

JUN 24 1982

# Nuclear War Fear Dominates Reason

**A**N ATOMIC BOMB is a fearsome device. Its destructive power is surpassed only by the terror it brings to those who are afraid they might be in a target area where the next one will be exploded.

Intense fear of a possible nuclear war is causing thousands of people to demand that the United States discontinue nuclear armaments in the vain hope that other countries may do likewise.

Their emotions are running away with their ability to think logically on this subject. By ignoring obvious facts, peace seekers may be hastening the day of the nuclear war they fear.

First, military aggressors, have never in the history of the world sought peace. They always have tried to gain superiority in weapons and manpower over nations they hoped to conquer. Their only deterrent has been a visibly stronger opponent.

The second vital point is that communist leadership is dedicated to world domination, by whatever means available. Whenever negotia-

tion will accomplish objectives, they will negotiate. If they think deception is better, they will lie and cheat. When murder is a way around obstacles, it is done.

Many of today's nuclear protesters either never knew or have forgotten that the campaign to outlaw atomic weapons was launched back in 1955 by then Soviet Premier Bulganin. President Eisenhower told Bulganin that a change of spirit, not a mere stroke of the pen, is needed to promote world peace.

Thirdly, consider that China and other nations have the ability to make nuclear weapons. If we should surrender our military superiority by abolishing "the bomb" we could find ourselves at the mercy of any warmonger, even the head of a smaller nation.

Given the emotional reaction of people to the idea of using nuclear energy for producing electrical power and other peaceable purposes, one may only imagine the panic that might result if a nuclear bomb from any source should strike an American metropolis.

Confusion would reign. Fragment-

tary civil defense plans would be trampled by people trying to flee to nobody knows where. Brave men with cool heads would arise, of course, but they would have a hard time getting frightened people to listen.

In fact, there are brave men with cool heads now who are saying that the safest way to prevent a nuclear attack is to maintain equality in armaments and ability to retaliate quickly.

The "anti-nukes" aren't listening. They are paying attention only to their own apprehension of a possible nuclear war.

Communist leaders would like nothing more than to see the United States stop stockpiling nuclear weapons. If we should do so, who would be able to see that Russia and other nations did so?

Propaganda of the communists in previous conflicts has included a phrase "Better Red than dead." Most Americans wouldn't go for that, but if we go for one-sided disarmament agreement the effect may be similar. Our best defense is our strength.