it worse. They are surrounded by settlers. Settlements are being built. In the rural areas, young men have to maintain night patrol outside their villages because settlers rampage into their villages and are now starting to firebomb Palestinian homes. Farmers are being attacked. And there's nothing Palestinians can do because their security forces coordinate with the Israeli military. When you were in Nicaragua and El Salvador, this is the equivalent of the FMLN or FSLN coordinating with the contras and the US military. It's absolutely insane. In the Gaza Strip, their victory is simply that their resistance will be able to continue until tomorrow.

Blase: As an American citizen, I am extremely opposed to any aid from our government, not only aid but support and direction. Here we are sending Apache helicopters to reinforce the onslaught on the city of Rafa, and then afterwards you had this charade of a meeting there in Cairo where Gaza was not even represented. That was quite an interesting meeting. But the greatest opposition I feel is to the fact that our government is behaving as the perpetrator here. I don't think Israel could do what it's doing without total support from the United States.

Max: As the father of a doctor who treated hundreds of people in the devastated village of Pavea, in the rubble of the homes, he said: "You Americans give us aid and food, and you give Israelis weapons to kill us." But this time, after this assault on Gaza which caused 8 billion dollars in damage, the US has delivered almost nothing. And last week, Barak Obama personally delivered a letter to one of the members of Congress who is strongest in support of Israel, representative Gerry Nadler of New York, he's a liberal on everything except for Palestine, and he's heavily funded by AIPAC and their donors, and Nadler had a tough decision to make over the Iran deal. The Israeli lobby is putting tons of pressure on him, but he also wants to be loyal to

his president and to his party, so he decided to vote for the Iran deal and Barak Obama sent him a letter saying that he would arm Israel to the teeth to mollify the pro-Israel members of congress. And one of the things that Obama boasted about was supplying Israel with the Moab, the Mother of All Bombs and bunker busters, which are 5 thousand ton bombs that can penetrate deep into concrete bunkers. Now what would they need that for? We have not seen Israel attack any conventional army in decades. What they're doing is attacking civilian homes in the Gaza Strip with 5 thousand pound bombs supplied by the United States. And I actually witnessed one of those assaults in which several bunker buster bombs were used to attempt to kill the commander of the general commander of the Al Quasam Brigade, and miss him but managed to kill his entire family.

Blase: On page 159, Israeli jets bombing the office of the Islamic University; page 163, Israeli F-16s (I wonder where they were built) sent guided missiles into Nasi Tower. They said they wanted to kill Mohammad Dyas, and they used 500 pound bunker buster missiles in their attempt. Just think, Max, the use of a one pound bomb for such a purpose could result in the death penalty or life in prison in a judicial trial. Who is the oppressor?

Max: Right. Zerniaev was actually put on trial, one of the charges against him was using a weapon of mass destruction. He was using kettle bombs which are deadly in that they could kill perhaps four or five people at most. Meanwhile, we're delivering 5 thousand pound bombs to an army which, according to the Israeli human rights group Bethselem, has an open fire policy on civilian areas of the Gaza Strip. In other words, kill anything that moves. An army that brought down, deliberately, in a deliberate strike, a building in the Gaza Strip that was the oldest and highest residential tower in the Gaza Strip, and it was also home to all the offices of the media in the Gaza Strip. So all of the media offices were destroyed in an Israeli jet strike.

Sixteen journalists were killed covering the war, Palestinian journalists. And we heard nothing about them. We heard nothing about Al Basha Tower, the media office in the Gaza Strip, which is the equivalent of bringing down CNN tower in Atlanta.

Blase: Let's look at the US role here. The US "Defense" Department authorized 647 million to Israel for the 1725 BLU 109 and 3450 GBU 39 bunker buster bombs. This was to replenish the supply that Israel had exhausted in previous Gaza massacres. Bloomberg and the New York Times did not bother to cover the destruction of the media center in Gaza. [They pretend] it didn't even happen.

Max: The office that Bloomberg uses in Gaza was destroyed, and they chose not to cover that.

Blase: That is quite striking. It didn't happen, therefore. Here's the comment from one of the family members who had a word for Mr. Netanyahu. He said, "we inform you Israelis that you've lost the battle. Once again you proved you are a pack of loses. After forty five days have elapsed, all you've managed to do is kill our women and children." That's in your book.

