

PEACE PIECE—6/20/08

WOODEN GUN

Indian wars

Dad with Indians

WWII

Hiroshima

They died for our freedoms

People don't want war, oligarchs games

Better to fight them over there

Geo-political wealth distribution games

Luxury we can't afford

Obligatory mainstream militarist rhetoric

How deep is their commitment to their games?

Primal commitment to violence.

Grown-up little boys playing soldiers.

We are a dastardly lot, we men. No cowardly shrinking from aggression for us. Of course, the women drive us to it. They need us to be either providers or defenders—sometimes both simultaneously. That's our excuse, anyway. So, we human's are a dastardly lot, then? (So, is the mere manifestation of humanity evidence of innate dasterdliness?) Let's give ourselves a break, here. Animal species survival depends on successful fleeing or fighting. Over time, societies tend to pursue their interests by encouraging individuals to adopt flight as a tactic and aggression as a life-style. Is this inevitable?

Every generation of children teaches each other bullying and cowering in the schoolyard with or without adult inspiration or obstruction. My case was no exception, yet I have found no need to resort to this knowledge as an adult. The desire—perhaps—at times. As an adult, ten seconds of reflection reveals, consistently, the futility of assault. The victim goes to the hospital (or the morgue) and the victor goes to jail. Neither wins.

Curiously, all societies treat adults impulsively going ballistic, (though temporarily only in the grip of one aspect of their animal nature—like sex—and therefore a constant potential) as unacceptable miscreants, whereas much greater socially institutionalized (and therefore, premeditated) violent behavior is praised as heroic.