

**Chapter 1 : War and the Environment: Military Destruction in the Modern Age - Google Books**

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Share via Email The environmental impact of war: In Kuwait in , after the Gulf War ended, the retreating Iraqi forces torched hundreds of oil wells. In the face of actual or perceived threat, acts that would normally be abhorrent become acceptable and even routine. One of the first of our sensibilities to be discarded is the protection of the environment, says Catherine Lutz, a professor on war and its impacts at the Watson Institute for International Studies. Even in relatively peaceful countries the forces assembled to maintain security consume vast resources with relative impunity. But in war, the environment suffers from neglect, exploitation, human desperation and deliberate abuse on a terrible scale. During the first Gulf War, the US bombed Iraq with tonnes of missiles containing depleted uranium. Mac Skelton, a contributor to the Costs of War project at Brown, is writing his doctoral thesis in anthropology on Iraqis seeking cancer care in Lebanon. One of his articles reviews a number of studies that suggest a potential increase of cancer rates in Iraq, which has been linked to the shells used by the US and UK militaries. Researchers have suggested the radiation from these weapons has poisoned the soil and water of Iraq, making the environment carcinogenic. The UK government says these accusations are false. No comprehensive study has been done to establish or disprove the link between cancer and depleted uranium weapons. Tebah, 7, a child affected by cerebral palsy, a severe brain disorder, is lying on the floor while her grandmother is feeding her breakfast, in Fallujah, Iraq. Since the war Falluja has seen an increase of disabled children that some have suggested is linked to US bombs containing depleted uranium. The bombing campaign during destroyed the apparatus of society, including the systems that supported the environment. Sewers flowed into the streets and rivers, and refineries and pipelines leaked oil into the soil. The sanctions that followed meant little was repaired and land and cities have been poisoned. Childhood cancer rates are the highest in the country. The maintenance of standing armies just to counter the threat of war exerts enormous strain on environmental resources. Research from showed the military used This results in similar CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to a mid-sized European country such as Denmark. The carbon footprint of a deployed modern army is typically enormous. One report suggested the US military, with its tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, used An estimated two thirds of this fuel is used delivering more fuel to the vehicles at the battlefield. In all wars, displaced people congregate en masse without infrastructure to support their presence. Refugees turn to the environment in order to fulfil their basic needs. During the Rwandan civil war almost three-quarters of a million people lived in camps on the edge of Virunga national park. According to the Worldwatch Institute around 1, tonnes of wood was removed from the park every day for two years in order to build shelters, feed cooking fires and created charcoal for sale. By the time the conflict ended sq km of forest had been damaged and 35 sq km stripped bare. Virunga was now enveloped by human conflict. In , the park became the first Unesco world heritage site listed as endangered because of conflict. Virunga is a totemic issue in a continent pockmarked by warfare. The park is home to critically endangered mountain gorillas as well as chimpanzees, elephants and other charismatic megafauna. Ian Redmond, a wildlife consultant for Born Free says in the disorder and desperation of war the protections for precious wildlife habitats like Virunga evaporate. Conservation suffers because rangers often have to flee the fighting, and may be attacked because rebel armies covet their vehicles, radios and guns. Moreover, rebels often feed their troops on bushmeat and finance their ops with ivory, timber, charcoal and minerals from protected areas.

Chapter 2 : Download The Modern Military and the Environment ebook {PDF} {EPUB} - Video Dailymotion

*The Modern Military and the Environment: The Laws of Peace and War [William A. Wilcox Jr.] on blog.quintoapp.com*  
*\*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. The battle is an old one: man versus nature. And in modern society, man includes the military.*

