Quotations about War

War therefore is an act of violence intended to compel our opponent to fulfill our will. –Carl von Clausewitz

One is left with the horrible feeling now that war settles nothing; that to win a war is as disastrous as to lose one. –Agatha Christie

There are always people willing to commit unspeakable human atrocity in exchange for a little power and privilege. –Chris Hedges

Man is the only animal that deals in that atrocity of atrocities, War. –Mark Twain

No sane man is unafraid in battle, but discipline produces in him a form of vicarious courage. –General George S. Patton, Jr.

The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him. –G. K. Chesterton

I see how peoples are set against one another, and in silence, unknowingly, foolishly, obediently, innocently slay one another. –Erich Maria Remarque

The art of war is of vital importance to the State. It is a matter of life and death, a road either to safety or to ruin. –Sun Tzu

War is not courtesy but the most horrible thing in life; and we ought to understand that and not play at war. –Leo Tolstoy

War’s very object is victory, not prolonged indecision. In war there is no substitute for victory. –General Douglas MacArthur

War is father of all and king of all: some he shows as gods, others as men; some he makes slaves, others free. –Heraclitus

A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom. –Martin Luther King Jr.

…there can never be peace between nations until there is known that true peace, which, as I have often said, is within the souls of men. –Black Elk

…there was never a good war or a bad peace. –Benjamin Franklin