

The Crown Family promotes its pro-imperialist agenda not only through direct influence on the political system, but also through academic, cultural and philanthropic institutions, which work together to generate the ruling class consensus.

- Academia & think-tanks: James Crown serves as the chairman of the Aspen Institute, a major mainstream liberal funder and thinktank . The Crown family has established the Crown Center for Middle East Studies at Brandeis University and the Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israeli Studies at Northwestern University.
- Arts: James Crown's sister-in-law Nancy Carrington Crown sits on the board of the Whitney museum, while Paula Crown, herself an artist who has made billboards against gun violence (!), sits on the board of New York's Museum of Modern Art.
- Philanthropy: The flagship Crown family charity Crown Family Philanthropies has an estimated \$10 million dollar annual budget to fulfil its mission of...“repairing the world.” James’ sister Susan Crown operates her own charity, the Susan Crown Exchange. These public-facing arts and philanthropic contributions and organizations might seem innocent but they help normalize the industry of death and destruction that generates all of the extravagant wealth in the first place.

In a world with extreme poverty and hunger, Crown family's opulent wealth is grotesque and immoral. And extreme inequality on a global scale could only be possible because of war and empire maintaining the ruling system. The deep influence exercised by the Crown family and General Dynamics on US society reveals that the US war machine is not a simple policy decision, not in the hands of one political party or the other, and not a simple money making venture.

Through a thousand threads, the US war machine is a tightly woven nexus, involving politicians, corporations, the military, the media, the academy, and arts institutions to promote the common interest of the whole of the US elite: death and destruction 'over there' to maintain their privilege 'over here'.

BEHIND
ENEMY
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#CANCEL CROWN

Since the events of 9/11/2001, the efforts of the US empire to remake the world have meted out death and destruction across countries and continents; they have also abjectly failed in their goals. After waging the longest war in US history, the US government has negotiated a truce with the Taliban in Afghanistan. In 2003, George W Bush declared that the Iraq war was a “Mission Accomplished,” yet the US is still dropping bombs on Iraq, having murdered—directly and indirectly—hundreds of thousands of Iraqis and creating the conditions for the rise of ISIS. Since the US-led NATO destruction of Libya, that country has not had a stable government, but it is home to open-air slave markets.

Despite the humanitarian nightmares and strategic failures, the US is determined to remain the single most powerful empire in an increasingly multipolar world. From airplanes and drones, the US rains down death and destruction, conducting political assassinations without a hint of respect for due process or international law and bombing civilian infrastructure and weddings alike. This includes the heinous practice of double-tap drone strikes that first appeared under Barack Obama. The US supplied much of the weaponry that its close ally, Saudi Arabia, used to bomb school children in Yemen and destroy Yemen's infrastructure, leading to a vast cholera outbreak. The starvation and health crisis that Yemenis now live with is a direct consequence of US foreign policy.

The Crown family's wealth comes from its ties to General Dynamics (GD), the fifth largest weapons contractor in the US and the sixth largest in world. GD supplies weapons to the US, Saudi, and Israeli militaries, which carry out atrocities in Palestine, Yemen, and around the world. The wealth of the Crowns is rooted in the US empire and its regime of death and destruction around the world.

General Dynamics & Yemen

General Dynamics is a major supplier of arms to the US-Saudi-UAE war on Yemen. The genocidal war, which has been waged for the past six years, has caused an unprecedented catastrophe in Yemen, leading to a horrific famine, destruction of basic infrastructure including electricity and clean water supplies, and uprooting of more than 3 million people. The Saudi-led air bombing campaign and naval blockade, enabled by US assistance, has killed several hundred thousand people and more than 80% of the Yemeni population faces the risk of starvation.

MK-84 and GBU-31 bombs made by General Dynamics are used to blow up little children to pieces and raze down markets, medical facilities and residential buildings.

General Dynamics & Palestine

General Dynamics is a long-time supplier of weapons and munitions system to the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and thus directly contributes to Israel's ongoing occupation and dispossession of Palestine. Since its establishment, the State of Israel has served as a key outpost for imperialist interests in the Middle East and thus it receives tremendous military and political aid from imperialist powers. In 2012, \$647-million worth of GD bombs were sold to Israel; and in 2015 the US State Department approved a \$1.8-billion-dollar sale from GD to the IDF.

General Dynamics systems are regularly used by Israel in its military attacks against Palestinians. F-16 fighter jets, Merkava tanks, Namer Armored Personnel Carriers (APCs), which use GD systems, have been used to attack densely populated civilian areas and killing thousands of people in Gaza, the West Bank and Lebanon.

General Dynamics & Border Control

General Dynamics is also a major player in deploying surveillance, detention and military technologies at the US-Mexico border as an integral part of the cruel bipartisan consensus of rounding up migrants at the border, who are often fleeing countries devastated by decades of US imperialist intervention and structural adjustment programs. Young migrants have been separated from their families and kept in inhumane conditions, while increased surveillance has forced many into the hands of human traffickers or risk their lives to cross in lethal conditions.

Since 2013, two General Dynamics subsidiaries have been providing the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) remote video surveillance system (RVSS) on the U.S.-Mexico border to detect and track migrants and refugees. General Dynamics holds several government contracts for information technology, support and "social services" (which includes housing and detaining immigrant children) for many government agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security.

Crown Family's Political Empire

The Crown Family has put its blood-soaked money to good use, donating lavishly to politicians from both the Democratic and Republican parties. According to the publicly available records (not taking into account 'dark money' and other means of support), James Crown contributed \$150 thousand to the "Biden Action Fund", and another \$106 thousand to the Democratic National Committee, while also contributing to the "Republican Senate Problem Solvers Fund", the "Problem Solver Republicans", and Texas Republican Senator John Cornyn.

The Crown Family were early benefactors of Obama, raising millions of dollars for his presidential election and donating tremendous amounts of their own to his campaign. The Obama years were extremely profitable for the Crowns and General Dynamics with lots of contracts with the Department of Defense and CBP and weapons sales to allied regimes around the world. In fact, James Crown sat on President Obama's Intelligence Advisory Board, and in a telling show of bipartisanship, the Retired general James Mattis served on the General Dynamics board immediately preceding and immediately following his tenure as Donald Trump's secretary of defense.

The Crown Family's ties to General Dynamics and its tremendous political influence on US foreign policy regardless of which political party is in power reveals the deep-rooted unity between the political and economic elites, the US military and corporations like GD.