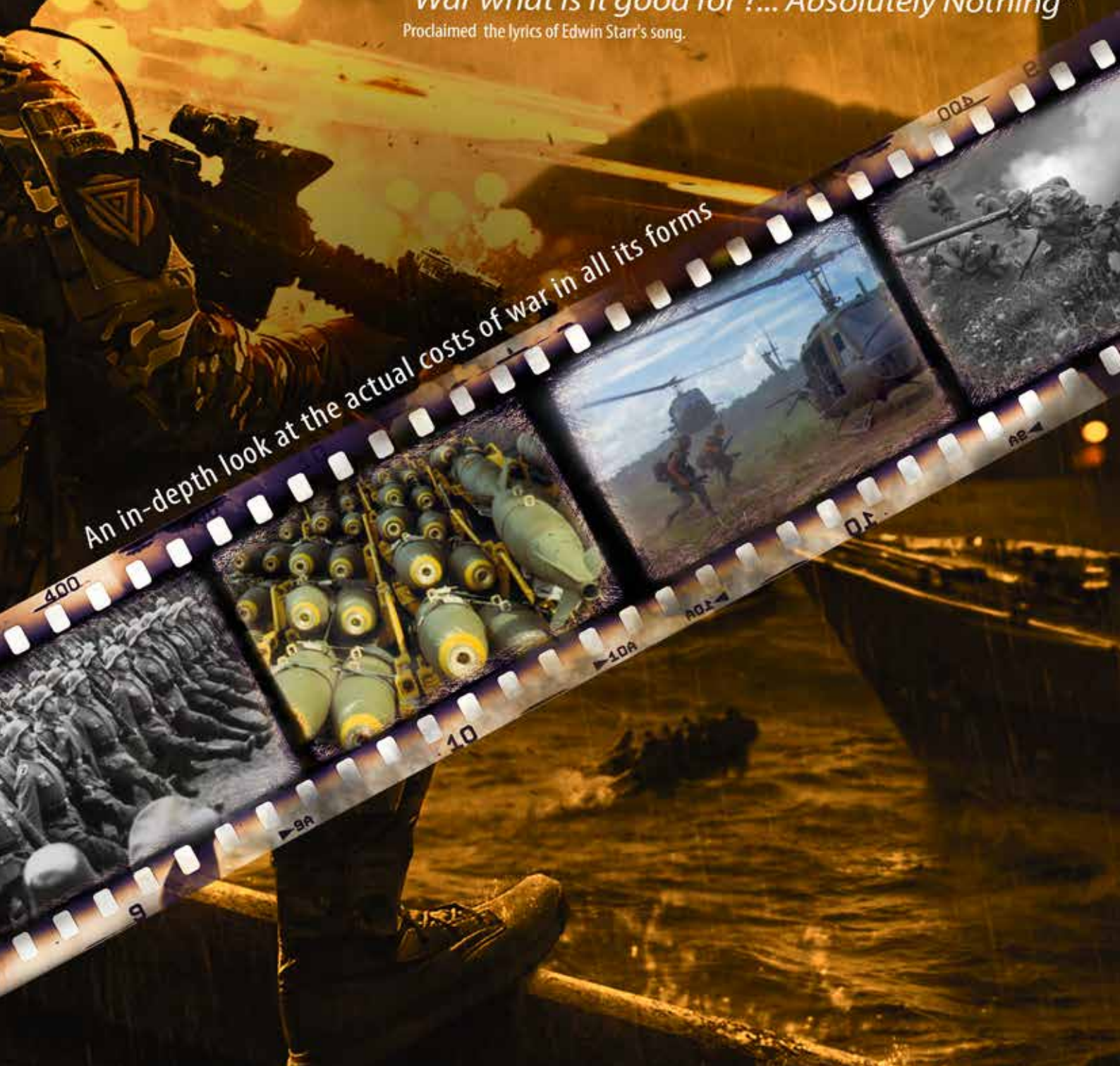


The Cost of War

6 x 48 min.

