# WHO'S MAWO?

MAWO

**78** 

Created

by: Azza

Rojbi,

Ali

Yerevani,

Tamara Hansen & Janine Solanki

Mobilization Against War and Occupation is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations and also individual members, most of which are working class organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism. We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!



MAWOVANCOUVER.ORG Mobilization Against War and Occupation (f)@MAWOVancouver info@mawovancouver.org 778- 938-1557





Across Canada, the U.S. and around the world, peace activists are taking action January 13 - 22 to demand an end to imperialist wars, occupations, sanctions and military interventions. This call to action was initiated by the United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC) in the U.S., marking Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day and remembering his words from April 4, 1967 which still ring true today, "The greatest purveyor of violence in the world : My own Government, I can not be Silent." This week of action is supported by the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network, a network of 45 peace groups across Canada.

## No New Fighter Jets!

An urgent demand for antiwar activists in Canada is No New Fighter Jets! On January 9, 2023 Canada's Defense Minister Anita Anand announced that Canada will buy 88 F-35 fighter jets costing Canadian taxpayers \$19 billion, with \$7 billion approved for the first 16. Even these exorbitant prices are not the full story – the lifecycle cost of the 88 fighter jets is estimated to be at least \$76.8 billion over 30 years, according to the No Fighter Jets coalition 2020 report, From Acquisition to Disposal: Uncovering the true cost of 88 new fighter jets. This fighter jets purchase is part of a massively expanding military budget. Military spending increased by 70% since 2014, and in 2022 Minister Anand announced that military spending will increase again by 70% in the next five years. Just in 2021, the government of Canada spent \$33 billion on the military. This is money that is desperately needed for affordable healthcare, education, jobs and climate solutions. Furthermore, these fighter jets are fossil fuel intensive, using 1,340 gallons of fuel per hour, more than twice the average of what a standard car uses in one year! deadly, This expensive and environmentally harmful fighter jet is designed for offensive strike first attacks and to carry B61-12 tactical nuclear weapons. This highlights the fact that the government of Canada has refused to sign the United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) despite demands from antiwar and peace activists. The TPNW requires that signatories "never under any circumstances... develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices."

Coalition weekend of action from January 6-8 which had 13 actions across Canada demanding "No New Fighter Jets" and "Drop the F35 Deal!" The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network also encourages people in Canada to sign the parliamentary petition against the fighter jets purchase at https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/ Petition/Details?Petition=e-4217

## Stop arming Saudi Arabia!

Besides buying weapons of war, Canada is also producing and selling them. Today, the United Nations deems Yemen the world's worst humanitarian crisis, after almost eight years of Saudiled, U.S. backed and Canadian-armed war. This war has killed over a quarter of a million people, and has displaced an additional four million people. The Saudi-led coalition has bombed Yemeni markets, hospitals, and civilians, and yet Canada has exported over \$8 billion in arms to Saudi Arabia since 2015, the year the Saudi-led military intervention in Yemen began. The Trudeau Government continues to profit from its controversial \$15 billion arms deal for armoured vehicles-killing machines which have been used against people in Yemen and in Saudi Arabia.

The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network calls for an end to the Saudiled war on Yemen and demands that Canada Stop Arming Saudi Arabia!

## Canada/US/UN Hands off Haiti!

Canada's military exports have also reached Haiti. In October 2022 Canadian and U.S. warplanes delivered armoured vehicles and weapons to Haiti, in the midst of widespread protests for access to food, fuel, and basic necessities and against the country's imperialist backed government. More recently on January 11, 2023 Canada made a second delivery of armoured vehicles to Haiti's police. While the government of Canada is arming the illegitimate and unelected Prime Minister of Haiti, Ariel Henry, they are also keeping the option to occupy Haiti on the table. In October 2022 the U.S. drafted a United Nations Security Council resolution for the "deployment of a rapid action force to Haiti immediately". This is a very dangerous move by Canada, the U.S., and their allies and will have devastating results for the people of Haiti.

The fighter jets purchase is being protested across Canada, during the January 13-22 week of action and also recently with the No Fighter Jets The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network stands against Canada sending weapons to Haiti and demands No New Occupation of Haiti!

## Canada Out of NATO!

The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network opposes the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a U.S.-

1

www.mawovancouver.org

#### Continued from page 1

led military alliance of 30 countries, which undermines global peace and human security and is responsible for the deadly and destructive interventions in the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Libya. For years, NATO has been provoking conflict with Russia. NATO's expansion to Russia's border and its training and arming of Ukrainian security forces have contributed to growing tensions and war in the region. NATO's demand that allies buy new interoperable weapons is leading to a costly arms race. Carbon-intensive weapons systems like fighter jets, tanks, drones, and warships are exacerbating the climate crisis. Canada is complicit in U.S. wars and is pursuing an imperialist agenda.

The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network demands that Canada adopt an independent foreign policy free of all military alliances, including NATO.

#### No to imperialist wars

NOFIGHTERJ

Ŵ

5

Φ

C

2 eq

C

90

<

child ess

-5

0 0

human

nee

care

tor

For over 30 years, we have witnessed the acceleration of brutal imperial wars by the U.S. and their allies, including Canada, against the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Haiti, and other countries. These wars have killed millions, turned tens of millions into refugees, laid waste to infrastructure, impoverished citizens through sanctions, and overthrown

governments. With the full support of the governments of the U.S. and Canada, the Zionist Israeli regime has continued to occupy Palestine, brutally kill and imprison Palestinian people, including children and journalists, demolish Palestinian homes and routinely bomb Gaza. When fleeing homelands that have become war zones, refugees are subjected to harrowing and dangerous journeys and met with racism and discrimination in the very countries responsible for the destruction of the refugees' original homes.

