

Revolutionary Greetings,

AFRICOM is an imperialist project led by the United States for the last 10 years to occupy and control African countries. United Struggle from Within has taken up the call of the Black Alliance for Peace to close all U.S. military bases on the African continent.

We think it's important to let the imperialists and their lackeys know that many prisoners disagree with their oppressive and genocidal policies which continue to underdevelop the Third World. Given the state of USW at this point in time our cell is sure USW as a whole can rack up signatures in the thousands!

BAP has set a goal of 10,000 signatures by Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday in January 2019. Let's show USW's true anti-imperialist spirit between now and then!

Please return all completed petitions to MIM(Prisons) before 1 January 2019 to ensure that your signatures are counted in time.

Use the enclosed materials to spread the word about this campaign and to collect signatures. Let us know if you need more copies and spread the word.

In Struggle,

a United Struggle from Within cell/MIM(Prisons)

## **Radical Black organization calls on U.S. government to shut down U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM)**

October 6, 2018

Campaign launches to end U.S. invasion and occupation of Africa

by Ajamu Baraka

Oct. 1, 2018 The Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) has launched U.S. Out of Africa!: Shut Down AFRICOM, a campaign designed to end the U.S. invasion and occupation of Africa.

Today marks the 10th anniversary of the establishment of AFRICOM, short for U.S. Africa Command. Although U.S. leaders say AFRICOM is “fighting terrorism” on the continent, we believe geopolitical competition with China is the real reason behind AFRICOM’s existence. AFRICOM is a dangerous structure that has only increased militarism.

When AFRICOM was established in the months before Barack Obama assumed office as the first Black president of the United States, a majority of African nations led by the pan-Africanist government of Libya rejected AFRICOM, forcing the new command to instead work out of Europe. But with the U.S. and NATO attack on Libya that led to the destruction of that country and the murder of its leader Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, corrupt African leaders began to allow AFRICOM forces to operate in their countries and establish military-to-military relations with the United States.

Today, those efforts have resulted in 46 various forms of U.S. bases as well as military-to-military relations between 53 out of the 54 African countries and the United States. U.S. Special Forces troops now operate in more than a dozen African nations.

Vice Admiral Robert Moeller, first and former deputy of AFRICOM, declared in 2008, “Protecting the free flow of natural resources from Africa to the global market is one of AFRICOM’s guiding principles.”

The Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) has launched U.S. Out of Africa!: Shut Down AFRICOM, a campaign designed to end the U.S. invasion and occupation of Africa.

We say AFRICOM is the flip side of the domestic war being waged by the same repressive state structure against Black and poor people in the United States. In the U.S. Out of Africa!: Shut Down AFRICOM campaign, we link police violence and the domestic war waged on Black people to U.S. interventionism and militarism abroad.

“Not only does there need to be a mass movement in the U.S. to shut down AFRICOM, this mass movement needs to become inseparably bound with the movement that has swept this country to end murderous police brutality against Black and Brown people,” says Netfa Freeman, of Pan-African Community Action (PACA) and the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS). Freeman represents PACA, a BAP member organization, on BAP’s Coordinating Committee. “The whole world must begin to see AFRICOM and the militarization of police departments as counterparts.” In the U.S. Out of Africa!: Shut Down AFRICOM campaign, we link police violence and the domestic war waged on Black people to U.S. interventionism and militarism abroad.

It costs \$267 million to fund AFRICOM in 2018, according to Vanessa Beck, BAP research team lead and Coordinating Committee member.

“That money is stolen from Africans/Black people in the U.S. to terrorize and steal resources from our sisters and brothers on the African continent,” Beck said. “Instead, that money should be put toward meeting our human needs in the U.S. and toward reparations for people in every African nation affected by U.S. imperialism.”

BAP makes the following demands:

- the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces from Africa,
- the demilitarization of the African continent,
- the closure of U.S. bases throughout the world, and
- the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) must oppose AFRICOM and conduct hearings on AFRICOM’s impact on the African continent.

We ask the public to join us in demanding an end to the U.S. invasion and occupation of the continent of our ancestors by signing this petition that we will deliver to CBC leaders.

This campaign is BAP’s effort to help shut down all U.S. foreign military bases as well as NATO bases. BAP is a founding member of the Coalition Against U.S Foreign Military Bases.