Strontium 90[ edit ] The United States government studied the post-war effects of a radioactive isotope found in nuclear fallout called Strontium Depleted uranium The use of depleted uranium in munitions is controversial because of numerous questions about potential long-term health effects. The aerosol produced during impact and combustion of depleted uranium munitions can potentially contaminate wide areas around the impact sites or can be inhaled by civilians and military personnel. Department of Defense claims that no human cancer of any type has been seen as a result of exposure to either natural or depleted uranium. DoD studies using cultured cells and laboratory rodents continue to suggest the possibility of leukemogenic , genetic , reproductive , and neurological effects from chronic exposure. Fossil fuels are a major contributor to global warming and climate change , issues of increasing concern. Access to oil resources is also a factor for instigating a war. It can also be used to prevent the movement of enemy combatants. Also during the Siege of Leiden in the dykes were breached to halt the advance of Spanish forces. During Operation Chastise in Germany during WW2 the Eder and Sorpe river dams were bombed flooding a large area and halting industrial manufacture used by the Germans in the war effort. Specific cases[ edit ] Yellow River flood , created by the Nationalist Government in central China during the early stage of the Second Sino-Japanese War in an attempt to halt the rapid advance of the Japanese forces. It has been called the "largest act of environmental warfare in history". Formerly Used Defense Sites , a U. Militarism and the environment[ edit ] Human security has traditionally been solely linked to military activities and defense. Not only can war be destructive to the socioenvironment, but military activities produce extensive amounts of greenhouse gases that contribute to anthropogenic climate change , pollution , and cause resource depletion, among other environmental impacts. OECD developed countries [35] [33]. Accordingly, the US military is estimated to be the number one fossil fuel consumer in the world [36] Additionally, military activities involve high emissions of pollution [32] [37]. Indeed, the US military is also considered one of the largest generators of pollution in the world [37]. Combined, the top five US chemical companies only produce one fifth of the toxins produced by the Pentagon [32]. Military pollution is a worldwide occurrence [32]. Armed forces from around the world were responsible for the emission of two thirds of chlorofluorocarbons CFCs that were famously banned in the Montreal Protocol for causing damage to the ozone layer [32]. In addition, naval accidents during the Cold War have dropped at minimum 50 nuclear warheads and 11 nuclear reactors into the ocean, they remain on the ocean floor [32]. Land and resource use[ edit ] Military land use needs such as for bases, training, storage etc often displace people from their lands and homes [32]. Military activity uses solvents, fuels and other toxic chemicals which can leach toxins into the environment that remain there for decades and even centuries. They advocate for demilitarization, citing the high greenhouse gas emissions and support the redirection of those funds to climate action [39]. Currently the world spends about 2. It is estimated that it would cost approximately one percent of global GDP yearly until to reverse the climate crisis [41]. Moreover, activists emphasize the need for prevention and the avoidance of costly clean up [39]. Finally, activists point to social issues such as extreme poverty and advocate for more funding to be redirected from military expenses to these causes [39]. See List of anti-war organizations for more groups. Finally, certain military technologies like GPS and drones are helping environmental scientists, conservationists, ecologists and restoration ecologists conduct better research, monitoring, and remediation [45]. War and environmental law[ edit ] Main article: War and environmental law From a legal standpoint, environmental protection during times of war and military activities is addressed partially by international environmental law. Further sources are also found in areas of law such as general international law, the laws of war , human rights law and local laws of each affected country.