"War what is it good for?... Absolutely Nothing"

Proclaimed: the lyrics of Edwin Starr's song.



An in-depth look at the actual costs of war in all its forms

"War...what is it good for?.. Absolutely nothing" proclaimed the lyrics of Edwin Starr's song. Most people, especially those who have experienced war, may well agree.

To some war is good for profit. To others war leads to extreme loss. There is always a cost to war.

This series explores the real cost of war, in all its forms. As you watch news of battles around the globe, have you ever wondered how it's all paid for?

How do the guns end up in the hands of terrorists or "good guys"? Where do the weapons come from? How much does all this really cost? What is the human cost? What is the cost in displaced people and shattered lives? What is the cost of the wounded and permanently disabled? What is the cost to and of the veterans? The shell shocked survivors with PTSD? The physically wounded, disabled men and women who need support for the rest of their lives.

The Economic cost - The Human cost -The Social Cost - The Environmental Cost - The Individual Cost - These are the themes we will explore and questions we will answer in this series **THE COST OF WAR.**

Method:

Using unique access to archive footage, dramatic recreation, exclusive interviews and graphics, we will work our way through the minefield that is modern warfare, exploring the real cost of war in all its forms.

Individual stories will bring the historical picture to life. Interviews with specialists, economists, soldiers, veterans and civilians will highlight and contrast the financial and human cost.

We will explore, investigate and expose the various costs of a single war in each episode.

WW1, WW2 and the Vietnam War will give us historical perspective, leading to with the Afghan War, Iraq War, and finally the ongoing War on Terror. Perhaps a war without end. In each episode we will explore the common themes outlined below.

Preparation for War During Peacetime:

Winston Churchill famously said "Meeting to Jaw, jaw is better than war". Talking is always better. At the point when negotiation and diplomatic conversat break down, nations are generally prepared for war. Maintaining military force in peace time is an expensive business and preparedness is everything. What is the cost of maintaining military preparedness?

You can enlist and train new soldiers quickly, but you need the most modern, state of the art equipment. From Boots and Berets and Helmets, to Drones, Satellites and Bombs to Trucks, Planes and Ships. Everything needs to be ready for mobilisation.

Warfare, with its appalling humanitarian consequences and vast economic and social costs, has historically stimulated economies with financial innovations, from the creation of coinage to the exploitation of national debt. Economic weakness and inability to harness financial resources have usually led to military defeat.

War bonds, debt, loans and borrowing. How are wars financed once they are declared? Who finances them? Who finances combatants on both sides? How are the costs covered? From Ministry of Defence edicts, to underground dodgy deals. How are the costs met, and what are they?



From Peace to War / The costs of Mobilisation and Deployment:

What does it cost to get the "boots on the ground"? Bullet by Bullet, Bomb by Bomb, we will watch costs escalate and accelerate as the conflict develops.

Engaging in war costs a mind blowing amount of money, that somehow politicians and the public seem oblivious to. Recently in the U.S., this money has been borrowed, by selling US treasury bonds around the world, all to be repaid at a future date. The next generation will have to pick up the tab. Consequently, recent wars have so far had little apparent effect on our pocket books.

How does the enemy finance itself? Whether it is Nazi Germany, Insurgent Islamic fundamentalists, or a communist guerrilla army, how do they finance the cost of running their war?

Famously, an army marches on its stomach. No food, No Army. What does it cost to feed the troops? Through the details, food, bullets and bombs, we will get the bigger picture of the cost of mobilisation and engagement. Medical costs. Field Hospitals and so on.



The Human, Financial and Environmental Cost:

Money, Misery and Environmental Destruction. "I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity." Dwight D. Eisenhower

The flood of refugees from Syria and the Middle East has again brought to light the human cost of war. In each episode we will explore that cost. Bombed cities, devastated landscapes, displaced civilians, destabilised societies, so called collateral damage. Lives, communities, infrastructure and environments shattered and destroyed by conflict.