Ajamu Baraka, Black Alliance for Peace national organizer, Green Party vice presidential candidate in 2016 and editor and columnist at Black Agenda Report, can be reached at [ajamubaraka2@gmail.com](mailto:ajamubaraka2@gmail.com). Visit [blackallianceforpeace.com/USoutofAfrica](http://blackallianceforpeace.com/USoutofAfrica) for resources.

# THE BLACK ALLIANCE FOR PEACE

October 1, 2018 marked the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) that was created on October 1, 2008. The total estimated cost for AFRICOM in 2018 is \$236.9 million.

AFRICOM's establishment began the new scramble for Africa, an effort by the United States to practice full spectrum dominance over the entire continent with thousands of U.S. troops now stationed in some 30 African countries with dozens of U.S. bases across Africa. The governments that have allowed the U.S. to station U.S. troops and bases in their countries have relinquished their sovereignty to the United States empire, whose goal is to prevent independent forces from emerging and to establish hegemony over the entire continent.

*Therefore*, we, the Undersigned, join **Black Alliance for Peace (BAP)** in its demand that AFRICOM be immediately dismantled. We say that AFRICOM is an integral part of the military industrial complex, that we oppose an embodiment of U.S. imperialism, and it is therefore a great danger to the people of Africa and the world.

*We demand* that the members of the Congressional Black Caucus immediately convene congressional hearings on AFRICOM and that the United States close all of its military bases in Africa and cease using it to house drone bases and other means of state sponsored terror. Part of AFRICOM's stated mission is to "promote regional security, stability, and prosperity." But its very nature precludes the development of any of these conditions.

*We say no to U.S. interventions* anywhere in the world and to the continued presence of military bases outside or inside the territory of the U.S. We say no to any African government which may agree to house the AFRICOM headquarters. Such an act would be a betrayal to the cause of independence for the entire continent and would be a further act of aggression against African people.

**U.S. out of Africa!**

**End the War on Africa and African People in the U.S. and Abroad!**

**Stand with the People – Oppose War and Militarism in Every Part of the World!**

**Close all U.S. and NATO Bases!**

United Struggle from Within has heeded the call of the Black Alliance for Peace to end U.\$. imperialism in Africa.

Sign below if you agree with the demands laid out in the petition for the **U.S. Out of Africa!: Shut Down AFRICOM** campaign.

NAME	FACILITY	ADDRESS	ADD TO MAIL LIST

**Return completed petitions to MIM(Prisons) PO Box 40799 San Francisco, CA 94140  
Petitions will be tallied for reporting in Under Lock & Key and forwarded to the Black Alliance for Peace, which plans to present them to the Black Congressional Congress on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Please return to MIM(Prisons) by 1 January 2019.**

## Sources:

**The U.S. and Wars in the Sahel:** <https://www.pambazuka.org/human-security/us-and-wars-sahel>

**Fact Sheet on U.S. AFRICOM:** <http://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/6107/fact-sheet-united-states-africa-command>.

**Tomgram: Nick Turse, U.S. military moves deeper into Africa:**  
[http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/176272/tomgram%3A\\_nick\\_turse%2C\\_the\\_u.s.\\_military\\_moves\\_deeper\\_into\\_africa/](http://www.tomdispatch.com/post/176272/tomgram%3A_nick_turse%2C_the_u.s._military_moves_deeper_into_africa/).

**AFRICOM: Protecting US interests disguised as 'military partnerships'**  
<http://studies.aljazeera.net/en/reports/2013/05/2013521122644377724.html>

**Can General Linder's Special Operations Forces Stop the Next Terrorist Threat?**  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/15/magazine/can-general-linders-special-operations-forces-stop-the-next-terrorist-threat.html>

**U.S. Military is Building a 100 Million Dollar Drone Base in Africa:**  
<https://theintercept.com/2016/09/29/u-s-military-is-building-a-100-million-drone-base-in-africa/>

**U.S. Department of State, Terrorist Threat in Horn of Africa:**  
<https://2001-2009.state.gov/s/ct/rls/rm/8801.htm>

**In Mali and rest of Africa the U.S. military fights a hidden war:**  
<https://theintercept.com/2015/11/20/in-mali-and-rest-of-africa-the-u-s-military-fights-a-hidden-war/>

