

NUCLEAR MYTH

Nuclear weapons are a cost-effective method of national defense.

FALSE: The United States will spend at least \$179 billion over the nine fiscal years of 2010-2018 on its nuclear arsenal, averaging \$20 billion per year.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/analysis/articles/us-nuclear-weapons-budget-overview/>

NUCLEAR FACT

From 1940-1996, the United States spent a *minimum* of \$5.5 trillion on its nuclear weapons program. This figure does not include \$320 billion in estimated future-year costs for storing and disposing of more than five decades' worth of accumulated toxic and radioactive wastes and \$20 billion for dismantling nuclear weapons systems and disposing of surplus nuclear materials. When those amounts are factored in, the total incurred costs of the U.S. nuclear weapons program exceed \$5.8 trillion.

Source: <https://www.brookings.edu/the-hidden-costs-of-our-nuclear-arsenal-overview-of-project-findings/>

WHY NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT?

When the costs of damage to the land, illnesses of uranium miners, cancer deaths from nuclear pollution, and storage of nuclear waste for centuries are added, the price becomes astronomical. No one knows how much it will cost to clean up leaking waste sites now and store weapons-related nuclear wastes for many thousands of years. Nuclear weapons have drained resources, including scientific resources, from other more productive uses. The money wasted on nuclear weapons represents lost opportunities for improving the health, education, and welfare of the people of the world.

REFLECTION

Is nuclear holocaust inevitable if the arms race is not stopped? Frankly, the answer is almost certainly yes...I cannot see any way in which nuclear war could be branded as being God's will. Such warfare, if it ever happens, will come because of the greed and pride and covetousness of the human heart...We cannot afford to neglect our duties as global citizens.

-- Dr. Billy Graham

CORPORATE STAND OF THE CLINTON FRANCISCANS

We, the Sisters of St. Francis of Clinton, Iowa, Associates and Sojourners, oppose the continued maintenance, research, development, and threatened use of the United States arsenal of nuclear weapons. We call on our government to fulfill our commitments to nuclear disarmament as agreed to in the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1970 and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty of 1996.

For more information about nuclear disarmament,
Please visit www.ClintonFranciscans.com