Max: One thing I did in my book - I quote the leaders of Hamas' military wing to explain what they were attempting to do, which is to attack Israeli soldiers and military targets, while Israel deliberately targeted the civilian infrastructure in the Gaza Strip. These were quotes that translated from Arabic that were extracted from broadcasts from within the Gaza Strip, by the way through a TV station that was bombed by Israel. And they were ignored in the American media. But what you would have been able to glean from these statements is that the resistance factions in the Gaza Strip that are referred to casually as "terrorists" in this country, killed 68 Israeli combat soldiers out of 73 Israeli citizens who died, while Israel killed about 1500 civilians in the Gaza Strip out of 2200 who died. So who are the terrorists? That's a serious question that needs to be asked.

Blase: It's the same question that should be asked about our military behavior, but in this case we're talking about the fact that one third of all hospitals in Gaza were hit. Hospitals! Fourteen primary health care clinics, twenty nine ambulances of the Red Crescent and the Ministry of Health, and then we find dense metal explosives that sound like white phosphorus, it is just a diabolical scene, and we know that throughout history many high officers and generals can be identified as clinically insane, and we know that's true of many of our generals, and then you have here a quote from Colonel Winter saying, "We were protected by the clouds of divine honor. We were suddenly covered by heavy fog which came with us throughout the attack. We were all, every last one, and they were all, all these people, every last one, even the children, deserving to die." We've seen mental cases like this in our Vietnam reports, in the rape of Fallujah when General Boykin told our troops that they were fighting the devil. This is a form of insanity that comes with militarism. We have to apply civil war to militarism - you get no points for killing someone who is identified as the "enemy;" you get a murder charge. What we're dealing with an insane leadership that has developed a hopeless cult-like situation. How do you wake people up?

Max: We're doing the best we can here. And we have an active and quickly growing campaign, which is engaging civil society because there's so little we can do with our government which is still in the thrall of the Israel Lobby. It's called BDS, Boycott Divestment and Sanctions. It's something everyone can get involved in. As I said earlier in the broadcast, the majority of the University of California campuses have voted to divest from companies involved in the Occupation. Jewish Voice for Peace is a group that is active in driving BDS is the fastest growing Jewish group in the country. I was just on tour on the West Coast for my book, and the crowds that I saw were massive and more energetic than ever. And it's not because of me, necessarily, because there's something happening out there where people are just fed up with watching one massacre after another in the Gaza Strip, and having their tax dollars funneling into the coffers of an apartheid state. Funding massacres, and they're doing something about it. It's very encouraging what's happening on the ground in this country. Even as the situation in Israel / Palestine is ever more dismaying.

Blase: I find that to be true. A few years ago, people left and right were canceling their

memberships in our organization, Office of the Americas, referring to us as anti-semitic. We have seen the return of people who had told us we were anti-semitic taking it back and saying, look, you are relating to the government of Israel the same way you relate to the United States when you think it is doing something wrong. That's what citizens do. That's what citizens have to do. And that's what we're doing. I think they're beginning to understand that. On page 136, you compare the Hiroshima bomb with the amount of explosives used by Israel in the 51 day war. The bomb dropped on Hiroshima was the equivalent of 13,000 tons of TNT. The Israelis unleashed a stunned amount of firepower against the undefended 1.8 million civilian population of the Gaza Strip, that open air prison. 25,000 tank shells; 20,000 artillery shells; drones; F-15s - this is a massacre. And the way it's covered in the press, and I think one of the foulest things the press can do is to act as if both sides are the same. It's the relationship between somebody who holds you up on the street with a pistol and says "give me all your money." The two sides are not the same. How in the world can the press get away with this? Acting as if we have these two major powers, Israel and Gaza, and they're just the same but a little more Gaza was done than in Israel. This is false reporting.

