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SHUT 'EM DOWN

THE DANGERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)

Since its inception on April 4, 1949, NATO has operated as a military organization aimed at maintaining US global hegemony. NATO's organization keeps its member states subservient to US demands, obliterates nations that challenge US interests and destroys anti-colonial and anti-capitalist developments around the world. As a projection of US imperial power, NATO has built up a massive military presence around Russia (former Soviet Union), the Democratic People's Republics of Korea, Vietnam and China, which amounts to an imperial containment policy that exacerbates global tensions and increases the risk of global annihilation via nuclear war. Instead of dissolving after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 NATO reasserted itself under the rubric of combating "multidirectional threats," which operated as an ideological cover for the US's imperial dream to spread globalization and neoliberalism around the globe. Over the course of its history NATO's ideological game has shifted from "communist threats" to "terrorist threats" and "authoritarian threats" to the broadest category of "enemies of the free world." Beneath all the "threats" lies the biggest threat of all to global peace and security: **a massive US weapons industry—headed by dealers such as, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, McDonnell Douglas, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon and Textron—looking to maximize profits.** As a case in point, US weapons imports into European NATO member states skyrocketed in 2015-2019 and 2020-2024. Military contractors know that NATO expansionism, war and genocide—such as Israel's ongoing genocide of Palestinians and Lebanese populations—are necessary in capital's ruthless game of profitmaking. Despite the countless deaths and war crimes committed by NATO in places such as, former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq (via NATO logistical support) and Libya, NATO continues to operate as a global policeman that silences imperial defiance. With NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue, which solidifies the NATO-Zionist-imperial nexus, NATO partnerships in Latin America and Africa, NATO is spreading its tentacles. As the most dangerous criminal organization on the planet NATO must be disbanded.

What does U.S. imperial hegemony via NATO look like?

***NATO military spending** = 1.6 trillion (USD) (US \$980 billion + NATO Europe and Canada approximately 657 billion)

***NATO military bases** = 750 US bases worldwide plus NATO Europe and Canadian bases

***NATO nuclear weapons** = US (~5,500), France (~290) and UK (~225) nuclear weapons plus Belgium (~15), Germany (~20), Italy (~35), Netherlands (~20) and Turkey (~50) which are storing US nuclear weapons on their soil under a NATO sharing agreement

***NATO troops** = over 5 million soldiers which includes active military personnel (~3.65) plus reserve pool

