

The Rising Costs of U.S. Militarism: Americans Are Tired of Footing the Bill

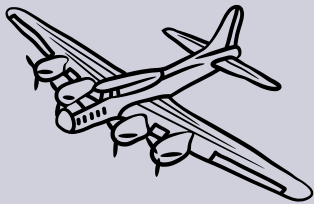
Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

– President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Cross of Iron speech, April 16, 1953

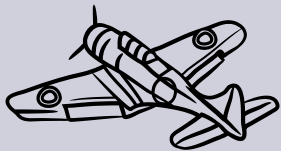
Seventy years ago, President Eisenhower warned of the costs to the American people of nuclear buildups and excessive military spending. The severe tradeoffs Eisenhower cited in 1953 are even more pronounced today.

Congress must confront these tradeoffs before adding tens of billions of dollars to next year's \$886B Pentagon spending request.

Costs in 1953



30 new schools
or
2 fully equipped hospitals
or
2 electric power plants

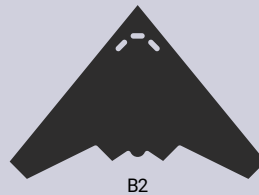


500,000 bushels of wheat



8000 people housed in new homes

Costs in 2023



B2

80 high schools
or
22,900 elementary teachers' salaries



6 F-35s

2x CDC budget for fighting infectious disease
or
3x federal rail safety budget



Arleigh Burke Destroyer

17,948 emergency room beds
8,974 nurse salaries
4,487 ER doctors salaries
or
315 at-risk rural hospitals saved from closure
or
249,200 public housing units

Sources:
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Selective Arithmetic to Hide F-35's True Costs. Project On Government Oversight, <https://www.pogo.org/analysis/2020/10/selective-arithmetic-to-hide-the-f-35s-true-costs>.
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