Chapter 3 : Environmental impact of war - Wikipedia

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Share via Email Overweight. Racist meet the modern American army. Fogarty is also a white supremacist of the serious Hitler-worshipping type. He has no qualms about flaunting his prejudice. When black people come into the bar, he emits a hiss of disapproval. Soon after, he had a Celtic cross, an Irish symbol appropriated by neo-Nazis, emblazoned on his stomach. A few years later, he started his own band, Attack, now one of the biggest Nazi bands in the US. But it was never his day job. He soon became a member. Forrest Fogarty, a neo-Nazi who served in Iraq as a part of the military police from to Courtesy Matt Kennard Fogarty was not the first extremist to enter the armed forces. The neo-Nazi movement has had a long and tense relationship with the US military. Since its inception, the leaders of the white supremacist movement have encouraged their members to enlist. They see it as a way for their followers to receive combat and weapons training, courtesy of the US government, and then to bring what they learn home to undertake a domestic race war. Not all far-right groups subscribe to this vision some, such as the Ku Klux Klan, claim to prefer a democratic approach but a large portion see themselves as insurrectionary forces. To that end, professional training in warfare is a must. Fogarty was recruited the year after. He knew that the tattoo he had riding up his forearm could be a problem when it came to enlistment. In a neo-Nazi underworld obsessed with secrecy, racist tattoos remain one of the clearest indicators of extremism for a recruiter, and in an effort to police the matter, the US military requires recruits to explain any tattoos. Soon after Fogarty was approved, his ex-girlfriend and mother of his eldest child contacted the military. I just denied it. Fogarty remained in the reserves, until finally, in , he was sent where he had always wanted to go: Before he left for the Middle East, he joined the Hammerskin Nation described by the Anti-Defamation League as the "the most violent and best-organised neo-Nazi skinhead group in the United States". Fogarty maintains that a good portion of those around him were aware of his neo-Nazism. And in early , a photo emerged of a strong US marine scout sniper unit posing for a photo with a Nazi SS bolts flag in Sangin, Afghanistan. According to the military, the symbolism was unknown to the soldiers. Hunter Glass The magnitude of the problem within the military is hard to quantify. The military does not track extremists as a discrete category, coupling them with gang members, and those in the neo-Nazi movement claim different numbers. The National Socialist Movement claimed of its members are inside. White Revolution claimed In white supremacist incidents from to , the FBI identified veterans. But its report does pinpoint why the white supremacist movements seek to recruit veterans they "may exploit their accesses to restricted areas and intelligence or apply specialised training in weapons, tactics, and organisational skills to benefit the extremist movement". The report found that two army privates in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg had attempted in to sell stolen property from the military including ballistic vests, a combat helmet, and pain medications such as morphine to an undercover FBI agent they believed was involved with the white supremacist movement they were convicted and sentenced to six years in prison. The blind eye turned by the recruiters angered many investigators whose integrity was being compromised. Hunter Glass was a paratrooper in the s and became a gang cop in in Fairville, North Carolina, next to Fort Bragg. The slim forces needed fattening up and what followed constituted a complete re-evaluation of who was qualified to serve a full-works facelift of the service unheard of in modern American history. It spurned men and women with low IQs or those without a high school diploma. It would either block the enlistment of or kick out neo-Nazis and gang members. It would treat or discharge alcoholics, drug abusers and the mentally ill. While the Bush administration adopted conservative policies pretty much universally, it saved its ration of liberalism for the US military, where it scrapped many of the regulations governing recruitment. Then there are the effects on the troops themselves. Hundreds of soldiers may have paid with their lives for this folly. Bressler and Bastien were each put away for 60 years for their part in the murder, alongside a litany of other crimes in Colorado Springs; Eastridge is

-serving a year prison sentence for his part. In the aftermath of the arrests, pictures emerged of Eastridge proudly displaying his SS bolts tattoo. After his arrest, Bastien told investigators that he and Eastridge had randomly fired at civilians in Iraq during patrols through the streets of Baghdad. In broad daylight, Bastien alleged, Eastridge would use a stolen AK to fire indiscriminately at Iraqi civilians. At least one was hit, he said. We were keeping scores. PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder] was not a new phenomenon for the military, but sending soldiers still suffering from severe mental health problems back to the frontline in such large numbers was. And, as you know, recruiting has been a challenge. Manning was a "mess of a child" who "should never have been put through a tour of duty in Iraq", said an officer from the Fort Leonard Wood military base in Missouri, where Manning trained in Chase Madar, the author of a recent book on Manning, told me, "He would never have been kept in the army if not for record low recruitment levels in when he enlisted. New recruits were physically, as well as mentally, unfit. The criminal record had been dealt with by "moral waivers" and the obesity problem by "medical waivers", but dropping the standards on educational attainment would not be so easy without seriously affecting operational readiness. There was a way for non-graduates to get into the military, however: It opened its first prep school for the purpose, targeted at tough, inner-city areas. The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps expanded across the nation, and no child was free from their solicitations; even year-olds were taking part in the programmes. One in 10 high school students in Chicago wore a military uniform to school and took classes on shooting guns from retired veterans. One of the main incentives offered was money – a lot of money from the perspective of a year-old. A report, *Soldiers Of Misfortune*, by the American Civil Liberties Union, found that the US government was actually in contravention of an international protocol prohibiting the recruitment of children into military service when they are under 18 years old. It took a report from the Palm Center at the University of California – a group committed to discussion of homosexuals in the military – to blow the lid on yet more figures the military was trying hard to cover up. Another 58, had drug-related convictions, but all were handed a gun and sent off to the Middle East. One of the most horrific of the reported atrocities by the US military in Iraq, the murder of the al-Janabi family in Yusufiyah, involved a convicted criminal, Steven D Green, whose enlistment required special dispensation because of his criminal record. But research has shown that these recruitment practices engender breakdown within the ranks as well. In , the military met its recruitment targets for the first time since and once again pledged to lock out those with criminal records. Brigadier General Joseph Anderson, deputy commander of the US Army Recruiting Command, said that the "adult major misconduct" waiver, given for felony offences, was now closed and, additionally, those with a history of juvenile criminal activity would not be allowed to recruit without a high school diploma. It was an admission of guilt, but for many in Iraq and Afghanistan, it was too late.

