



This Memorial Day: Veterans Remember Soldiers and Civilians Who Died

This Memorial Day, as we pause to remember the U.S. service members who have died in the nation's wars, let us also consider the astounding number of civilians who have perished in those wars.

Here are the numbers to help remind us of the true costs of war:

War	U.S. Military Deaths	Civilian Deaths
Revolutionary 1812	25,174	(unavailable)
Civil War	20,000	(unavailable)
WWI	620,000	50,000
WWII	116,516	6,458,886
Korean	405,399	36,372,900*
Vietnam	54,246	1,847,240
Iraq	58,177	2,000,000**
Afghanistan	4,497	1,495,590
TOTAL	2,381	386,000
	1,306,390	48,310,616

* Number includes the 9 million that died in Nazi concentration camps.

** In 2017, the Vietnamese government estimated that over 2 million Vietnamese civilians on both sides died in the war.

Since WWI there have been far more civilian deaths in each conflict than military deaths—and the number of deaths increase every day. When we add in the people who continue to die from exposure to Agent Orange in Southeast Asia and the people who will die by exposure to Depleted Uranium munitions and burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan, the numbers increase every year. The half-life of DU is 4 billion years.

The number of civilian critically wounded is many times greater than that of the dead. The Vietnam War ended over 44 years ago, but unexploded ordnance and the effects of Agent Orange continue their awful toll.

As we remember the military who have died in war we also take a moment to reflect upon the broken lives and communities- here and abroad that suffer the true costs of war. **And then take action! Demand not another dime, not another life be spent on U.S. wars and occupations!**

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