

The Worldwide Network of US Military Bases

The Global Deployment of US Military Personnel

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The Worldwide control of humanity's economic, social and political activities is under the helm of US corporate and military power. Underlying this process are various schemes of direct and indirect military strategies ultimately consist in a process of global subordination.

Where is the Threat?

The 2000 Global Report published in 1980 had outlined "the State of the World" by focussing on so-called "level of threats" which might negatively influence or undermine US interests.

Twenty years later, US strategists, in an attempt to justify their military interventions in different parts of the World, have conceptualised the greatest fraud in US history, namely "the global war on terrorism" fabricated pretext constitutes a global war against all those who oppose US hegemony. A modern form of slavery, instrumented through militarization and the "free market" has unfolded.

Major elements of the conquest and world domination strategy by the US refer to:

1) the control of the world economy and its financial markets,

2) the taking over of all natural resources (primary resources and nonrenewable sources of energy). The latter constitute the cornerstone of US power through the activities of its multinational corporations.

Geopolitical Outreach: Network of Military Bases

The US has established its control over 191 governments which are members of the United Nations. The conquest, occupation and/or supervision of these various regions of the World is supported by a network of military bases which cover the whole Planet (continents, oceans and outer space). All this pertains to the workings of an extensive Empire, the exact dimensions of which are not always easy to determine.

Known and documented from information in the public domain including Annual Reports of the United States Congress, we have a fairly good understanding of the structure of US military expenditure, the shape of this US military-strategic configuration in different regions of the World.

The objective of this article is to build a summary profile of the World network of military bases, which are under the jurisdiction and/or control of the US. The spatial distribution of these military bases will be the subject of a future article.

In a second section of this article, Worldwide popular resistance movements directed against US military bases and their various projects will be outlined. In a further article we plan to analyze the military superpowers including the United Kingdom, France and Russia.

I. The Military Bases

Military bases are conceived for training purposes, preparation and stockage of military equipment, used by national armies throughout the World. They are not very well known for the very reason that they are often hidden. Even though they borrow different shapes according to the function for which they have been established, they can be classified under four main categories :

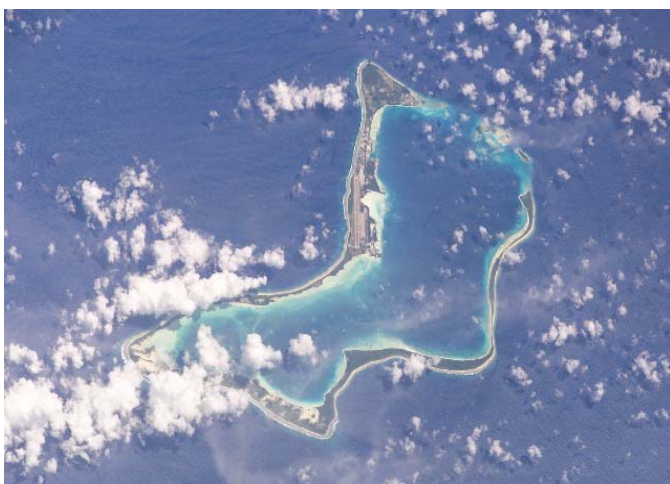
a) **Air Force Bases** (see photos 1 and 2);

b) **Army or Land Bases;**

c) **Navy Bases and**

d) **Communication and Spy Bases.**

Photo 1. Air Base of Diego Garcia located in the Indian Ocean



HS0006E43826

Reference : http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Diego_Garcia_%28satellite%29.jpg

Photo 2. Diego Garcia. An Aerial View of two B-52 and six Kc-a135



II. More than 1000 US Bases and/or Military Installations

The main sources of information on these military installations (e.g. C. Johnson, the NATO Watch Committee, the International Network of the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases) reveal that the US operate military bases Worldwide..

Hugh d'Andrade and Bob Wing's 2002 Map 1 entitled "U.S. Military Troops and Bases around the World, The Cost of 'Permanent War'", confirms the presence of US military personnel in 156 countries. Brand new military bases have been built since September 11, 2001 in seven countries. In total, there are 255,065 US military personnel deployed Worldwide. These facilities include a to equipments. The underlying land surface is of the order of 30 million acres. According to Gelman, who examined 2005 official data of the Pentagon, the US is thought to own a total of 737 bases in foreign Territory, the total land area occupied by US military bases within the US and internationally is of the order of 2,202,735 hectares, which makes the Pentagon one of the largest landowners worldwide (Gelman

Map 1. U.S. Military Troops and Bases around the World. The Cost of «Permanent War» and Some Comparative Data