Max: I have to go, but in closing I'd like to say that in this war, something i explain in my book *The 51 Day War*, is that the media is allowed in the Gaza Strip - unlike in 2008 - 2009 deadly assault known as operation Cast Lead - and many reporters came face to face with the brutality of Israel's siege for the first time. For example, during the assault on the Gaza beach which left four young boys, the Baker boys, dead as they played tag. It was an assault carried out by an Israeli naval ship, and they were playing tag right in front of the main hotel where all the journalists were staying in the Gaza Strip. Some of the journalists, in fact, were carrying the limp bodies of these young boys into the lobby to try to get them medical treatment, and what they saw days after day after day was civilian homes being attacked, entire families being liquedated, bodies literally piling up in the street. At one point, a hospital in Rafa had to call in ice cream coolers to store the bodies of dead infants because they the mortuary was overflowing with dead bodies. Three million bullets were fired, 25,000 tank shells, 20,000 artillery shells. I don't even know how many fragmentation bombs fell on Gaza, but 20 percent of the area of the Gaza Strip was destroyed. This was reported more accurately in the past, which isn't to say it was reported accurately. What we need to do, and what I'm aiming to do now that I'm back in the United States, is to build up some kind of institutions for challenging the mainstream media and actually putting them on notice. That's what the Israel Lobby has done from the other side in order to intimidate the media into falsely reporting on what isn't a conflict, what is actually a conquest. We have to capacity if we're willing to mobilize resources and energy the same way the other side does. We have to capacity to use the moral high ground we have and the political momentum we have to actually transform it into some concrete improvement in the kind of media Americans are getting. And that starts with what you're doing, Blase, which is simply providing a platform for the kind of work I'm doing. I'm grateful to be here.

Blase: Max, thank you for being with us today.

Well, friends, it's good to know that many Israeli security leaders are backing the nuclear agreement with Iran. This include the Peace and Security Association, representing hundreds of

Israeli security experts, IDF veterans, Mossad, Shin Bet, and Israeli police. So what the government is saying there is not what is reflected by many people who have served in government and security forces in the past. This is quite common and we're very happy with this because it's in complete sync with the fact that the very pope himself recommended boycotts. He said it's a tool. He did not specify this boycott, but this boycott is like others - a very non-violent, peaceful but strong weapon. It is not Mickey Mouse. As Barbouti said in his recent visit, "this inhumanity cannot continue. There is only one way out: to establish boycott, divestment and sanctions, BDS." He made the statement at his talk at the First Congregational Church in Berkley on his return from the 51 day war. I think he has reason to understand what's going on.

Today we had something quite surprising come in - I guess it was around 4 in the morning - it's a letter from Jeurgen Todenhofer. He's a journalist and media manager, and also a politician in Germany. He has done interviews with President Assad, he was the first German journalist to visit the Islamic State, and his most recent Facebook page post received by 443,135 likes. Here's what he had to say.

"Dear Presidents and Heads of Governments!

Through decades of a policy of war and exploitation you have pushed millions people in the Middle East and Africa into misery. Because of your policies refugees have to flee all over the world. One out every three refugees in Germany comes from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. From Africa comes one out of five refugees.

Your wars are also the cause of global terrorism. Instead some 100 international terrorists like 15 years ago, we now are faced with more than 100,000 terrorists. Your cynical ruthlessness now strikes back at us like a boomerang.

As usual, you do not even consider, to really change your policy. You cure only the symptoms. The security situation gets more dangerous and chaotic by the day. More and more wars, waves of terror and refugee crises will determine the future of our planet.

Even in Europe, the war will one day knock again at Europe's door. Any businessman that would act like you would be fired or be in prison by now. You are total failures.

The peoples of the Middle East and Africa, whose countries you have destroyed and plundered her and the people of Europe, who now accommodate the countless desperate refugees have to pay a high price for your policies. But wash your hands of responsibility. You should stand trial in front of the International Criminal Court. And each of your political followers should actually take care of at least 100 refugee families.

Basically, the people of the world should raise and resist you as the warmongers and exploiters. As once Gandhi did it - in nonviolence, in 'civil disobedience'. We should create new movements and parties. Movements for justice and humanity. Make wars in other countries just as punishable as murder and manslaughter one's own country. And you who are responsible for war and exploitation, you should go to hell forever. It is enough! Get lost! The world would be much nicer without you. Jürgen Todenhöfer "

PS Dear friends, I know you should never write letters in anger. But life is way too short to always beat about the bush. Is your anger not so great that you want to cry about so much irresponsibility? About the infinite suffering that has been caused by these politicians? About the millions of dead people? Did the warmongering politicians really believe they could go on for decades with impunity beating up other peoples making a killing at the same time? We should no longer accept this! In the name of humanity, I call upon to: Defend yourselves!."

This famous journalist expresses his rightful outrage at what we're doing, and we have absolutely no learning experience. Failed totally in Indochina, as you failed in Korea, and as Korea is trying to reunite, there's no real diplomacy, just continued warmongering.

