II. Structure of Empire

A. Structure: Military-Industrial Complex

1. Military

a. civilian command and administration (669,000)

i. Secretary of Defense

ii. Undersecretaries

b. military command

i. Joint Chiefs

ii. CINC (regional commanders in chief)

iii. Space Command

c. armed forces

i. Active duty 1.3 million

ii. 1.1 million members of the National Guard/Reserves

iii. four branches of military

d. bases

i. 6,000 total

ii. 750 in 163 countries

iii. Okinawa

since 1945

38 separate bases

e. military intelligence agencies

f. military academies, schools for strategic studies, ROTC

2. weapons contractors

a. contractors

i. Lockheed-Martin

ii. Raytheon

iii. General Dynamics

iv. Northrop Grumman

v. Boeing

b. weapons systems

i. annually: billions in contracts (2005 $265 billion)

ii. cost +

iii. current overruns $300 billion

c. weapons dealers

i. sell to over 140 countries,

ii. Defense Export Loan

Guarantee Fund $15 billion

iii. DOD has 6500

e. Clinton :"promote peaceful conflict resolution, and arms control, human rights, and democratization”

3. Private Military Contractors (PMCs)

a. security

i. function

ii. contracts

iii. Blackwater, Triple Canopy

b. Support

i. function: logistics, infrastructure

ii. Halliburton, KBR, Bechtel

c. intelligence

i. 70% to PMCs

ii. DynCorp International, CACI International, Booze Allen

4. trade groups

a. Aerospace Industry Association

b. $1.5 million AD: “Aerospace and the Defense: The Strength to Lift America”

5. think tanks

a. Center for Strategic and International Studies

b. Middle East Institute (at Columbia University)

6. Congress

a. own stock in defense contractors

b. reelection

i. issue: national security

ii. mi complex as a jobs creation program

c. Lockheed Martine F22

i. 48 states

ii. subcontractors in 46 states

iii. 383 of 435 Congressional Districts

d. Pork: + $8 billion

7. Universities

a. funding for “basic research”: 2005 $7 billion

b. Professors work for think tanks funded by Corporations

IV. Sorrows of Empire

A. Iraq War

1. Western alliance of democracies fractured

2. Iraq is more a failed state than a client state

3. International law undermined

4. Increase in global terrorism

B. Four Sorrows

1. perpetual war

a. more terrorism directed at U.S.

b. proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

2. loss of democracy and constitutional rights

1. imperial presidency

i. Commander in Chief v ex parte Milligan

ii. sovereign immunity

iii. enemy combatants

b. Congress as rubber stamp for executive branch

i. Article I Sec 8

ii. Madison “more wisdom”

iii. Oct 3-10 2002

open ended power to wage war

“appropriate” use nuclear weapons

1. Constitutional Rights

i. Great Writ

ii. USA Patriot Act

iii. FISA Court

iv. NSA

3. “lying world”

a. propaganda and disinformation

i. Office of Strategic Influence

ii. Information warfare

iii. PR: Committee for the Liberation of Iraq

iv. corporate media as propaganda

1. glorification of war, power and military

c. patriots vs internal enemies

4. financial ruin

“Nemesis, the goddess of retribution and vengeance, the punisher of pride and hubris, waits impatiently for her meeting with us.”

<http://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=united-states-of-america>