



THE DRUMBEAT FOR WAR

In the past year, the longstanding tensions between the U.S. and Iran have seriously escalated as a result of the Trump administration's unilateral withdrawal from the "nuclear deal" negotiated under the previous president. We face the prospect of yet another war.

Key members of the current government, led by National Security Advisor John Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, are pushing hard for that outcome. As an Undersecretary of State under George W. Bush, Bolton helped to sell the 2003 war on Iraq to the media and Congress and mislead large numbers of the American public by cynically promoting the lie that the Iraqi government possessed "weapons of mass destruction." 4,000 Americans and more than 1,000,000 Iraqi men, women and children died as a result. Bolton has long been an advocate for "regime change" in Iran. How many lies can we expect to be told to make us accept another war?

The threat of war against Iran is part of a much larger, and longer, picture. The U.S. has been on a permanent war footing for decades. Its goal is no less than to control the world's resources and to concentrate immense wealth and power in the hands of a very few people. Men, women and children are being slaughtered, maimed, traumatized and driven from their homes all over the world to achieve these ends.

The current administration has exponentially increased U.S. surveillance and drone bombings over Syria, Yemen, Libya, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq, the latter resulting in uncounted thousands of deaths. It threatens "regime change" in Venezuela by military force if necessary. Its continued use of harsh economic sanctions against more than 20 countries throughout the world in an attempt to force their leaders to do its bidding has had serious humanitarian consequences for the ordinary people of those nations. Again, the resulting loss of life is uncounted.

The Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) passed after 9/11/2001 has been used as a cover for whatever military action a president wants to take. War has thus become a bureaucratic process. The executive branch has decided it can undertake military action wherever, whenever and however it wants, without the constitutionally mandated "advice and consent" from Congress. And we pay the astronomical cost.

MILITARY SPENDING VS. WHAT WE NEED

The proposed FY 2020 federal budget seeks to increase the military slice of the pie by \$33.4 billion to \$750 billion. In addition, the Pentagon's latest Nuclear Posture Review calls for a complete rebuilding of the U.S. nuclear arsenal, *estimated to cost \$1.2 trillion over 30 years.*

This budget will enrich weapons-makers, but where will the money come from?

Over the next 10 years, this budget

The time is long overdue to break free of the global and national costs of unfettered war-making. Please: write, call (202-224-3121) and/or visit your congressional representatives and demand that they do their jobs. Tell them there must be **no new war on Iran or Venezuela**. Tell them to **repeal the AUMF; defeat the proposed FY 2020 budget; end all drone warfare and stop the use of punishing economic sanctions**. Write, demonstrate and speak out against all manifestations of endless war. Our resistance now is our hope for the future.

*Some material in this flier is taken from leaflets previously written by the Greater New Haven Peace Council (uspeacecouncil.org). Members of the Peace Council and others join us at the vigil today to unite on this **National Day of Action Against War on Iran**.*

RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR
Sunday, July 14, 2019

Join the conversation any Sunday here at Broadway, Park and Elm Streets, New Haven, 12-1p.m. <http://newhavensundayvigil.wordpress.com>

