

## Why NO Active-Duty Military Warcraft in Air Shows?

**Air shows can be fun but the use of active-duty military aircraft is a waste of taxpayers' dollars and glorifies militarism as entertainment.** Each air show where Blue Angels or Thunderbirds participate costs taxpayers a minimum of \$1 million. Plus, is it morally correct that the same planes that are committing atrocities overseas be used as “entertainment” at home?

## Military/Climate Connections

**CARBON FOOTPRINT: The US military has the largest carbon and greenhouse gas footprint of any institution in the world,** larger than that of each of 140 entire countries. The US Department of Defense (DOD) would be the world's 55<sup>th</sup> largest CO<sub>2</sub> emitter as a country, larger than Hungary and Peru.

Ever since the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, the US government has pressured countries to not count military emissions. Consequently, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) does not require military emissions in its calculations of national emissions. Also, emissions from the approximately 750 overseas US bases are assigned to the host countries.



## Military Air Shows

As a highly visible example of the military's pollution, a single Blue Angels (and Air Force Thunderbirds) jet consumes more than 1,200 gallons per hour (4 to 5 times the fuel consumption of a World War II era B-17 Flying Fortress). A single performance, consisting of six jets and one support plane, burns nearly 8,400 gallons.

Since each kilogram of burning jet fuel releases 3.16 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> into the air, this hour of entertainment would produce over 82 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere or the equivalent of driving 12 cars for one year. And CO<sub>2</sub> hangs around for decades.

Don't forget about particulates, the microscopic toxic pellets that uniquely derive from combustion of jet fuel. Many experts state that the particle pollution and ground-level ozone are the most widespread health hazards, since they tend to migrate deeper into the lungs and bloodstream.

We call on the military to cancel **their participation in all air shows** and these egregious displays of purposeful pollution.

This is why we state:

**“No MAS”**

**No Military Air Shows!**



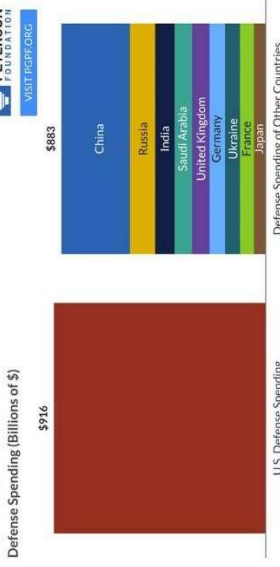
To view/download a 10-point guide to protesting air shows.

## Sources of Military Emissions

While jet fuel is a major source of greenhouse gases (GHG), weapons production and testing, base supply, WARS, conventional and cyber, troop training, surveillance and weapons sales and arms races all contribute to the massive footprint. Nuclear weapons production and use pose a major threat. And, finally, reconstruction of the damaged environment exacts a huge GHG price.



The United States spends more on defense than the next 9 countries combined



Militarism has come to appear indispensable, unchangeable, benign and/or invisible. Money for the military and war seems to come from some magical source, different from the limitations we are told apply to programs for people's wellbeing. The US continues to fund violence throughout the world while cutting social programs. Is all this spending really for "defense" or to line the pockets of contractors who in turn expend \$100's of million lobbying Congress annually.

Money that funds this militarism should be redirected to support displaced workers, fund public health, end poverty, transition to renewables and promote ecological preservation and restoration and mitigate the climate crisis.

**OUR MISSION: The Veterans For Peace - Climate Crisis & Militarism Project (CCMP)** educates and mobilizes, to bring climate awareness to our own VFP members and chapters, and to **bring the issue of militarism to the forefront of the climate movement.** We address workers, media and the general public about the connection between these two issues. Joining with other climate and social justice groups, we seek an ecological and just economy that the Green New Deal promises. We feel that our movements for climate justice will not succeed, however, if they do not include challenging US militarism and the US war system.

For additional details, to get involved, or to ask for a Zoom presentation on this topic for your Group, send us an email at [climate@veteransforpeace.org](mailto:climate@veteransforpeace.org)

**Climate Crisis and Militarism Project, Veterans For Peace**

<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/climatecrisis>

**AIR SHOWS**

**HELP FUEL**

**CLIMATE CRISIS**



photo: US Department of Defense

**SAY NO TO BLUE ANGELS!**

**TOO COSTLY!**  
**OVER \$1 MILLION**  
**PER AIR SHOW!**

**TOO LOUD**  
**WAR TRAUMA**  
**POLLUTION**



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