The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network says NO to imperialist wars, occupations, economic sanctions, and military interventions, and YES to selfdetermination!

#### **Take Action!**

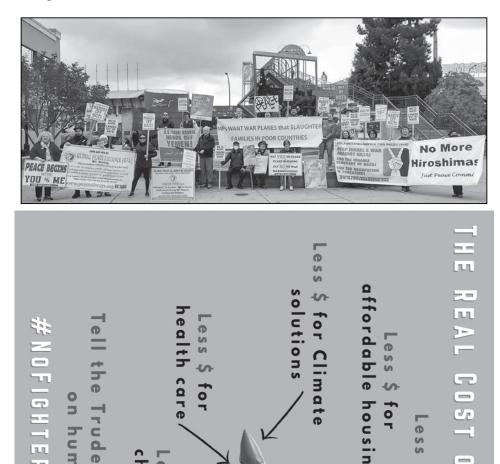
The Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network supports the United National Antiwar Coalition's week of action, and encourages peace loving people across Canada to join demonstrations and activities for the Week of Action January 13 – 22.

To view actions in the U.S. and around the world visit https://unac.notowar. net/martin-luther-king-jr-week-ofactions/

Together, let's end imperialist wars and build a loving and peaceful world!

ess

tor



## Trudeau Government **#DropTheF35Deal**

While Canadians struggle with rising energy and food costs, extreme weather events, and economic strife this winter, the Trudeau government is trying to push through a \$7 billion deal for 16 F-35 stealth fighter jets with American weapons giant Lockheed Martin. On December 22, Global News and La Presse reported that the Canadian government is planning on signing a contract with Lockheed Martin early in the new year.

According to a leak by federal government officials, the Department of National Defence has received approval to buy the F-35s despite years of widespread opposition from Canadian citizens, celebrities and parliamentarians. The government is advertising the cost as \$7 billion; however, that is only the cost of the initial buy-in for 16 F-35's. Further, while the government is advertising the cost as \$19 billion for the full order of 88 fighter jets, according to the No Fighter Jets campaign 2020 report, From Acquisition to Disposal: Uncovering the true cost of 88 new fighter jets, the lifecycle cost of buying 88 fighter jets is estimated to be at least \$76.8 billion over 30 years.

Experts, including former procurement chief at National Defence Alan Williams, have denounced this procurement, because the total cost of this

purchase has not been fully disclosed Williams said: "It is distressing public regarding billionopaque and piecemeal and comprehensive... government is hiding

Our report Soaring: Fighter Jets and Buy a New Fleet financial, social and fighter jets. Excessive costs, air pollution, extreme by the federal government. to read information being made dollar procurements that is so rather than being transparent (It) makes it appear the the truth from Canadians."

The Harms and Risks of Why Canada Must Not details the many adverse environmental impacts of operational and maintenance noise and damaging air weapons

training in and around Indigenous communities are some of the many harms of fighter jets. As the U.S. Government Accountability Office explains, the F-35 continues to be plagued with cost overruns and technical flaws. In its April 2022 study, the GAO found that the F-35 has over 900 open deficiencies.

A new fleet of fossil fuel-powered F-35s will lock Canada into decades of carbon intensive militarism and prevent us from decarbonizing. One F-35 releases more carbon emissions in one long-range flight than a car does in a year. Moreover, the F-35 is a stealth fighter jet designed for first strike attack, meaning it is only effective as an offensive warplane used against other countries. It has also been designed to carry the B61-12 tactical nuclear weapon and will put Canada in violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Fighter Jets are weapons of war and exacerbate global warming.

As winter sets in and Canadians struggle to make ends meet, it is irresponsible and unjust for the Trudeau government to spend public money on American warplanes. Instead, the federal government should invest in affordable housing, health care, education, economic assistance, and climate action. Canada's planned F-35 procurement is unacceptable and immoral and must be canceled.

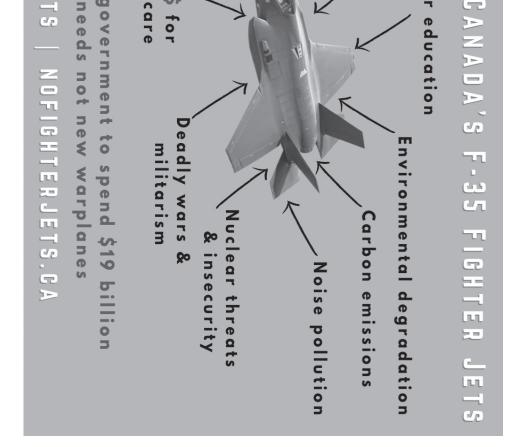
Tell your Member of Parliament to say no to the F-35 deal. Join the No Fighter Jets campaign in an urgent weekend of action from January 6-8,2023.#NoFighterJets #DropTheF35Deal#NoNewFighterJetsLearn more at nofighterjets.ca/ourwork.

Statement by the No Fighter Jets Coalition



### O Sign the e-petition to the parliament of Canada:





https://petitions. ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/ **Details?Petition=e-4217** 

#### **SCAN HERE TO SIGN**

**O** Sign the online letter to the Trudeau government here: https://actionnetwork.org/ letters/canada-drop-the-f-35fighter-jet-deal



• Spread the word on social media! Use the hashtags #NoNewFighterJets, and **#DropTheF35Deal** Don't forget to tag or message @nofighterjets

2 www.mawovancouver.org www.mawovancouver.org 3