**Chapter 4 : What's the environmental impact of modern war? | Environment | The Guardian**

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Due to the complexity of the toxic items, a qualitative comparison of present and future dangers for mankind and environment by taking only the quantitative aspects into consideration can and should not be made since it may lead to wrong conclusions. Non-lethal chemical weapons All weapons are made out of chemical elements, be it the metal shell of a grenade, sometimes made of depleted uranium, the explosive agent to propel it or the material filled into its encasing. The dangers of highly toxic, volatile rocket fuel on the delivery systems of nuclear warheads in Russia may be very high [26]. For this simple reason alone it is difficult to come up with an all-encompassing definition for chemical weapons. Are chemicals still material of weapons if they are used in very low concentrations? The latter point may be illustrated by the double use of Zyklon B or Cyclon B in English, that is used as fumigant for the purpose of pest and vermin control. It had been applied in low concentration in a beneficial way in the Nazi concentration camp of Dachau, while utilized in high concentration in the gas chambers of Auschwitz, it led to one of the most criminal acts committed in the twentieth century [27]. They include infrasound, supercaustics, irritants like tear gas, and all those that could be aimed at non-human targets – such as combustion inhibitors, chemicals that can immobilize machinery or destroy airplane tires. The text of the CWC does not give always an unambiguous answer or definition what is a chemical weapon agent. It could be asked if the following agents fall into the category of chemical weapons, some of them old as war [10], like i Military Smoke Agents, ii Incendiaries producing fires and burns of skin? A special case takes v Depleted Uranium Ammunition, which can be considered a biological or a radiological weapon. Among those was the elimination of laser weapons, which are now banned by the Protocol IV, which was adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and entered into force on 30 July [28, 29]. Other weapons are being negotiated, like submunitions in the form of bomblets assembled in clusters and delivered by aircraft or by artillery, rockets or guided missiles, be equipped with devices making them harmless if they fail to explode. One canister may contain 50 bomblets, or, or even as many as 4., depending on the model, and may cover a ground area from to meters in diameter. The bomblets, when fitted with delayed action fuses, are effective area-denial weapons. Depleted Uranium DU [31], which draw a lot of public attention in the recent decade, is a by-product of enriching natural uranium – increasing the proportion of the U atom which is the only form of uranium that can sustain a nuclear reaction and is used in nuclear reactors or nuclear weapons. The remaining depleted uranium has practically no commercial value. The Department of Energy in the US DoE has a ,metric-ton stockpile, with very limited civilian use as a coloring matter in pottery or as a steel-alloying constituent [32]. Depleted uranium is chemically toxic like other heavy metals such as lead, but can produce adversary health effects being an alpha particle emitter with radioactive half-life of 4. Kinetic energy penetrators do not explode; they fragment and burn through armour due to the pyrophoric nature of uranium metal and the extreme flash temperatures generated on impact. They contaminate areas with extremely fine radioactive and toxic dust. This in turn can cause kidney damage, cancers in the lung and bone, non-malignant respiratory disease, skin disorders, neurocognitive disorders, chromosomal damage, and birth defects [33]. Depleted uranium weapons are proliferating and are likely to become commonly used in land warfare. Many NATO countries may follow suite. These weapons were used in large quantities first in the Gulf War [33, 34], and then again during the Kosovo War in [35]. The question can be asked if DU is mainly a chemical, or a radiological weapon? An immediate answer is not to be expected before classified material becomes available, and the medical reason for the Gulf-War Syndrome is identified, which shows up in thousands of American soldiers. It appears that effect of the radioactive by inhalation of small doses will have only a small impact on risk to die of cancer, whereas the heavy metal effect seems to dominate [36]. Be it as it might be, depleted uranium is dangerous, but is pales in comparison with the other direct and indirect effects of war. Due to their double use properties, some chemical weapons may be masked as pesticides, fertilizers, dyes, herbicides, or defoliants. Between and

