

Remembrance Day: The New Framing of America's Wars

Conversations with authors Glenn Diesen and Owen Schalk

By [Michael Welch](#), [Prof. Glenn Diesen](#), and [Owen Schalk](#)
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Remembrance Day, or Veterans Day as it is better known in the United States, is the official annual occasion to reflect and memorialize the sacrifices of so many men and women in uniform committed to serving their country during major military conflicts...in particular, World War I, World War II and North Korea. [1]

It is said that when the red poppy was first adorned more than a century ago, it was meant to stress the message "Never Again" to exhaust valuable lives in a conflict as horrid as the Great War. But the message has evolved, you might say, into saluting the courage, bravery and derring-do of so many young lads and lasses fighting for their nations, freedoms, etc. [2]

In the past, after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the world breathed a collective sigh of relief. World War III was something that we thought the invention of the atomic bomb, combined with common sense had torn from the pages of human endeavour. Today, a Third World War is seen as a likely scenario. [3][4]

This massaging of our nation's mentality toward war has been aided by a special re-framing of our news, our history, and even our education. In [Manufacturing Consent: The Political](#)

[Economy of the Mass Media](#) by **Edward Herman** and **Noam Chomsky**, corporate power by means of ownership and advertising, ends up compelling the minds of millions in a particular direction, in line with those directing modern methods of communication. Though today, in the age of the internet, we have beyond such archaic methods of control...haven't we?

Actually, the propagandists of today employ old and new measures to bring the populace in line with the demands of peace through war. [The military industrial complex](#), as coined by the former President of the United States, **Dwight D. Eisenhower**, is now referred to by former CIA analyst **Ray McGovern** as the **Military-Industrial-Congressional-Intelligence-Media-Academia-Think-Tank Complex**, or **MICIMATT**. We will explore a few of these avenues toward everlasting peace through unending wars financed by military industries and their various partners in this chapter of the Global Research News Hour. [5]

In our first half hour, **Professor Glenn Diesen** pays us a visit elaborating on the themes of his recent book: [THE THINK TANK RACKET: Managing the Information War Against Russia](#). This is a book that points to Think Tanks, full of "experts" and paid for, in large part, by Weapons contractors, guiding politicians and media down the chute of military preparedness. HE also points to how Russia has been a particular victim of these groups.

In our second half hour, Global Research News Hour contributor **Paul Graham** embarks on a conversation with Canadian writer **Owen Schalk**, author of the recent book: [Canada in Afghanistan: A Story of Military, Diplomatic, Political and Media Failure, 2003-2023](#). This talk reveals answers to the question of exactly what did Canadians do in the most costly encounter for Canadian soldiers since World War II, why, and what were the consequences now that the Taliban that they sought to overthrow is back in power!

Glenn Diesen is Professor at the University of South-Eastern Norway and an editor at the *Russia in Global Affairs* journal. HE is also the author of [THE THINK TANK RACKET: Managing the Information War Against Russia](#), Clarity Press. Follow him on Twitter [@glenn_diesen](#).

Owen Schalk is an independent researcher and writer whose work focuses on domestic and foreign policy. His articles have been published by *Alborada*, *Monthly Review* and *Protean* magazine, and he contributes a weekly column to *Canadian Dimension*. he is the author of [Canada in Afghanistan: A Story of Military, Diplomatic, Political and Media Failure, 2003-2023](#), James Lorimer & Co., 2023. He lives in Petersfield, Manitoba, Canada.

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Notes:

1. <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance>
2. Sarah Young, Sama Javed (November 11, 2021), 'Why do some people wear white poppies on Remembrance Day?', [The Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/white-poppy-meaning-remembrance-day-colour-b-1955754.html); <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/white-poppy-meaning-remembrance-day-colour-b-1955754.html>
3. <https://thebulletin.org/files/1991%20Clock%20Statement.pdf>
4. <https://www.sipri.org/media/press-release/2023/states-invest-nuclear-arsenals-geopolitical-relations-deteriorate-new-sipri-yearbook-out-now>
5. <https://raymcgovern.com/2020/07/10/micimatt-keeping-us-stuck-in-afghanistan/>

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