To date, approximately 370,000 people have been killed by the violence in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan— the vast majority of them civilians. Far more numerous are those who have died as an indirect result of the wars' destruction of infrastructure, the environment and access to basic needs or who have suffered injuries. Shattered lives and homes have led millions to become displaced and exist as refugees as an outcome of every major war.



The Future costs. Into the Peace:

"It is not enough to win a war; it is more important to organize the peace." Aristotle.

The real costs don't finish with cessation of hostilities, they continue long after the conflict is over. Historically, the cost of caring for war veterans rises for several decades and peaks 30 to 40 years or more after the war has ended. This will be especially true for veterans of the current wars, who are already using medical services and applying for disability benefits in greater numbers than in previous wars. Rebuilding, reconstruction, rehabilitation, relocation of veterans and refugees are all themes of the Peace. And of course rearming and re-equipping the armed forces on all sides.

We will look at the continuing opportunities war offers to those who are ready and prepared to take them. The spoils of war still exist. How does profit flow directly from the cost of war? Who makes money and how? The U.S. government spent \$598.5 billion on military and weapons technology in 2015. The 100 largest arms-producing and military services companies across the globe sold an estimated \$370.7 billion worth of arms that year.

We will also look at the innovation in technology that is tried and tested in war, and filters down through manufacturing into the commercial world. Industry and technological Innovation have played a huge role in the changing nature war, and the ensuing peace.

We are still paying for World War II, and haven't begun to pay for the wars of recent years, all fought on borrowed money. A debt our children and grandchildren will have to shoulder. Who owns the war debts that eventually have to be repaid? What will be the long term cost of our recent conflicts? Is war an affordable option in the future?

In the end, who profits, and who loses?



Episode Synopsis

Episode 1: World War One

\$186 billion in direct costs and another \$151 billion in indirect costs. It caused the greatest global depression of the 20th century, which ultimately led to the Second World War.

It's estimated it cost the allied powers \$125 billion dollars and Germany and the central powers \$60 billion dollars financed through debt, war bonds, and patriotic appeal.

More than 65 million men from 30 countries fought. Nearly 10 million died. 8 million died in battle, 2 million died of disease and illness, 21.2 million were wounded, and 7.8 million were taken prisoner or went missing in action.

The human, material and financial cost of the war was devastating. Men continued to die from gas exposure, shell shock and ongoing wounds long after the war ended.



Episode 2: World War Two

WWII cost \$4.1 trillion in FY2011 dollars. The total cost to all combatants was estimated at \$1 trillion in 1945 which would have cost over \$11 trillion in 2005 dollars.

On 31 December 2006, the UK made a payment of about \$83m (£45.5m) to the US to discharge the last of its loans from World War II.

Up to 70m people are believed to have died during WW2. About two-thirds of them were non-combatants, making it the deadliest conflict ever. By contrast, WW1 claimed the lives of between 16-18 million civilian and military people in total.

On average, nearly 30,000 people were killed every day. The roads and tracks of Europe were flooded with refugees.



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Episode 3: Vietnam War

More than 3 million people, including 58,000 Americans, were killed in the conflict.

The Department of Defence recorded the overall cost of the Vietnam War as \$173 billion, equivalent to \$770 billion in 2003 dollars. At that rate, the United States spent approximately \$168,000 for every enemy killed.

Veteran's benefits and interest would add another trillion dollars. As of 2003, the U.S. spent \$900 billion in total including veterans' benefits and interest.

In Vietnam, and neighbouring Cambodia and Laos, the environmental damage done by Agent Orange, herbicides, and massive bombing, continues to this day, and is still killing people. Among all the wars the United States had fought, Vietnam War is ranked 4th in casualties just below the Civil War and the two World Wars. Out of 2,594,000 personnel who served in Vietnam, 58,220 Americans were killed, 153,303 wounded and 1,643 missing. 4 million Vietnamese on all sides were killed, wounded, or missing during the 1965-1975 period alone.