Source: <http://www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=884>

Map 2. The American Military Bases Around the World (2001-2003)

Source : <http://www.globalpolicy.org/empire/intervention/index.htm>



Source : <http://www.nobases.org>

Map 3 US Military Bases Click here to see Map 3

The Map of the World Network No Bases (Map 3) reveals the following:

Based on a selective examination of military bases in North America, Latin America, Western Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Indonesia, the Philippir these military bases are being used for intelligence purposes. New selected sites are spy Bases, satellite-related spy Bases

The Surface of the Earth is Structured as a Wide Battlefield

These military bases and installations of various kinds are distributed according to a Command structure divided up into five spatial units and four unified Combatant Commands (Map 4). Each unit is under tl surface is being conceived as a wide battlefield which can be patrolled or steadfastly supervised from the Bases.

Map 4. The World and Territories Under the Responsibility of a Combatant Command or Under a Command Structure



Source : <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/unifiedcommand/>

Territories under a Command are: the Northern Command (Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado), the Pacific Command (Honolulu, Hawaii), the Southern Command (Miami, Florida – Map 5), The Central Comr the European Command (Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany), the Joint Forces Command (Norfolk, Virginia), the Special Operations Command (MacDill Air Force Base, Florida), the Transportation Command (Strategic Command (Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska).

Map 5. The Southern Command



NATO Military Bases

The Atlantic Alliance (NATO) has its own Base Network, that is, thirty in total which are mainly located in Western Europe: Whiteman, U.S.A., Fairford, Lakenheath and Mildenhall in United Kingdom, Geilenkirchen, Landsberg, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Rhein-Main in Germany, Istres and Avord in France. Morón de la Frontera and Rota in Spain, Brescia, Vicenza, Piacenza, Aviano, Istrana, Trapani, Ancora, Gioia dell Colle, Grazzanise and Brindisi in Italy, Tirana in Albania, Incirlik in Turkey, Eskan Village in Soudi Arabia and Ali al Salem in Kuwait (<http://www.terra.es/actualidad/articulo/html/act52501.htm>)

III. The Global Deployment of US Military Personnel

There are 6000 military bases and/ or warehouses located in the U.S. (See Wikipedia, February 2007).

Total Military Personnel is of the order of 1,4 million of which 1,168,195 are in the U.S and US overseas territories. Taking figures from the same source, there are 325,000 US military personnel in foreign countries: 800 in Africa, 97,000 in Asia (excluding the Middle East and Central Asia), 40,258 in South Korea, 40,045 in Japan, 491 at the Diego Garcia Base in the Indian Ocean, 100 in the Philippines, 196 in Singapore, 16,601 Afloat.

In Europe, there are 116,000 US military personnel including 75,603 who are stationed in Germany. In Central Asia about 1,000 are stationed at the Ganci (Manas) Air Base in Kyrgyzstan and 38 are in mission to train Georgian soldiers. in the Middle East (excluding the Iraq war theater) there are 6,000 US military personnel, 3,432 of whom are in Qatar and 1,496 in Bahrain. In the Western Hemisphere, there are 700 military personnel in Guantanamo, 413 in Honduras and 147 in Canada.

Map 3 provides information regarding military personnel on duty, based on a regional categorization (broad regions of the world). The total number of military personnel at home in the U.S. and/or in 1,825 in Europe 114, 660, 682 in Sub-Saharan Africa, 4, 274 in the Middle East and Southern Asia, 143 in the Ex-USSR, and 89,846 in the Pacific.

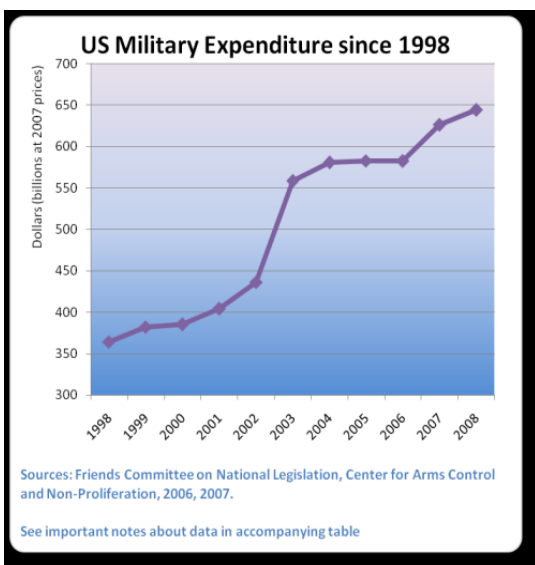
IV. The Operational Cost of the Worldwide Military Network

US defense spending (excluding the costs of the Iraq war) have increased from 404 in 2001 to 626 billion dollars in 2007 according to data from the Washington based Center for Arms Control and Non-expected to reach 640 billion dollars in 2008.

