

War is a Racket

There are no braver, no better soldiers in the world than those whom the United States has raised and continues to raise up.

These men and women—beyond their bravery—are loyal, dedicated, and single-minded: They will not quit until what was started has been finished.

The trouble, however, is that these heroic soldiers and most of the U. S. population have been consistently lied to about the causes and nature of the wars that have been fought since the Spanish-American War.

If you want to know what the real deal is behind wars, and if you should wish to escape the matrix created by mainstream news agencies, monopolistic publishing houses, Hollywood films, and sanitized history text books, you will come to find that wars are started less by mutually antagonistic nations than they are by mutually cooperative bankers and industrialists.

Perhaps all of the twentieth-century wars and our current intrigues into the Middle East and Eurasia were avoidable, but those who reap huge benefits from the slaughter of human beings have always had the power and control to ensure that periods of peace never last too long.

I mean, let's face it: there's no money in peace.

For those who might be angered by my statements or would consider me delusional for making them, it is my hope that they would take to heart what one of the greatest figures in U.S. military history had to say about warfare.

Major General Smedley Darlington Butler is one of only two Marines to receive two Medals of Honor for separate acts of outstanding heroism. In his 33-year military career, Butler served at various posts to include Puerto Rico, Panama, Nicaragua, Mexico, Haiti, Philippines, China, and Europe during World War I.

Butler wrote the book *War is a Racket* in 1935. In it, he deconstructs the causes of wars, who profits, and who is left with the bill. He also accurately predicted that the planning for World War II was well underway and would not be averted.

The book may be read online at <http://www.ratical.org/ratville/CAH/warisaracket.html>.

The following are excerpts from an exceptional soldier who was also brave enough to tell the truth about war:

From a 1933 speech, Butler said:

“Only a small inside group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few at the expense of the masses. I believe in adequate defense at the coastline and nothing else. If a nation comes over here to fight, then we'll fight. The trouble with America is that when the dollar only earns 6 percent over here, then it gets restless and goes overseas to get 100 percent. Then the flag follows the dollar and the soldiers follow the flag.

“I wouldn't go to war again as I have done to protect some lousy investment of the bankers. There are only two things we should fight for. One is the defense of our homes and the other is the Bill of Rights. War for any other reason is simply a racket . . .

“I suspected I was just part of a racket at the time. Now I am sure of it. Like all the members of the military profession, I never had a thought of my own until I left the service. My mental faculties remained in suspended animation while I obeyed the orders of higher-ups. This is typical with everyone in the military service.

“I helped make Mexico, especially Tampico, safe for American oil interests in 1914. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City Bank boys to collect revenues in. I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefits of Wall

Street. The record of racketeering is long. I helped purify Nicaragua for the international banking house of Brown Brothers in 1909-1912 (where have I heard that name before?). I brought light to the Dominican Republic for American sugar interests in 1916. In China I helped to see to it that Standard Oil went its way unmolested.

“During those years, I had, as the boys in the back room would say, a swell racket. Looking back on it, I feel that I could have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents.”

From *War is a Racket*:

“WAR [sic] is a racket. It always has been.

“It is possibly the oldest, easily the most profitable, surely the most vicious. It is the only one international in scope. It is the only one in which the profits are reckoned in dollars and the losses in lives . . .

“Apparently, however, the [war] plan does not call for any limitation of losses—that is, the losses of those who fight the war. As far as I have been able to ascertain there is nothing in the scheme to limit a soldier to the loss of but one eye, or one arm, or to limit his wounds to one or two or three. Or to limit the loss of life.

“There is nothing in this scheme, apparently, that says not more than 12 per cent of a regiment shall be wounded in battle, or that not more than 7 per cent in a division shall be killed.

“Of course, the committee cannot be bothered with such trifling matters . . .

“That's a part of the bill. So much for the dead—they have paid their part of the war profits. So much for the mentally and physically wounded—they are paying now their share of the war profits. But the others paid, too—they paid with heartbreaks when they tore themselves away from their firesides and their families to don the uniform of Uncle Sam—on which a profit had been made. They paid another part in the training camps where they were regimented and drilled while others took their jobs and their places in the lives of their communities. The paid for it in the trenches where they shot and were shot; where they were hungry for days at a time; where they slept in the mud and the cold and in the rain—with the moans and shrieks of the dying for a horrible lullaby . . .

“I am not a fool as to believe that war is a thing of the past. I know the people do not want war, but there is no use in saying we cannot be pushed into another war.

“Looking back, Woodrow Wilson was re-elected president in 1916 on a platform that he had ‘kept us out of war’ and on the implied promise that he would ‘keep us out of war.’ Yet, five months later he asked Congress to declare war on Germany.

“In that five-month interval the people had not been asked whether they had changed their minds. The 4,000,000 young men who put on uniforms and marched or sailed away were not asked whether they wanted to go forth to suffer and die.

“Then what caused our government to change its mind so suddenly?

“Money.”