

Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner - Interview with Whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg

A contribution by acTVism Munich.

In this interview we talk to the former US military analyst of the RAND Corporation and whistleblower of the Pentagon papers, Daniel Ellsberg, about his career and why he decided to go public in 1971. In addition, we talk about his latest book "The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner" and reveal how nuclear war was planned when he was an insider working for RAND and the mistakes made there and the dangers they posed to society. Finally, we talk about whether nuclear weapons are an effective tool for negotiation and diplomacy and what individuals can do to advance global disarmament.

Daniel Ellsberg was an advisor to the US Department of Defense and the White House and was involved in the development of nuclear war plans. In his book "The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner," Ellsberg reveals for the first time the existence of top-secret documents from his planning studies on nuclear warfare, alongside the Pentagon Papers he published in 1971. Ellsberg is also the author of a 2003 memorandum on the Pentagon Papers and the Vietnam War called Secrets. He is the protagonist of the Oscar-nominated documentary The Most Dangerous Man in America. He also plays an important role in the Steven Spielberg film The Publisher about the publication of the Pentagon Papers.

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