

Books — In a World without War

By Jim Tarbell and David e. Delk

Establishing peace in a world without war requires building a culture of peace while implementing public policy to rid the world of war. Paul Chappell and his Peace Literacy Institute published seven books in their *Road to Peace* series that establishes a clear, doable path for establishing a culture of peace.

Book five in that series, *Soldiers of Peace*, will turn us all into non-violent warriors for peace. It builds hope, one of their most important muscles of peace, by outlining the sweeping cultural transformations democracy and education can nourish. Their Peace Literacy program can instigate similar changes to our antiquated acceptance of war as inevitable.

After the horrors of both World Wars, politicians, jurists, scientists and publishers were all enthusiastic to create both a culture of peace, and public policy to make global peace a reality. Notables from Albert Einstein to Senator J. W. Fullbright endorsed the rationale

and route to international peace laid out in Emery Reves' 1945, world-wide, best selling book, *The Anatomy of Peace*. Reves, internationally known author, publisher, and close friend of Churchill and others, calls out the failures of capitalism, socialism, religion and fascism, along with the evils of

nationalism and the nation state system. He then goes on to declare "we can protect ourselves against international wars only through the establishment of constitutional life in world affairs by freely elected and responsible representatives."

World leaders planned for the United Nations to become such an institution. But the UN bogged down in the "evils of the nation-state system." It took fifty years for the movement calling for international democratic decision making on global issues to reemerge. Now that idea has been updated in *A World Parliament: Governance and Democracy in the 21st Century* by international parliamentarian Joe Leinen and Democracy Without Borders co-founder and director Andreas Bummel. They point out that

the need for a world parliament goes way beyond just international peace. Now we need this international, democratic institution to deal with the climate crisis, migration, depletion of global resources, pollution of the earth,

multinational corporate tax evasion, and so many other world-wide problems that the nation-states can not deal with.

Unfortunately, the international peace movement is being stifled by multinational corporations and their allied military-industrial-complexes. Joan Roelofs lays out how this works in her book *The Trillion Dollar Silencer*. *Why there is so little Anti-War Protest in the United States*. She documents how corporations and their military allies have infiltrated every level of American society with unlimited funds to compromise any movement toward global peace.

Then she shows her readers on how to educate themselves and reverse the trend by hounding their politicians, joining a peace group, creating a peace culture with a national service organization, and pushing a green New Deal that will convert our war economy into a peace economy.

Medea Benjamin, probably the greatest peace organizer in the United States, and Nicolas J.S. Davies bring all this together in their seminal book *War in Ukraine: Making Sense of a Senseless Conflict*. While condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine, they also point out that the West helped cause the conflict by renegeing on promises to not expand NATO into Eastern Europe, before relentlessly pushing NATO bases toward Russia's border. The West's courting of Ukraine aims at completing that process, while ignoring President Kennedy's warning not to corner a nuclear power, leaving nuclear war as its only option, and causing the annihilation of life as we know it.

Meanwhile, Norman Solomon's new book, *War Made Invisible: How America Hides the Human Toll of Its Military Machine* is a must read. Americans don't know how the US military dominates America and the world, fighting or inciting endless wars, spending the American taxpayers tax dollars without being held accountable.

How can the US military and its corporate contractors receive more than half of federal discretionary funds while the American people are kept in the dark, unable to rise up to say "Enough is Enough?" Norman's book shows how the American "free" press hides all stories, which would inform the American people, and helps explain how and why our "free" press makes invisible the American military death machine.