(Figure 1 and <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/archives/002244.php>).

These 2006 expenses correspond to 3.7% of the GDP and \$935.64 per capita (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_of_the_United_States).

Figure 1. U.S. Military Expenditures since 1998



Source : <http://www.globalissues.org/Geopolitics/ArmsTrade/Spending.asp>

According to fig 1, the 396 billion dollars military budget proposed in 2003 has in fact reached 417.4 billion dollars, a 73% increase compared to 2000 (289 billion dollars). This outlay for 2003 was more than discretionary budget. Since 2003, these military expenditures have to be added to those of the Iraq war and occupation The latter reached in March 2007, according to the National Priorities Project, a cumulated

(http://www.janes.com/defence/news/jdi/jdi050504_1_n.shtml),

(http://nationalpriorities.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=182).

Estimates of the Defense Department budget needs have been made public in 2006 in its DoD Green Book for the FY 2007 it amounted to 440 billion dollars.

(<http://www.dod.mil/comptroller/defbudget/fy2007/index.html>)

Military and other staff required numbered 1,332,300. But those figures did not include the money required for the World War against terrorism. In other words, these figures reflected the regular budget.

A Goldstein of the Washington Post, within the framework of an article on the aspects of the National 2007 budget titled «2007 Budget Favors Defense», wrote about this topic:

"Overall, the budget for the 2007 fiscal year would further reshape the government in the way the administration has been striving to during the past half-decade: building up military capacity and defense: while restraining expenditures for many domestic areas, from education programs to train service"

(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/04/AR2006020401179.html>).

V. US Military Bases to Protect Strategic Energy Resources

In the wake of 9/11, Washington initiated its "global war on terrorism" (GWOT), first in Afghanistan and then in Iraq. Other countries, which were not faithfully obeying Washington's directives including Iran had been earmarked for US military intervention.

Washington keeps a close eye on countries opposed to US corporate control over their resources of their territories. Washington is concerned regarding popular resistance movements directed against US interests

Such a stand recently led President Bush to make a quick tour in Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico «to promote democracy and trade» but also to attempt to build a strong counterinfluence in

(<http://www.voanews.com/spanish/2007-03-08-voa1.cfm>)

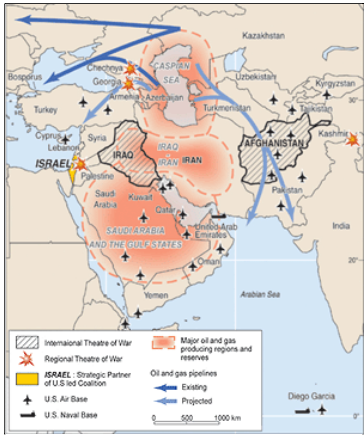
The same philosophy is being applied in Central Asia. According to Iraklis Tsavdaridis, Secretary of the World Peace Council (WPC),

"the establishment of U.S. military bases should not of course be seen simply in terms of direct military ends. They are always used to promote the economic and political objectives of U.S. capitalism. For example government have been eager for some time to build a secure corridor for US.-controlled oil and natural gas pipelines from the Caspian Sea in Central Asia through Afghanistan and Pakistan to the Arabi percent of the world's proven oil reserves and almost 40 percent of its gas reserves. The war in Afghanistan and the creation of U.S. Military Bases in Central Asia are viewed as a key opportunity to make sure

(<http://stopusa.be/campaigns/texte.php?section=FABN&langue=3&id=24157>).

