

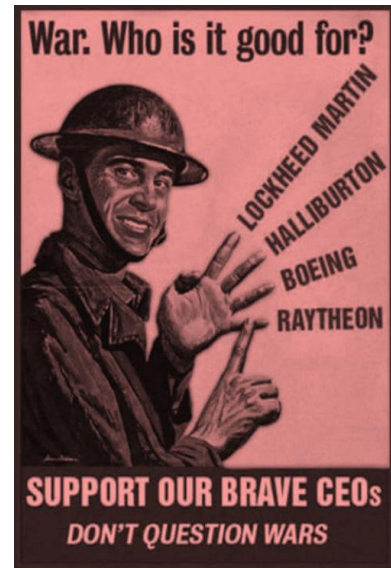


Divest from the War Machine What You Need to Know

WHAT IS THE WAR MACHINE?

The War Machine refers to the massive, global U.S. military apparatus that operates largely thanks to an alliance between the arms industry and policy makers. **The War Machine prioritizes corporate interests over human rights**, military spending over diplomacy and aid, preparing for combat over preventing wars, and profit over human life and the health of the planet. In 2017, militarized spending totaled more than \$700 billion, about 64% of federal discretionary spending.

Half of the U.S. military spending goes directly to military contractors, primarily weapons producers. Weapons companies' CEOs are lining their pockets with millions every year. Meanwhile, our infrastructure is in ruins, 46 million Americans live below the poverty line, and our states can't keep up with growing demands on healthcare and education. We must revoke the social license of companies that earn their profits from the spread of war and militarism, and tell them their priorities are not our priorities. **There should be no profit in war.**



Using Public Dollars to Subsidize Corporate Greed

\$300 billion of our tax dollars are going to line the pockets of CEOs who profit from war around the world and at home.

In 2017, the CEOs of the top five weapons manufacturers in the U.S. collected salaries that totaled \$96 million, while U.S. communities continue to struggle to provide basic services as federal support is slashed.



WHAT ARE WE CALLING FOR?

This Divest from the War Machine Campaign empowers communities to remove their assets from war. By removing the investments our universities and colleges, towns and cities, institutions and pension funds hold in weapons manufacturers, we can reclaim how our communities invest in the growth and success of where we live. Together, we can create a groundswell against the companies that profit from the war that steals from our communities, our children, and our futures.



WHY DIVESTMENT?

Divestment is a tool for action. Targeting Washington is like sliding on teflon. We need to take action in our communities. Divestment campaigns have been a powerful tool for social action starting with the movement to divest from South Africa during the apartheid. **We can build a movement to reel in the war machine by urging the financial entities in our lives, like our city, our universities, our pension funds, and our faith communities, to divest their funds from war.** We can pressure these institutions to pull money from the weapons companies that fuel the war machine, and urge them to reinvest in more ethical funds that support life-affirming causes such clean energy, infrastructure, community resilience, and more. **Divestment is how all of us - anyone, anywhere - can take local action against the death and destruction of war.**

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Head over to <http://www.divestfromwarmachine.org> and sign the pledge. Check out our campaign resources and find an action that's right for you. Email divest@codepink.org with questions or to talk about how to start a movement in your community.