More than 23,214 soldiers returned home disabled. It's estimated that 70,000 to 300,000 Veterans have committed suicide and around 700,000 veterans continue to suffer from some form of mental disease or trauma.



Episode 4: The Afghan War

Trillions of dollars and thousands of lives have been expended in these conflicts. Recent estimates suggest that costs will exceed \$5 trillion.

The Afghan War lasted 14 years from 2001 to 2014 at an estimated cost of \$1.07 trillion. The Bush Administration launched it in response to the 9/11 World Trade Centre attacks.

According to a Congressional Budget Office report published in October 2007, the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan could cost taxpayers a total of \$2.4 trillion by 2017 allowing for huge interest costs. The combat, like the others, is being financed with borrowed money.

The human cost has been significant - 2,350 U.S. troops died and 20,092 suffered injuries. We will explore these along with the cost to coalition and Afghan forces along with civilians.

Linda Blimes, of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, suggests the cost of caring for veterans' peaks 30 to 40 years or more after a conflict. She estimates the cost of veterans' medical and disability payments over the coming 40 years will exceed \$1 trillion.



Episode 5: The Iraq War

The most recent major report from Brown University estimates a total of just over \$1.1 trillion. The Department of Defence's direct spending on Iraq totalled at least \$757.8 billion, Nobel Prize winning former chief economist of the World Bank, Joseph Stiglitz and Linda Bilmes of Harvard University, estimate that the total costs of the Iraq War on the US economy will be three trillion dollars in a moderate scenario, and possibly more.

Stiglitz stated: "The figure we arrive at is more than \$3 trillion. Our calculations are based on conservative assumptions. Needless to say, this number represents the cost only to the United States. It does not reflect the enormous cost to the rest of the world, or to Iraq".

ABC News, March 19, 2013 stated in a report the Iraq War will ultimately cost U.S. Taxpayers at least \$2.2 trillion, including care for veterans injured in the war. More than 190,000 people have been killed in the 10 years since the war began. Over seventy percent, 134,000, of those killed have been civilians which does not include indirect deaths due to vulnerability, disease or injury as a result of the devastation war has wrought on the infrastructure of the country. A total 4,488 U.S. soldiers were killed, and 32,226 wounded in Iraq. At least 3,400 U.S. contractors died as well.



Episode 6: The War on Terror

A war without location, fought on many fronts, and many believe without end. A War fought in Cyber Space. A War that pitches the most sophisticated military industrial forces in the world against individuals armed with knives, hijacked trucks, and computer know-how.

According to research by The Watson Institute of International Affairs, the estimated overall death toll since the War on Terror began had reached 395,000 by 2014. This figure includes US and all coalition troops and contractors. Approximately 43,000 uniformed Afghans, Iraqis and other allies had died as of May 2014. Indirect deaths could mount to 800,000. Over 970,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veteran disability claims have been registered with the Veterans Association.

A sweeping new study measures U.S. war costs at an estimated \$4.79 trillion in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Libya and beyond. By 2053, that number could climb as high as \$7.9 trillion, making the "War on Terror" the most costly of any military engagement in U.S. history after World War II.

There are no reliable estimates for overall coalition costs. The UK has spent over 49 billion dollars alone. Costs of the wars to the allies have yet to be fully accounted. The accounting is much broader in its scope than typical war spending calculations, which generally focus on tallying the cost of bullets or battleships. It yields an imprecise figure that continues to grow, as the War on Terror continues and incorporates Cyber Warfare.

By 2014, the number of global terror attacks had also risen to 16,818, killing a record 43,512 people around the world, a staggering 297 percent increase from 1997, the worst year in the pre 9/11 period, suggesting that international efforts in the War on Terror have been largely ineffective in achieving their stated objectives

This programme will conclude the series, comparing costs and casualties of war over the past century, and look into the future to see where the War on Terror may lead us in this changing post 9/11 world.



„A single death is a tragedy...a million deaths is a statistic.“
Joseph Stalin

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