

# The Complex: How the Military Invades Our Everyday Lives (American Empire Project)

By Nick Turse



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**"Fascinating, no matter where you place yourself on the ideological spectrum."?Wired**

Now in paperback, a stunning breakdown of the modern military-industrial complex?an omnipresent, hidden-in-plain-sight system of systems that penetrates all our lives.

From iPods to Starbucks to Oakley sunglasses, historian Nick Turse explores the Pentagon's little-noticed contacts (and contracts) with the products and companies that now form the fabric of America. He investigates the remarkable range of military incursions into the civilian world: the Pentagon's collaborations with Hollywood filmmakers; its outlandish schemes to weaponize the wild kingdom; its joint ventures with Marvel Comics and NASCAR. Similarly disturbing is the way in which the military, desperate for fresh recruits, has tapped into the "culture of cool" by making "friends" on MySpace.

A striking vision of this brave new world of remote-controlled rats and super-soldiers who need no sleep, *The Complex* will change our understanding of the militarization of America. We are a long way from Eisenhower's military-industrial complex: this is the essential book for understanding its twenty-first-century progeny.

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In his exhaustively researched first book concerning the extent to which the "military industrial complex" has infiltrated the life of the average American, journalist Turse starts off by documenting how many times supposedly innocent consumer choices support major Pentagon contractors then covers similar ground in greater detail. Turse has up-to-date information on a previously well-covered subject and casts a wide net, including the movie industry, video gaming and military recruitment tactics in his analysis. Many of Turse's facts are purely economic, but some of them are astonishing. Who knew, for example, that in 2005, the Department of Defense spent \$1.2 million on donuts in Kuwait? Or that Harvard received over \$300 million in DoD funds in 2002, after being pressured, despite concerns about discrimination, to allow military recruiters access to its law school students? Though Turse offers plenty of interesting information, ultimately this book would have been more convincing if, instead of simply amassing and condensing such information, he had built a stronger argument about what it all means.

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### Review

"This is a deeply disturbing audit of the Pentagon's influence on American life, especially its subtle conscription of popular imagination and entertainment technology. If Nick Turse is right, the 'Matrix' may be just around the corner." ?Mike Davis, *author of Buda's Wagon: A Brief History of the Car Bomb*

"When President Eisenhower warned of the dangers to democracy posed by the military-industrial complex, he had no idea how far it would penetrate into every aspect of our everyday lives. In impressive detail, Nick Turse shows how the military is now tied to everything from your morning cup of Starbucks to the video games your kids play before turning in for the night. It's not just political anymore--it's personal. Turse sounds the alarm bell about the militarization of everyday life. Now it's up to us to do something about it." ?Bill Hartung, *author of How Much Are You Making on the War Daddy?*

"Nick Turse's searing, investigative journalism reveals just how deeply embedded in our lives the war-making system is and why we should be viscerally alarmed. He exposes how, with a growing contingent of corporate/entertainment/academic/media collaborators, the Pentagon has not only garrisoned the globe, but come home to dominate the United States. For anyone interested in understanding the crisis this country is in, *The Complex* is indispensable reading." ?Dahr Jamail, *author of Beyond the Green Zone*

"Americans who still think they can free themselves from the clutches of the military-industrial complex need to read this book. For example, the gimmicks the Pentagon uses to deceive, entrap, and sign up gullible 18 to 24 year-olds are anything but voluntary. Nick Turse has produced a brilliant exposé of the Pentagon's pervasive influence in our lives." ?Chalmers Johnson, *author of Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic*

### About the Author

**Nick Turse** holds a doctorate in sociomedical sciences from Columbia University. He is the associate editor and research director of Tomdispatch.com, and has written for such publications as the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Nation*, and *The Village Voice*, as well as for a host of online sites. Turse

currently lives near New York City.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Kelly Watson:**

This book untitled *The Complex: How the Military Invades Our Everyday Lives (American Empire Project)* to be one of several books which best seller in this year, that is because when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book retail store or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, because you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to you to past this book from your list.

#### **Nicolas Jones:**

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#### **Latricia Wynkoop:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to your account is *The Complex: How the Military Invades Our Everyday Lives (American Empire Project)* this reserve consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some research when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

#### **David Cormier:**

In this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to possess a look at some books. On the list of books in the top list in your reading list is actually *The Complex: How the Military Invades Our Everyday Lives (American Empire Project)*. This book that is certainly qualified as *The Hungry Inclines* can get you closer in

turning into precious person. By looking way up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

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