



Brian D. Aitken

living a free life.

- [» home](#)
- [» Bio](#)
- [» speak](#)
- [» media](#)

[Go to menus](#)

» posted on Monday, July 18th, 2011 at 11:58 pm by Brian Aitken

Heritage Foundation: You're Wrong

In a blog post today, titled [American's Don't Fear Defense Cuts? They're Wrong](#), Mike Brownfield of the Heritage Foundation erroneously asserts that:

1
tweet
retweet

Geography matters. If the U.S. did not have global bases, it would need twice as many ships, planes and troops to cover the same missions.

This entire argument, which makes up the basis of Brownfield's position, is patently false. What Heritage, and Mike Brownfield, would like you to believe is that the missions America is engaged in are legitimate... but that's simply not true nor are these missions essential to American safety or National Defense. In fact, there is compelling evidence to show that **our presence overseas actually makes America less safe**.

The only thing Brownfield's argument shows conclusively is that America can't afford to be the world police.

Benjamin H. Friedman, Co-Editor of the book *Terrorizing Ourselves: Why U.S. Counterterrorism Policy Is Failing and How to Fix It*, [wrote that](#):

"To really keep us safe, we should slash defense spending. Americans should prepare for fewer wars, not different ones. Far from providing our defense, our military posture endangers us. It drags us into others' conflicts, provokes animosity, and wastes resources."

In a more recent article titled [U.S. Military Should Cost Less and Do Less](#), published yesterday on CNN.com, the CATO Institute's Christopher Preble wrote:

Indeed, stationing our troops in foreign lands does more to aid terrorist recruitment than to stop it.

...the mere presence of foreign troops can engender resentment, animosity and, in the worst cases, violence. People don't like having foreigners coming into their country and advising them on how to run their schools, farm their fields and administer justice.

Interested in reading more?

Check out the [CATO Institute's Defense Budget/Policy Page](#) and this exceptional article from The Freeman by Sheldon Richman entitled [Can America Afford an Empire?](#) where Sheldon points out that the extra defense expenses hidden in other departments budgets, such as the Department of Energy's nuclear-weapons program and Homeland Security, increase the Pentagon's proclaimed "defense budget" by 61.5%.



filed under [Random](#) Comments Off | tags: [Cato](#), [CATO Institute](#), [Christopher Preble](#), [CNN](#), [Defense Budget](#), [Defense Spending](#), [economics](#), [free-market](#), [Heritage Foundation](#), [Mike Brownfield](#), [Military Spending](#), [National Defense](#), [Pentagon](#), [Sheldon Richman](#), [The Freeman](#)

You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. Both comments and pings are currently closed.

« [Cost of the War on Drugs Video Infographic New Jersey High School Grad Summoned for Ron Paul Lawn Sign](#) »



in the news

twitter



Brian Aitken
briandaitken

@terraM he was taken to the hospital this morning for breathing problems.

12 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

@tomgpalmer and @radleybalko are two of my favorite lecturers... but I also get really angry when I listen to them. #CatoU

14 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite



Join the conversation



Free Brian Aitken on Facebook

Like

Free Brian Aitken
New Jersey High School Grad is under attack by the State of New Jersey for having Ron Paul signs on his front lawn...if he doesn't bend to the will of the State and hand over his first Amendment Rights he'll face hundreds of dollars in fines.

brian d. aitken | New Jersey High School Grad Summioned for Ron Paul Lawn Sign
briandaitken.com
Recent Passaic Valley High School graduate

15,273 people like **Free Brian Aitken**.

Walter	Alex	Ted	Michael	Matthew
Stephen	Sam	Mark	Joshua	Paul

Facebook social plugin

» **Recent Posts**

- [New Jersey High School Grad Summioned for Ron Paul Lawn Sign](#)
- [Heritage Foundation: You're Wrong](#)
- [Cost of the War on Drugs Video Infographic](#)
- [FEE Launches FEE.tv: Freedom in HD](#)
- [The Complete Henry Hazlitt Archive](#)

» **Good People**

- [Cato Institute](#)
- [The Foundation for Economic Education](#)
- [Ludwig von Mises Institute](#)
- [National Rifle Association](#)
- [Students for Liberty](#)
- [Reason Magazine](#)
- [Jeffrey Miron, Harvard Economist](#)

» **archives**

- [July 2011](#) (2)
- [June 2011](#) (2)
- [May 2011](#) (3)

» **meta**

- [Log in](#)
- [WordPress](#)