more than 72 million liter herbicides were distributed over South Viet Nam [37], thereof more than 44 million liter were the defoliant agent orange, containing about kg dioxin. American scientists developed a means of thickening gasoline with the aluminum soap of naphtenic and palmitic acids into a sticky syrup that carries further from projectors and burns more slowly but at a higher temperature. This mixture, known as Napalm, can also be used in aircraft or missile-delivered warheads against military or civilian targets. A small, high explosive charge scatters the flaming liquid, which sticks to what it hits until burned out. Is Napalm still only a herbicide even when used in too large a quantity, and then accidentally affecting humans? White phosphorous is used as a shell and grenade filler in combination with a small high-explosive charge. It is both an incendiary and the best-known producer of vivid white smoke. Small bits of it burn even more intensely than Napalm when they strike personnel. In order to curb the production of chemical weapons, require their identification, e. Old and New Biological Weapons The use of biological agents as weapon has always an even more adverse world opinion than chemical warfare. A SIPRI Monograph describes among other topics the changing view of biological and toxin warfare agents, the new generation of biological weapons, the changing status of toxin weapons, a new generation of vaccines against biological and toxin weapons, and the implications of the BWC [39]. Claims that biological agents have been used as weapons of war can be found in both the written records and the artwork of many early civilizations [40]. As early as BC the Greeks polluted the wells and drinking water supplies of their enemies with the corpses of animals. Later the Romans and Persians used the same tactics. In at a battle in Tortona, Italy, Barbarossa broadened the scope of biological warfare, using the bodies of dead soldiers as well as animals to pollute wells. The use of catapults as weapons was well established by the medieval period, and projecting over the walls dead bodies of those dead of disease was an effective strategy for besieging armies. This technique continued with cholera or typhus infected corpses. There is evidence Germany used glanders and anthrax to infect horses and cattle, respectively, in Bucharest in , and employed similar tactics to infect 4, mules in Mesopotamia the next year. The period "1940-1960" can be considered the golden age of biological warfare research and development. Especially the 1950s were the most comprehensive period of biological warfare research and development. Detailed information on the history of the US Offensive Biological Warfare Program between 1950 and 1969 can be found in ref. It has been reported recently that the US tested a Soviet-designed germ bomb and assembled a germ factory in the Nevada desert from commercially available materials, in particular to produce potentially more potent variant of the bacterium that causes anthrax, a deadly disease ideal for germ warfare [42]. It is debatable if such a research is consistent with the treaty banning biological weapons. The Former Soviet Union had an important biological weapons program, which might have extended well into the period after its dissolution [43]. For a decade after there was hope that the problem of Biological Warfare was going to be eradicated. However, the last two decades have produced indications that some eight developing nations, in addition to China and Israel, have initiated biological weapon development programs of varying degrees. BW agents, however, might be used not only in wars, but also by terrorists. It would permit bacteria, that eat petroleum or rubber for the destruction of equipment for peaceful purposes, but prohibits their use for hostile application. Toxin warfare TW agents, or toxic weapons, are toxins used for hostile purposes. TW agents unequivocally are types of chemical warfare CW agent. CW agents, or chemical weapons, are chemical substances whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, which are used for hostile purposes to cause disease or death in humans, animals or plants and which depend on their direct toxicity for their primary effect. TW agents, like all other CW agents, are inanimate and are incapable of multiplying. They are CW agents irrespective of whether they are produced by a living organism or by chemical synthesis or even whether they are responsible for the qualification of that organism as a BW agent. Nevertheless, TW agents are often mistakenly considered to be biological weapons, and definitions of biological warfare BW occasionally include TW agents. New chemical weapons agents, who are 5 to 10 times more dangerous than VX, the most dangerous toxic gas known today. The successful control of biological weapons is a daunting task [44]. Ensuring safety from biological and toxin weapons is a more complex issue than totally prohibiting chemical or nuclear weapons. This is due to the character of the relevant technologies. More than those, biotechnology is of dual-use, i. All major food crops come in a number of varieties, each usually suited to specific climate and soil conditions. These varieties have varying sensitivities to particular