**The US military is conducting secret missions all over Africa - VICE News**  
[https://news.vice.com/en\\_us/article/ywn5yy/us-military-secret-missions-africa](https://news.vice.com/en_us/article/ywn5yy/us-military-secret-missions-africa)

## Reading list:

**Margaret Kimberley: Obama and Clinton brought slavery to Libya:**  
<https://www.pambazuka.org/taxonomy/term/8323>

**Dan Glazebrook: Recolonization of Africa by endless war:** <https://www.pambazuka.org/pan-africanism/recolonization-africa-endless-war>

**Ajamu Baraka: Obama's Legacy: Permanent War and Liberal/Radical Accommodation?:** <https://www.ajamubaraka.com/obamas-legacy-permanent-war-and-liberal-radical-accommodation>

**Horace Campbell, "Beyond the fanning of US militarism in Africa:"** <https://www.pambazuka.org/governance/beyond-fanning-us-militarism-africa>

**Abayomi Azikiwe: Building Solidarity With Africa: Struggle Against Neo-Colonialism and Imperialist Militarism:**

<https://www.pambazuka.org/activism/building-solidarity-africa-struggle-against-neo-colonialism-and-imperialist-militarism>

**Eric Draitser: Inside Boko Haram:**  
<https://www.counterpunch.org/2015/01/29/inside-boko-haram/>

# THE BLACK ALLIANCE FOR PEACE

## AFRICOM: U.S. Military Invasion of Africa

**United States Africa Command, (U.S. AFRICOM):** A full-spectrum combatant command, U.S. AFRICOM is responsible for all U.S. Department of Defense operations, exercises, and security cooperation on the African continent, its island nations, and surrounding waters.

Mission statement of AFRICOM:

United States Africa Command — with partners — disrupts and neutralizes transnational threats, protects U.S. personnel and facilities, prevents and mitigates conflict, and builds African partner defense capability and capacity in order to promote regional security, stability, and prosperity.

## AFRICOM Timeline

**2007:** The Bush administration announces that it will establish the first U.S. African command structure AFRICOM. Libya, South Africa, Nigeria and Zimbabwe denounce the concept with most other African nations soon taking a similar stand.

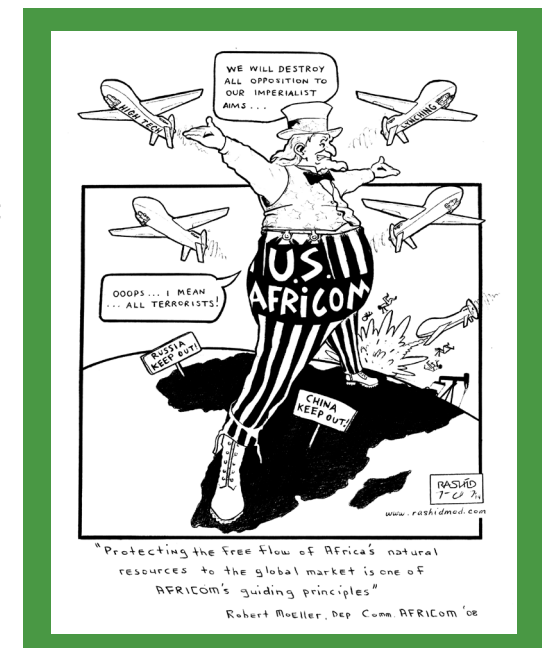
**2008:** President Bush visits Africa and encounters near unanimous rejection of his AFRICOM plan, only Liberia showed an interest in hosting the AFRICOM headquarters. Since its inception, AFRICOM has been based in Stuttgart, Germany.

**2008:** Despite fierce opposition from many African states AFRICOM is established October 1, 2008 but forced to maintain its headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany.

**2009:** Muammar Gaddafi of Libya elected president of African Union continues African opposition to basing AFRICOM in Africa.

**2011:** United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973 authorizes a "no-fly zone" in Libya. NATO forces led by the U.S., France and United Kingdom quickly violate agreement and embark on bombing campaign with intent to change the government of Libya.