Friends, what we're dealing with here is a real possibility of biocide of this tiny planet. It's possibly the greatest crisis since Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We've been playing the charade of "We think you have a nuclear bomb." We played that with Iraq and destroyed their country. Now we want to play the same charade with Iran. Of course, they do not have such a weapon. We are ignoring the country that has not signed and is not a part of the non-proliferation treaty, Israel. They don't have inspections. They just have those bombs ready to use at any moment, any moment at all that their very racist state, their very illegal behavior is being threatened. They will be very apt to use those weapons. We have supported all their crimes, and we continue to lecture the Palestinians. This is literally unbelievable. We're lecturing the victims as they are being massacred. Most of the people who live in Gaza, friends, are children. Most of the people who live in the Middle East are children. The whole thing has been a massacre of children.

This month, of course, we remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And that was the time the holocaust began, 1945, and it's continued to the present. Some 30 million people have been sacrificed since 1945. It was in Korea, Indochina, Central America. For the past 24 years, the destruction of Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen, much of Africa, and now all of the military hubris - murder, torture, rape - has to be put aside to save our common home, this tiny grain of sand called Planet Earth. Never has there been a greater danger of nuclear holocaust than today.

The United States and Israel are certainly the most apt to use these biocidal weapons. There is not now, nor has there ever been, any value in what is called deterrence. There is only crisis. The United States does not obey the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Israel is not even a member. Both point the finger at a nation which is open to inspection and is a member and yet has no nuclear weapons, Iran. This is classic military aggressive behavior steeped in falsehood.

Let's talk for a moment about Nagasaki. There was a book review in the New York Times by Ian Buruma. The book is called *Nagasaki: Life After Nuclear War*. It was written by Susan Southard. The reviewer points out that there's good reason to write a book about the atom bombing of Nagasaki.

There are good reasons for writing a book about the atom bombing of Nagasaki and its agonizing aftermath. Most people have heard of Hiroshima. The second bomb — dropped by an Irish-American pilot almost exactly above the largest Catholic church in Asia, which killed more than 70,000 civilians on the day and more in the long term — is less well known.

Susan Southard's harrowing descriptions give us some idea of what it must have been like for people who were unlucky enough not to be killed instantly: "A woman who covered her eyes

from the flash lowered her hands to find that the skin of her face had melted into her palms”; “Hundreds of field workers and others staggered by, moaning and crying. Some were missing body parts, and others were so badly burned that even though they were naked, Yoshida couldn’t tell if they were men or women. He saw one person whose eyeballs hung down his face, the sockets empty.”

Gen. Leslie Groves, the director of the Manhattan Project, which had developed the atom bomb, testified before the United States Senate that death from high-dose radiation was “without undue suffering,” and indeed “a very pleasant way to die.”

Many survivors died later, always very unpleasantly, of radiation sickness. Their hair would fall out, they would be covered in purple spots, their skin would rot. And those who survived the first wave of sickness after the war had a much higher than average chance of dying of leukemia or other cancers even decades later.

What made things worse for Japanese doctors who tried to ease the suffering of atom-bomb victims is that information about the bomb and its effects was censored by the American administration occupying Japan until the early 1950s. Even as readers here were shocked in 1946 by John Hersey’s description of the Hiroshima bomb in *The New Yorker*, the ensuing book was banned in Japan. Films and photographs of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as medical data, were confiscated by American authorities.

Who ran Japan at this time? The United States. Let’s talk for a moment about lying. A new study by the Army War College found that, not only is lying common in the military, the armed forces themselves are encouraging it. Matthew Hoh, a State Department whistle blower, said:

“The culture of lying that is endemic and systemic in the Army, as found by researchers with the Army War College, finds its expression in America’s pointless wars, a one trillion dollar-a-year, pork-filled and inauditable national security budget, chronic veteran suicides, an expanded and more globally robust international terrorist movement, and untold suffering of millions of people and political chaos throughout the Greater Middle East perpetuated by our war policies.

“However, listening to our military leaders, and the politicians who adore and deify them rather than oversee them, America’s wars and its military have been a great patriotic success. This report is not a surprise for those of us who have worn the uniform, nor should it be surprising to those who have watched and paid attention with a modicum of critical and independent thought to our wars these past thirteen plus years. The wars are failures, but careers must prosper, budgets must increase and popular narratives and myths of American military success must endure, so the culture of lying becomes a necessity for our Army at a great physical, mental and moral cost to our Nation.”

