

Myth #2—Nuclear Weapons have only been used twice.

The United States has used nuclear weapons 22 times since Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Most of us have never heard of this, but the facts are drawn primarily from a U.S. Defense Department study.

If a killer puts a gun to your head and asks for your wallet, has he used the gun? Yes. Even if he doesn't pull the trigger, he has still used the gun.

In this way the U.S. has used nuclear weapons over and over again since 1945. And, as the chart shows, usually this loaded gun has been pointed at Third World, non-nuclear, not even conventionally strong nations.

Daniel Ellsberg is a former Marine captain and military consultant to the Rand Corporation, in the early 1960's he was the highest ranking civilian in the U.S. Pentagon to read and revise America's overall nuclear war plan. Ellsberg was interviewed about this secret history of nuclear threats by Current Magazine in June, 1981.

Current: Would a President seriously consider using nuclear weapons against a country that didn't possess them?

Ellsberg: First, that's how Harry Truman used them, in August 1945. Second, it's safer than using them against the Soviets. Third, every President from Truman on (with the exception of Ford) has had an occasion in an ongoing, urgent crises to direct serious preparations for imminent U.S. initiation of tactical nuclear warfare, preparations in every case "leaked" to the enemy, and in several cases accompanied by secret, explicit, official threats....

Presidents buy these weapons because they expect to use them, based on their knowledge of a largely secret history—which both they and their adversaries know better than the American public does—of how past presidents threatened their use, and often with some significant success.

Myth #3—The main reason for our nuclear weapons is to deter the Soviet Union.

The description of U.S. nuclear threats goes some way to debunking this myth. If the U.S. and its allies have nuclear weapons primarily to deter the USSR, then why are we usually threatening Third World nations with them? The U.S. uses nuclear weapons to control its empire; that is, the people at home, and the people in its colonies abroad. The USSR does the same thing, but it started much later and it has a smaller empire to worry about.

The notion of a U.S. empire started back in WWII with an influential group of American industrialists called the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

The CFR was, and perhaps still is, the most important organization of business leaders in the U.S. As WWII broke the backs of the major European powers, members of the CFR realized that the U.S. would likely emerge from the war with its industrial heartland unscathed, allowing it to become the most powerful nation on earth.

One CFR member, multimillionaire publisher Harry Luce (*Time*, *Life* and *Fortune* magazines), blatantly predicted 100 years of American control over the world in a 1941 *Life* editorial entitled "The American Century".

Luce wrote that it was time "to accept wholeheartedly our duty and our opportunity as the most powerful and vital nation in the world, and in consequence to exert upon the world the full impact of our influence, for such purposes as we see fit and by such means as we see fit."

Luce could make such a bold forecast because he was also a member of an exclusive CFR/U.S. State Department planning group which was creating American strategy for the post-war period. The group was called the War and Peace Studies Programme, and it met for six years

starting in 1939.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Noam Chomsky picks up the story:

"(The members of the Programme) knew, certainly by 1941-42, that the war was going to end with the United States in a position of enormous global dominance. The question was: "How do we organize the world?"

They drew up a concept known as Grand Area Planning, where the Grand Area is defined as the area which, in their terms, was "strategically necessary for world control".

In order for the U.S. economy to prosper without internal changes (a crucial point which comes through in all the discussions of this period), without any redistribution of wealth or power or modification of structures, the War and Peace Programme determined that the minimum area strategically necessary for world control included the entire Western hemisphere, the former British empire which they were in a process of dismantling, and the Far East. That was the minimum, and the maximum was the universe" (from a speech at the Polytechnic of Central London, Manchester Guardian, June 21, 1981.)

If the U.S. was going to maintain power worldwide and yet avoid a revolution at home, it would have to control enough of the world's resources to support a wealthy elite at home and dish out some scraps for social programs to defuse dissent.

Henry Luce also phrased this bluntly in his *Life* editorial: "Tyrannies may require a large amount of living space. But Freedom requires and will require far greater living space than Tyranny."

With a large enough domain, the United States (like other efficient empires in history such as Rome and England) would be able to afford a high degree of freedom at home while being ruthlessly repressive abroad.

The American empire reached its peak in the early 1970's, when the fol-

lowing American allies received military aid and training from the U.S. Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, South Korea, South Vietnam, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, and Venezuela. (All were reported as using some degree of government sanctioned torture.)

But how was the United States going to control its Grand Area? It couldn't possibly afford a massive standing army to police the biggest empire in history.

The significance of nuclear weapons becomes clear.

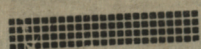
Imagine the strategic importance of a weapon which would make it unnecessary for U.S. troops to be everywhere (which they could not be).

Yugoslavia shoots down an American spy-plane in its airspace? Threaten to blow it off the map (1946). Guatemala elects a popular Christian Democrat that the U.S. doesn't like Sponsor a coup d'etat and back it up with nuclear-equipped B-29 bombers (1954). This is what nuclear weapons are for.

"My feeling was then," wrote former President Eisenhower in his memoirs, "and still remains, that it would be impossible for the U.S. to maintain the military commitments which it now sustains around the world did we not possess atomic weapons and the will to use them when necessary." (from Eisenhower, *MANDATE FOR CHANGE*, 1963, page 180).

Since nuclear war may break out at any time, nuclear weapons have the added advantage of keeping one's own domestic population on a war footing all the time, ready to make any sacrifice. In the USSR, freedom is sacrificed, in the U.S., 50 cents out of every tax dollar is sacrificed to the military.

CIMN: P.E.I.'s BEST ALTERNATIVE



TOP TWENTY-FIVE

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dire Straits | Money for Nothing | 12. Thompson Twins | Lay your Hands on Me |
| * 2. Platinum Blonde | Situation Critical | *13. The Offs | Bye Bye Baby |
| 3. Sting | Fortress Around your Heart | 14. New Order | Perfect Kiss |
| 4. Hooters | And we Danced | 15. Roger Daltrey | After the Fire |
| 5. Godley & Creme | Cry | *16. Jane Siberry | One More Colour |
| 6. A-HA | Take on Me | *17. Bryan Adams | Diana |
| * 7. Katrina & the Waves | Do you want Crying? | 18. Corey Hart | Komrade Kiev |
| 8. Bowie/Jagger | Dancing in the Street | 19. Simple Minds | Alive & Kicking |
| * 9. GoFour 3 | Just Another Day | 20. Robert Plant | Too Loud |
| 10. Aretha Franklin | Who's Zoomin' Who | *21. The Lucy Show | Wipeout |
| 11. Wham | Freedom | *22. Haywire | Girl in Love |
| | | 23. Grapes of Wrath | Misunderstanding |
| | | 24. Adam Ant | Vive le Rock |
| | | * 25. Headpins | Stayin' All Night |

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| Tues. Oct. 29 | Go West |
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