diseases. Crop pathogens, in turn, come in different strains or races and can be targeted efficiently against those crop brands. However, such a strategy may not work for neighboring countries, where agricultural conditions are similar to the aggressor. The spread of those organisms holds the risk of worldwide epidemic, and the use of these weapons may very well be counter productive. Any such warfare would be directed primarily against the civilian population. Due to the delays involved it would not affect immediately the outcome of a war. Nevertheless, many countries developed during the twentieth century anticrop substances. Iraq manufactured from the 70s onward wheat smut fungus, targeting wheat plants in Iran. During the Second World War the British concentrated on various herbicides. Germany investigated during the same period diseases like late blight of potatoes and leaf-infecting yellow and black wheat rusts, as well as insect pests, such as the Colorado beetle. The American efforts were substantial. They centered on products attacking crops of soybeans, sugar beets, sweet potatoes and cotton, intended to destroy wheat in the western Soviet Union, and rice in Asia, mainly China. Between and the U. According to another source [46] 36, kilograms of wheat stem rust, and additional quantity of stem rust of rye, only kilograms of rice blast were produced and stockpiled. Warfare, Terrorism, Comparative Perspective The concept of weapons of mass destruction WMD should be revisited, as pointed out in the Introduction of this article. Physical efficiency and psychological effect of these weapons may differ considerably when they are used in warfare on soldiers or in peacetime by terrorists. Industrialized countries can develop reliable and sophisticated technologies, which may not be available to small groups. Number of enemy casualties in a given period, Number of weapons employed to obtain the desired result, Delivery time of weapons, Possibility for stockpiling over extended periods, Infrastructure affected by its use, Avoidance of negative impact upon own troops and civil population, End a war quickly, No efficient defense against weapons on short or long term. Can it serve as a deterrent? Does its use have long term effects on the crop area? The efficiency of chemical and biological weapons depends heavily on its dispersion, upon the weather condition, determining the exposure and lethality for the combatants. It must be possible to store the substance in containers for long periods without degradation and without corroding the packaging material. Such an agent must be relatively resistant to atmospheric water and oxygen so that it does not lose its effect when dispersed. It must also withstand the shearing forces created by the explosion and heat when it is dispersed. Transport of these agents by long-range missiles and efficient distribution will face enormous difficulties, causing their decomposition, mainly due to the heat development of the warhead at re-entry into the atmosphere. A few developed countries may already be capable to overcome these hurdles [47]. Finding an answer to these questions can be facilitated by evaluation of previous wars. In World War I an average of one ton of agent was necessary to kill just one soldier. Chemical weapons caused 5 percent of the casualties.

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**Chapter 6 : Chemical and Biological Weapons: Use in Warfare, Impact on Society and Environment**

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**Chapter 8 : The Modern Military and the Environment: The Laws of Peace and War (W.A. Wilcox, Jr.) - GN**

*The book also illuminates the tension between environmentalists and regulators concerned with the damages that military development, testing, and training operations inflict on the environment and military leaders dedicated to using actual field conditions to prepare soldiers for war.*