**War - Ponderings**

**Why do so many arguments go on after the people originally involved have all disappeared? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**War is like fighting a skunk. If you live through it, it doesn’t make all that much difference whether you win or lose. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**All wars are full of stories that sound like fiction. *(Javier Cercas, novelist)***

**God help the army that must fight for an idea rather than an objective. *(Mark Helprin, author)***

**War: God's way of teaching us geography. *(Paul Rodriguez, comedian)***

**In a war of ideas, it is the people who get killed. *(Anonymous)***

**You may not be interested in war, but war is interested in you. *(Leon Trotsky)***

If we let people see that kind of thing, there would never again be any war. *(Pentagon official on why the military censored footage of the Gulf War)*

**In war, there are no unwounded soldiers. *(Jose Narosky, in Si Todos los Tiempos)***

**Of course people don’t want war but it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along. The people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy! All you have to do is to tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country. *(Herman Goering, Hitler’s designated successor)***

**If so many people get hurt in war, why do they keep playin’ it? *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**The grim fact is that we prepare for war like precocious giants, and for peace like retarded pygmies. *(Lester Bowles Pearson, Canada's prime minister of the 1960s)***

**We’re the middle children of history … no purpose or place. We have no great war, no Great Depression. Our great war is a spiritual war. *(From the film Fight Club, screenplay by Jim Uhls)***

**Wars teach us not to love our enemies but to hate our allies. *(W. L. George, author)***

**In war, whichever side may call itself the victor, there are no winners, but all are losers. *(Neville Chamberlain, British Prime Minister)***

**Those who are at war with others are not at peace with themselves. *(William Hazlitt)***

**It is useless to send armies against ideas. *(George Brandes)***

**There are no warlike peoples – just warlike leaders. *(Ralph J. Bunche, American diplomat)***

**The true warrior is ‘one who conquers oneself’. *(T. Harv Eker)***

**We have wars when at least one of the parties to a conflict wants something more than it wants peace. *(Jeane J. Kirtpatrick)***

**Winning the peace is a far greater challenge than winning the war . . . how we respond to the challenges of peace will determine our survival as a species, the well-being of the planet, and the possibility of true justice around the world. *(Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson)***

**Reader writes: “Veterans of the American Revolutionary War witnessed the War of 1812, and veterans of 1812 witnessed the Civil War. You can similarly cycle the backward linkage from the Spanish-American War and World War I and World War II and the Korean War and the Vietnam War. We are impatient, restless, eager. We do not wait for the passing of the old to start the killing of the young, never have.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Wolves seem to understand combat, but not old age, an expert says. If one dies fighting, they pay little attention. If one just dies, they circle the body, then alternately howl and sit silently. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The word “war” is spoken far more frequently than the word “peace,” according to language experts. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The world will be at war as long as the mind is at war with itself … If we can’t find peace within ourselves, where is the hope for peace in the world? *(Byron Katie, life coach, in Origin)***

**If a thing be disagreeable in contemplation, cease to contemplate it, go out to meet it, serenely nonresistant. In any warfare in which you find yourself engaged you are the one who wars and the one who is warred against. You war against your own thoughts of nature, of people, of life. The universe is at peace. If you think that you hate others you hate merely what your imperfect vision claims to see in others. If you resist anything, you but resist the opinion that you have formed in relation to that thing. If you do not resist, the act is not unjust to you, because you do not receive it. *(Imelda Shanklin, in What Are You?)***

**You can no more win a war than you can win an earthquake. *(Jeannette Rankin)***

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