

The War On Mali: Who are the Major Actors?

"Guns and Butter", KPFA, with Bonnie Faulkner. Interview with Michel Chossudovsky

By [Bonnie Faulkner](#) and [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

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Guns and Butter:

Region: [sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Theme: [Militarization and WMD, US NATO War Agenda](#)

The French troop deployment and aerial bombardment of Mali raises important questions about the nature of recent events there, the causes of the escalating violence, the factions involved and the broader geopolitical interests of major powers and corporations, not only in Mali, but in the continent of Africa as a whole.

We begin with an overview of the broad historical process taking place in the post World War II environment, with the United States systematically replacing former European colonial powers with neocolonial Anglo-American influence and control.

The application of "strong economic medicine" under helm of the IMF and the World Bank -starting in the early 1980s- sets the stage for unfolding social tensions.

Al Qaeda affiliated groups are examined in detail, as are the covert operations of western powers, with specific attention to important roles played by individual American diplomats.

We take a look at the economic situation in Mali, its agriculture, natural resources, and the plight of its people in the face of recurring famine.

The recent hostage crisis in Algeria is explored, with a focus on the perpetrators in an historical context.

LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (57:54)

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Produced and hosted by Bonnie Faulkner

["Guns and Butter". KPFA at 94.1 Berkeley](#)

"Guns & Butter" investigates the relationships among capitalism, militarism and politics. Maintaining a radical perspective in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, "Guns & Butter: The Economics of Politics" reports on who wins and who loses when the economic resources of civil society are diverted toward global corporatization, war, and

the furtherance of a national security state.

E-mail Bonnie at blfaulkner@yahoo.com

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and [Prof Michel](#)
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