

The Art of War: NATO's Global Offensive

By Manlio Dinucci

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Il Manifesto

Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

No holiday this summer for NATO; it's working overtime. In preparation for the Summit of Heads of State and Government on September 4-5 in Newport, Wales, NATO will set down the blueprint for '"strategic adaptation" for military initiatives directed against Russia.

As already announced by U.S. General Philip Breedlove, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, it "will cost money, time and effort." The work has already begun.

In Ukraine, while NATO intensifies its training of Kiev's armed forces — financed by Washington with \$33 million — they are reactivating three military airports in the southern region, used by jet fighter-bombers of the alliance. In Poland they have just carried out an exercise of American Polish and Estonian paratroopers, jumping from C-130J troop carrying aircraft that arrived from the German base at Ramstein. In Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Lithuania various NATO military operations are going on, with AWACS radar planes, F-16 fighters and warships in the Black Sea.

In Georgia, where NATO was received by a delegation from the Parliamentary Assembly to accelerate Georgia's entry into the Alliance, U.S. instructors are retraining troops returned from Afghanistan to operate in the Caucasus. In Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Armenia they are training forces chosen because they are operating under command of NATO, in whose headquarters officers of these countries are already present. In Afghanistan, NATO is converting the war, turning it into a series of "covert operations."

The "North Atlantic Treaty Organization," after its extension into Eastern Europe (even into the territory of the former Soviet Union) and to Central Asia, is now focusing on other regions.

In the Middle East, NATO, without appearing officially, infiltrated forces to lead a covert military operation against Syria and is preparing for other operations, as evidenced by the shift to Izmir, Turkey, of Landcom, the command of all the land forces of the alliance.

In Africa, after waging a war to demolish Libya in 2011, NATO signed last May in Addis Ababa an agreement that increases military assistance provided to the African Union, in particular the education and training of brigades of the African Standby Force, which also provides "planning and naval air transport." It thus has a determining voice in decisions on where and how to use them. Another tool is the "anti-piracy" operation Ocean Shield in the Indian Ocean and the strategically important Gulf of Aden.

Italian warships will participate in the operation, conducted in concert with the U.S. Africa Command. Their task is to forge relationships with the armed forces of the seacoast countries: for this purpose the guided missile destroyer Mimbelli made a stopover at Dar Es

Salaam in Tanzania from July 13 to 17.

In Latin America, NATO signed a "Security Agreement" in 2013 with Colombia, which was already involved in military programs of the alliance; Colombia may soon become a partner. In this context, the U.S. Southern Command in Colombia is holding an exercise of South and North American Special Forces, with the participation of 700 commandos.

In the Pacific Rimpac 2014 is now taking place. This is the word's largest maritime exercise, directed against China and Russia. Under U.S. command, 25,000 soldiers from 22 countries with 55 ships and 200 warplanes are participating. NATO is present through the naval forces of the U.S., Canada, Britain, France, the Netherlands and Norway, plus Italy, Germany and Denmark as observers. The "North Atlantic Treaty Organization" has been extended to the Pacific.

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The US has embarked on a military adventure, "a long war", which threatens the future of humanity. US-NATO weapons of mass destruction are portrayed as instruments of peace. Mini-nukes are said to be "harmless to the surrounding civilian population". Pre-emptive nuclear war is portrayed as a "humanitarian undertaking".

While one can conceptualize the loss of life and destruction resulting from present-day wars including Iraq and Afghanistan, it is impossible to fully comprehend the devastation which might result from a Third World War, using "new technologies" and advanced weapons, until it occurs and becomes a reality. The international community has endorsed nuclear war in the name of world peace. "Making the world safer" is the justification for launching a military operation which could potentially result in a nuclear holocaust.

Towards a World War III Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War

By Michel Chossudovsky

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