**2011:** After massive bombing campaign in support of right-wing Islamic forces by the U.S. and NATO, Muammar Gaddafi and remaining government forces are surrounded in city of Sirte where he is captured and brutally murdered in October.



**2012:** Captured Libyan arms are deployed to various armed groups including al-Qaida in Islamic Maghreb. The result is enhanced military capacities of Boko Haram in Nigeria, civil war in Mali and destabilization and armed conflict in Central African Republic, Chad, Niger and dismembering of Libya.

**2012:** AFRICOM trained soldier Capt. Amadou Haya Sanogo led a coup in Mali that overthrew a democratically elected government.

**2014:** Estimated between five to eight thousand U.S. troops in Africa.

**2014:** U.S. carried out 674 military missions across the continent — an average of nearly two per day and an increase of about 300 percent since U.S. Africa Command was launched in 2008.

**2015:** AFRICOM trained soldier General Gilbert Diendere led a coup in Burkina Faso.

**2015 - Present:** Report that was surfaced in 2015 revealed the forms of U.S. military presence in Africa: U.S. military presence is divided into three categories of basing (Forward operating sites (FOS), Cooperative security locations (CSLs), Contingency locations (CLs)). Another category for measuring U.S. military presence is military to military cooperative agreements with various African states.

**2016:** 46 bases – a network now consisting of two forward operating sites, 13 cooperative security locations, and 31 contingency locations.

**2016:** Many of the military-to-military partnerships which the command has with fifty-three of Africa's fifty-four states include agreements to cede operational command to AFRICOM.

**2016:** Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, one of two main FOSs in Africa has been expanded from 88 acres to about 600 acres since 2002.

**2016:** In 2006, only 1% of all U.S. Commandos deployed overseas went to Africa, in 2016 17.2% of U.S. Commandos deployed overseas were in Africa.

**2016 - 2017:** Expansion of drone and CSL in Niger, Camp Agadez. U.S. is investing over \$100 million and is in the area where four Special Forces personnel were killed in 2017.

**2016:** Since the launch of AFRICOM in 2008, there has been a 1,900 percent increase in US military presence on the African continent

**2017:** U.S. troops are now conducting 3,500 exercises, programs, and engagements per year, an average of nearly 10 missions per day, on the African continent, according to AFRICOM commander General Thomas Waldhauser.

**2017:** Africa has witnessed "the most dramatic growth in deployment of America's elite troops of any region of the globe over the past decade"<sup>1</sup>

## Current AFRICOM programs:

**Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance Program (ACOTA)** (formerly African Crisis Response Initiative) (ACRI)) Part of "Global Peace"

**Operations Initiative (GPOI)** Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia.

**International Military Training and Education (IMET)** Program Brings African military officers to US military academies and schools for indoctrination Top countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa.

**Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS)** (formerly Africa Center for Security Studies) Part of National Defense University, Washington. Provides indoctrination for "next generation" African military officers. This is the "School of the Americas" for Africa. All of Africa is covered.

**Foreign Military Sales Program** sells US military equipment to African nations via Defense Security Cooperation Agency Top recipients: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

**African Coastal and Border Security Program** Provides fast patrol boats, vehicles, electronic surveillance equipment, night vision equipment to littoral states.

**Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA)** Military command based at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti. Aimed at putting down rebellions in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Somaliland and targets Eritrea. Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti.

**Joint Task Force Aztec Silence (JTFAS)** Targets terrorism in West and North Africa. Joint effort of EUCOM and Commander Sixth Fleet (Mediterranean) Based in Sigonella, Sicily and Tamanrasset air base in southern Algeria Gulf of Guinea Initiative, US Navy Maritime Partnership Program Trains African militaries in port and off-shore oil platform security Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Nigeria, Sao Tome & Principe, Togo.

**Tripartite Plus Intelligence Fusion Cell** Based in Kisangani, DRC, to oversee "regional security," i.e. ensuring U.S. and Israeli access to Congo's gold, diamonds, uranium, platinum, and coltan. Congo-Kinshasa, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, United States.

**Base access for Cooperative Security Locations (CSLs)** and Forward Operating Locations (FOLs) U.S. access to airbases and other facilities Gabon, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Tunisia, Namibia, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia, Algeria.  
( <https://www.pambazuka.org/human-security/us-and-wars-sahel>)