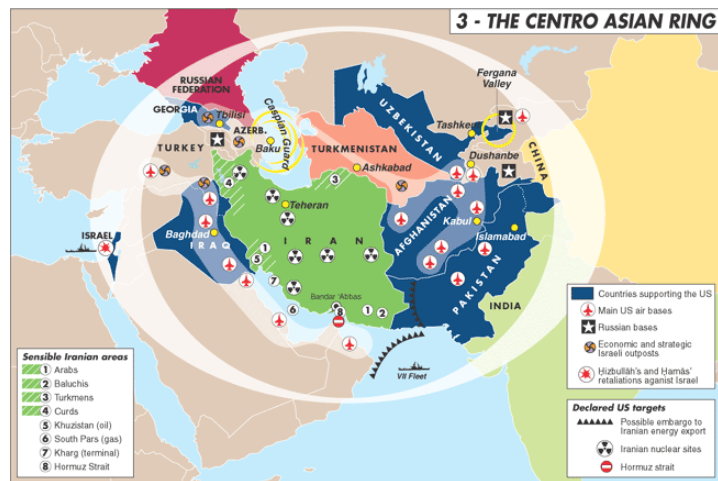
The U.S.A. are at War in Afghanistan and Iraq for the very fundamental reason and they wish to pursue these military operations until they reach their objectives they call «THE VICTORY». According to Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deployment_of_the_U.S.-Military), American troops fighting in these countries number 190,000 military staff. The «Enduring Freedom» Operation in Iraq only is including 26,000 soldiers of other countries participating to the «Mission». About 20,000 more could join other contingents in the next few months. In Afghanistan, a total of 25,000 soldiers participate to the

Map 6. Petroleum and International Theatre of War in the Middle East and Central Asia



Source : Eric Waddell, *The Battle for Oil*, Global Research, 2003

Map 7. American Bases Located in Central Asia



Source : http://www.heartland.it/map_centro_asia_ring.html

Map 8. Oil Fields in Latin America



Source : <http://www.visionesalternativas.com/militarizacion/mapas/mapahegem.htm>

VI. Military Bases Used for the Control of Strategic Renewable Resources

According to Wikipedia, US Military Bases in foreign countries, are mainly located in Western Europe : 26 of them are in Germany, 8, in Great Britain, and 8 in Italy. There are nine military installations in Japan. In the last few years, in the context of the GWOT, the US has built 14 new bases in and around the Persian Gulf.

It is also involved in construction and/or reinforcement of 20 bases (106 structured units as a whole) in Iraq, with costs of the order of 1.1 billion dollars in that country alone (Varea, 2007) and the use of The US has also undertaken continued negotiations with several countries to install, buy, enlarge or rent an additional number of military bases. The latter pertain and inter alia to installations in Morocco, Alq (See Nicholson, B., 2007), Poland, Czech republic (Traynor, I., 2007), Ouzbekistan, Tadjikistan, Kirghizstan, Italy (Jucca, L., 2007) and France.

Washington has signed an agreement to build a military base in Djibouti (Manfredi, E., 2007). All these initiatives are a part of an overall plan to install a series of military bases geographically located in Colombia in South America, to North Africa, the Near East, Central Asia and as far as the Philippines (Johnson, C., 2004). The US bases in South American are related to the control and access to the external water resources of the Amazon Basin. (Delgado Jara, D., 2006 and Maps 9 and 10).

Map 9. The Biological Wealth of Latin America



Source : <http://www.visionesalternativas.com/militarizacion/mapas/mapahegem.htm>

Map 10. Freshwater Resources in Latin America



Source : <http://www.visionesalternativas.com/militarizacion/mapas/mapahegem.htm>

VII. Resistance Movements

The network of US military bases is strategic, located in proximity of traditional strategic resources including nonrenewable sources of energy. This military presence has brought about political opposition movements and antiwar activists.

Demonstrations directed against US military presence has developed in Spain, Ecuador, Italy, Paraguay, Uzbekistan, Bulgaria and in many other countries. Moreover, other long-term resistance movements have continued in South Korea, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Philippines, Cuba, Europe, Japan and other locations.

The Worldwide resistance to US foreign military bases has grown during the last few years. We are dealing with an International Network for the Abolition of US Military Bases.

Such networks' objective is to broadly pursue disarmament, demilitarization processes Worldwide as well as dismantle US military bases in foreign countries.

The NO BASES Network organizes educational campaigns to sensitize public opinion. It also works to rehabilitate abandoned military sites, as in the case of Western Europe.

These campaigns, until 2004, had a local and national impact.

The network is now in a position to reach people Worldwide. The network itself underscores that "much can be gained from greater and deeper linkages among local and national campaigns and movements the world can learn and benefit from sharing information, experiences, and strategies with each other"

(<http://www.no-bases.org/index.php?mod=network&bloque=1&idioma=en>)

"The realisation that one is not alone in the struggle against foreign bases is profoundly empowering and motivating. Globally coordinated actions and campaigns can highlight the reach and scale of the network around the world. With the trend of rising miniaturization and resort to the use of force around the world, there is now an urgent and compelling need to establish and strengthen an international network of movements working with a special and strategic focus on foreign military presence and ultimately, working towards a lasting and just system of peace»

(<http://www.no-bases.org/index.php?mod=network&bloque=1&idioma=en>)

The Afghanistan and Iraq wars have, in this regard, created a favourable momentum, which has contributed to the reinforcement of the movement to close down US military bases in foreign countries:

"At the time of an International anti-war meeting held in Jakarta in May 2003, a few weeks after the start of the Iraq invasion, a global anti-military Bases campaign has been proposed as an action to prior solidarity movements» (<http://www.no-bases.org/index.php?mod=network&bloque=1&idioma=en>).

