

THE COMING WAR ON CHINA

A new film by Emmy and Bafta award winning director John Pilger

In Cinemas 5th December 2016

Satellite Q&A with John Pilger from Picturehouse Central

A nuclear war between the United States and China is not only imaginable but a current 'contingency', says the Pentagon. John Pilger's 60th film and first since 2013's *Utopia* is his most urgent work to date and is both a warning and an inspiring story of resistance.

The Coming War on China, filmed over two years across five potential flashpoints in Asia and the Pacific, reveals the build-up to war on more than 400 US military bases that encircle China in a 'perfect noose'.

Using rare archive and remarkable interviews with witnesses, Pilger's film discloses America's secret history in the region – the destruction wrought by the equivalent of one Hiroshima every day for 12 years, and the top secret 'Project 4.1' that made guinea pigs of the population of the Marshall Islands.

In key interviews from Pentagon war planners to members of China's confident new political class - who rarely feature in Western reports, Pilger's film challenges the notion and propaganda of China as a new 'enemy'.

Pilger says: *"The aim of this film is to break a silence. A new cold war is under way along with the drumbeat to war, this time with the real possibility of nuclear weapons. 'The Coming War' is also a film about the human spirit and the rise of an extraordinary resistance in faraway places.*

"On the island of Okinawa, home to 32 US bases, the population is challenging the greatest military power in the world. On the Korean island of Jeju, villagers block the entrance to a new nuclear naval base, with its missiles aimed at China."

An ode to a people power ignored by the news, *The Coming War on China* is partly funded by one of the most successful crowd funding appeals for a British documentary, as well as support from ITV, the Bertha Foundation, and the Reva and David Logan Foundation.

The Coming War On China will have its preview screening at the British Film Institute, Southbank, London, on **1 December**, introduced by John Pilger. The film is released in cinemas across Britain **on 5 December**, starting with a nationwide post-screening satellite Q&A with John Pilger from Picturehouse Central, London. It will have its television premiere on ITV at 10:40pm **06 December**. A DVD will be available at the same time. The Australian cinema release will be early 2017, followed by a nationwide broadcast on SBS TV. Running Time: 110 minutes, Rated: 12A

Ends

INFORMATION FOR LISTINGS

Written, directed and produced by John Pilger

Edited by Joe Frost

Line Producer Sandra Leeming

Executive Producer Christopher Hird

Assistant Director Bruno Sorrentino

CHIEF Archive Producer Jacqui Edwards

Archive producers, Paul Gardner, Jim Anderson

Camera Rupert Binsley, Owen Scurfield, Bruno Sorrentino, Joseph Zafar

Sound: Zubin Sarosh, Giles Khan, Jouni Elo, Cooper Seng

www.thecomingwarmovie.com

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About John Pilger

John Pilger, war correspondent, film-maker and author, is only one of two to win British journalism's highest award twice. For his documentary films, he has won an Emmy, a BAFTA, a Grierson, a Royal Television Society award and numerous other awards.

His epic 1979 *Cambodia Year Zero* is ranked by the British Film Institute as one of the ten most important documentaries of the 20th century. His *Death of a Nation*, filmed secretly in East Timor, had a similar worldwide impact and is credited with helping to bring freedom to East Timor in 1994. His numerous documentaries on Australia, notably [The Secret Country](#) (1983), the Bicentenary trilogy *The Last Dream* (1988), [Welcome to Australia](#) (1999) and *Utopia* (2013) all celebrated and revealed much of his own country's 'forgotten past', especially its indigenous past and present.

His books include *Heroes*, *Distant Voices*, *Hidden Agendas*, *The New Rulers of the World* and *Freedom Next Time*. He is a recipient of the United Nations Association Media Peace Prize and Australia's international human rights award, the Sydney Peace Prize, "for "enabling the voices of the powerless to be heard" and "for fearless challenges to censorship in any form"

"John Pilger unearths, with steely attention to facts, the filthy truth and tells it as it is" – Harold Pinter

"Pilger's work has truly been a beacon of light in dark times" – Noam Chomsky

About Dartmouth Films

Dartmouth Films are pioneers in Britain of independent documentaries – finding new ways of funding, making and distributing films which have impact. They work with a wide range of directors helping to raise money for their films from foundations, private investors,

philanthropists, film funds, broadcasters, distributors and through crowd funding appeals. They work with cinemas, broadcasters, online providers and civil society and community groups to get their films seen. And they provide editorial and line producing support to make sure the films are made. The Coming War on China is the third John Pilger film which they have produced and the third feature documentary which they have brought to UK cinemas this year, the other two being The Divide and In Pursuit of Silence.

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