



# Resources for DISMANTLING THE WAR ECONOMY

From the DISARM! Dismantle the War Economy Issue Committee  
For Tax Day vigils, April 15

1) The best WILPF flier we have this year for Branch vigils is *You Get What You Pay For* from the international office in Geneva. It was produced in 2008, is international in scope and has some alarming figures. Download the flier at

<http://www.wilpf.int.ch/PDF/EconomicJustice/YouGetWhatYouPayFor.pdf>.

- The US total military expenditure in 2006 was over half of the \$1.2 trillion global total (\$504 billion). Next came Britain at \$59 billion. (China was fourth at \$39.5 and Russia was \$27 billion in 2006. Other top spenders were US allies.)
- Total 2006 world expenditure of \$1.2 trillion on the military was enough to support the entire UN budget for almost 600 years. The U.S. annual military budget could support the UN for 300 years! (And the US doesn't even pay all its annual UN dues)

2) Or use the WILPF DISARM! Fact Sheet on cuts that could be made in military spending without endangering our human security. Copy it "as is" or use some of the information to create your own local fact sheet for Tax Day and beyond.

3) And use copies of Rep Barney Frank Nation article calling for a 25% cut in the military budget as a supportive hand out. ([www.thenation.com/doc/20090302/frank](http://www.thenation.com/doc/20090302/frank)). He doesn't indicate where specific cuts can be made, but DISARM! Dismantle the War Economy has plenty of suggestions.

This year the best non-WILPF flyer would be the WRL pie chart for 2008 (the year on which we are paying taxes) if you still have one to photo-copy. The WRL pie chart for 2009 and 2010 is at [www.warresisters.org](http://www.warresisters.org). Neither budget is firm on the chart. The proposed Administration budget for 2010 will be delayed until after Tax Day.

## WILPF Resources for Dismantling the War Economy all year!

Converting the Dirty Dozen Military Contractors to peaceful pursuits is a major emphasis of the DISARM! committee. Contact [nffchairs@wilpf.org](mailto:nffchairs@wilpf.org) to join the committee, sign up for occasional email action alerts, or to inquire about any specific project. We believe most women want human security and human economic and political rights for their own families and for all. Women hate war, and we and our children are its major victims, Speak! Act!-- and help the world *Listen to the Women for a Change!*

- WILPF U.S. Mil-Corp Manual: Download sections of our 2005 version of the manual at [www.wilpf.org/MCX](http://www.wilpf.org/MCX) or order copies of the 2006 version from [nffchairs@wilpf.org](mailto:nffchairs@wilpf.org)
- A major project for 2009 will be updating the Mil-Corp manual on conversion of the war profiteers to encourage positive approaches from the new Administration. Your help, contributions and suggestions are welcome!



- **Download updated FACT SHEETS on the seven U.S. dirtiest and largest military contractors** from among the global Dirty Dozen. Lockheed Martin, Northrup Grumman, Boeing, Bechtel, General Dynamics, Raytheon and Alliant are all involved in nuclear weapons and space militarization programs. They promote war for profit and sell abroad (including to dictators) weapons developed with our tax dollars: everything from guns to cluster bombs, bombers, jet fighters – and even (to Israel) weapons already illegal. Go to [www.reachingcriticalwill.org/corporate/corporateindex.html](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/corporate/corporateindex.html). Also explore dirty banking, and positive divestment initiatives in Norway!
- **WILPF DISARM!, War Resisters League and Thomas Merton Center created *Bite the Bullet and the War Profiteering Education and Action Network***. Thirty other organizations participate in the project. Ask us about our popular cardlets on war profiteers, and explore our website at [www.bitethebullet.us](http://www.bitethebullet.us). We also have an active list serve. It is still an effort on a shoestring. You'll find some dead ends (just reload and try something else) – but we believe the project is an important joint grassroots effort to end wars for profit. We won't give up and are seeking at least \$2,000 to continue building the coalition and improve the web site.
- **WILPF supports the new United For Peace and Justice *Beyond War: A New Economy is Possible Campaign* ([www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=4010](http://www.unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=4010))**. Elisabeth Leonard, DISARM! leadership team, represented WILPF at the Biennial UFPJ meeting and was one of those instrumental in launching the campaign. She is also designing a WILPF workshop on *Everyone is an Economist Now*.

### For Gender Budgeting

**International WILPF and the Peace Women project actively promote gender budgeting**, and we could do more with this also. Some European governments, for instance, are providing funds to enable women to better participate in peace negotiations and peace building as mandated in UNSCR 1325.

A great resource is the book **Women and the U.S. Budget**, written by Jane Midgley, former Executive Director of our section. <http://www.newsociety.com/bookid/3891>

**Check our WILPF DISARM UPDATE ([www.disarm.wilpf.org](http://www.disarm.wilpf.org))** for materials on our current Nuclear Free Future campaign. Explore back copies for resources on Keeping Space for Peace, closing bio-weapons research labs, banning cluster bombs and much, much more!  
**The Disarm committee began as a campaign in 1999, and was an outgrowth of the popular Women's Budget project.** Confronting/converting the military-industrial complex was the core issue, but related projects evolved including supporting the disarmament treaty process and building the international institutions that could replace war as an instrument of foreign policy. DISARM! also emphasizes abolishing weapons of mass destruction as first steps toward general and complete disarmament and has always worked closely with international WILPF Reaching Critical Will <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org> and Peace Women <http://www.peacewomen.org>