Since then, the campaign has acquired greater recognition. E-mail lists have been compiled (nousbases@lists.riseup.net and nousbases-info@lists.riseup.net) that permit the diffusion of the movement men discussion exchanges. That list now groups 300 people and organizations from 48 countries. A Web site permits also to adequately inform all Network members. Many rubrics provide highly valuable information World.

<http://www.no-bases.org/index.php?mod=network&bloque=1&idioma=en>

In addition, the Network is more and more active and participates in different activities. At the World Social Forums it organized various conferences and colloquia. It was present at the European Social Forum in 2004 as well as at the the America's Social Forum in Ecuador in 2004, and at the Mediterranean Social Forum in Spain in 2005.

One of the major gatherings, which was held in Mumbai, India, in 2004, was within the framework of the World Social Forum. More than 125 participants from 34 countries defined the foundations of a coordinated

Action priorities were identified, such as the determination of a global day of action aiming at underscoring major issues stemming from the existence of US military bases. The Network also held four discussion Forums in 2005. One of those pertained to the financing of the Network's activities.

It is important to recall that the Network belongs to the Global Peace Movement. Justice and Peace organizations have become more sensitized on what was at stake regarding US military bases.

Map 11. Social and Resistance Movements in Latin America



Source : <http://www.visionesalternativas.com/militarizacion/mapas/mapahegem.htm>

The Quito and Manta International Conference, Ecuador, March 2007

A Network World Conference for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases was held at Quito and at Manta, Ecuador, from March 5 to 9 2007

(<http://72.14.205.104/search?q=cache:SmEvQwFUeiAJ:www.abolishbases.org/pdf/CalltoEcuadorFlyer-Francais.pdf+R%C3%A9seau+mondial+des+bases+militaires&hl=fr&...>).

The objective of the Conference was to underscore the political, social, environmental and economic impacts of US military bases, to make known the principles of the various Anti-Bases movements and their strategies, structure and Action Plans. The main objectives of the Conference were the following:

- Analyze the role of Foreign Military Bases and other features of military presence associated to the global dominance strategy and their impacts upon population and environment;
- Share experiences and reinforce the built solidarity resulting from the resistance battles against Foreign military Bases around the World;
- Reach a consensus on objectives mechanisms, on action plans, on coordination, on communication and on decision making of a Global Network for the abolition of all Foreign military Bases a presence; and
- Establish global action plans to fight and reinforce the resistance of local people and ensure that these actions are being coordinated at the international level.

Conclusion

This article has focussed on the Worldwide development of US military power.

The US tends to view the Earth surface as a vast territory to conquer, occupy and exploit. The fact that the US Military splits the World up into geographic command units vividly illustrates this underlying geo Humanity is being controlled and enslaved by this Network of US military bases. .

The ongoing re-deployment of US troops and military bases has to be analyzed in a thorough manner if we wish to understand the nature of US interventionism in different regions of the World.

This militarisation process is characterised by armed aggression and warfare, as well as interventions called "cooperation agreements". The latter reaffirmed America's economic design design in the area Economic development is ensured through the miniaturization or the control of governments and organizations. Vast resources are thereby expended and wasted in order to allow such control to be effective strategic potential in terms of wealth and resources and which are being used to consolidate the Empire's structures and functions.

The setting up of the International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases turns out to be an extraordinary means to oppose the miniaturization process of the Planet. Such Network is indisputable commitment of all the People of the World. It will be extremely difficult to mobilize them, but the ties built up by the Network among its constituent resistance movements are a positive element, which is ultimately coordinated battle at the World level.

The Final Declaration of the Second International Conference against Foreign Military Bases which was held in Havana in November 2005 and was endorsed by delegates from 22 countries identifies and confront mankind. This Declaration constitutes a major peace initiative. It establishes international solidarity in the process of disarmament. .

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In 2007, Professor Jules Dufour became **Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Québec**, a distinction conferred by the Quebec government, for his contributions to World peace and human rights, his numerous accomplishments in the context of national and international commissions on issues pertaining to regional development, human rights and the protection of the environment.

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