Thank you, Matthew Hoh. Hoh is a senior fellow at the Center for International Policy, previously directed the Afghanistan Study Group, a collection of foreign and public policy experts and professionals advocating for a change in U.S. policy in Afghanistan. Prior to that, Hoh served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Iraq and on U.S. Embassy teams in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

Friends, there was a very recent meeting in Kyoto. I think that meeting has a great deal to say about the situation in the world today. It’s called the Declaration of Kyoto, with the international

conference on space and peace.

The United Nations was established in 1946 after the Second World War to “Save the succeeding generations from the scourge of wars, which twice in our life time has brought untold sorrow to humankind”. The UN visualized establishing a New International Order. But the US and the erstwhile European colonial countries have joined together and instead of a New International Order, they have brought a “New International Disorder”.

The entire 20th Century witnessed wars, aggressions, and assassinations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The imperialist countries formed the NATO military alliance which is being used to indulge in attacks on sovereign nations and committing war crimes which go unpunished. Even the UN is being side tracked as NATO expands its mission as the primary resource extraction service for corporate globalization.

Instead of allowing an alternative social order to capitalism to be developed the US engaged the USSR in a nuclear arms race. US has established approximately 1,000 military bases throughout the world. It was largely responsible for boosting global military expenditures to more than 1.75 Trillion US Dollars. Along with allies like Saudi Arabia and other Arab monarchies the US has over the years fostered the growth of Taliban, Al-Qaida and terrorism throughout the Middle East, Central Asia and parts of Africa.

Missile defense systems, key elements in Pentagon first-strike attack planning, have been deployed around Russia and China. This has helped deal a death blow to hopes for global nuclear disarmament as both those nations have repeatedly warned that they cannot afford to reduce their nuclear retaliatory capability at the same time the US deploys the ‘shield’ on their doorstep.

At the beginning of the 21st Century the United Nations made another attempt to herald a “New International Order” by adopting the “Millennium Declaration” and the Millennium Development Goals. All UN members have accepted to eschew violence and follow peaceful co-existence ushering disarmament and development. But again the US and many European partners have created a “New International Disorder”.

Lies have been spoken in the governments of US & Britain and also in the UN Security Council about the non-existent nuclear weapons in Iraq. War in Afghanistan, invasion of Iraq, attacks on Libya, and drones attacks in Pakistan, Yemen and other nations have led to the killing of many innocent people.

Having directed a coup d'état in Ukraine the US has helped create a deadly civil war on Russia's border that appears designed to destabilize the government in Moscow.

NATO has been extended up to the borders of Russia violating post-Cold War promises to the former Soviet Union that the western military alliance would not move ‘one inch’ eastward. The US-NATO are today sending troops and heavy military hardware to NATO members Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and Georgia all along or near the Russian border. These provocative developments could be the trigger for WW III.

US refusal to negotiate a ban on weapons in space at the UN has left the door open for continued development of offensive and destabilizing space technologies like the military space plane and Prompt Global Strike systems. US military satellites offer global surveillance to the Pentagon and allow for targeting of virtually any place on Earth

The recently announced Obama 'pivot' of US forces into the Asia-Pacific is intended to give the Pentagon the capability to contain and control China. More airfields, barracks, and ports-of-call are needed for US military operations in the region thus we see expansion of existing bases, or construction of new bases, in places like South Korea, Okinawa, Guam, Philippines, Australia and more. We stand in solidarity with those local and national movements that resist these US base expansions.

Particularly as we meet in Kyoto, Japan we declare our strong opposition to the US deployment of a "missile defense" X-Band radar system in the local prefecture that is provocatively aimed at China.

This Kyoto Conference declares our opposition to the dangerous spread of global militarization, on behalf of corporate domination, which cannot be allowed to continue as we see the coming ravages of climate change and growing global poverty. We must all work to realize the UN ideal to "save the succeeding generations from the scourge of wars". This can only happen with a powerful and unified global movement for peace, justice and environmental sanity.

We call for the conversion of the global war machine so that all life on our spaceship Earth may live and flourish in the years to come. We recognize the need for bold and determined action now to ensure that another world may in fact be possible.

These are some words for us to think about, and it's a critical moment and a time for strong action to deal with the aggressive militarism with which we are living. Friends, we have the power to save the planet. It will not be done by our pathetic congress and administration. It can only be done by people mobilized in protest, leading the way to a new internationalism which is capable of ending the war system, creating a peace system and saving our common home. To this we must pledge our fortune and our lives. Thanks for listening.