

Ferdie Deering

SEP 29 1983

# Nuclear Freeze Won't Prevent War

**N**EARLY everybody hopes that someday there will be peace in the world, but prospects for it are dim. Countries that are not at war right now are next door neighbors to one.

For those reasons the United States of America has no safe choice except to maintain strong defenses, continue development of modern instruments of warfare and stay alert. To do otherwise is to invite aggressor nations to invade and take over.

Followers of the anti-nuclear movement have the privilege under American freedom to express fears and their opinions, as they have been doing. It is unfortunate that they do not see banning atomic weapons in this country would increase the threat of nuclear warfare, instead of diminishing it.

When the United States was the only country possessing secrets of the big bomb it was used against the Japanese with devastating results, but it saved millions of lives and the freedom of billions by bringing World War II to an end.

This was accomplished because forces for freedom held superior firepower. The purpose was not to dominate the world but to end destruction and killing already going on.

Now that countries dedicated to world domination possess the bomb, it would be foolish of free nations to give up weapons that deter aggression. "Anti-nukes" in this country are advocating just what communist countries would like to see happen. They are singing the song of nuclear warfare aggression.

If the free world does not maintain an arsenal with capabilities for fighting back and fighting to win, a nuclear showdown might not last as long as the one that occurred in 1946.

Numerous reports show that Russia is building military strength steadily in spite of limitations talks, treaties and promises. It is plain that if the free world is to survive it must be prepared to defend its lands and its freedoms.

We might not be able to come through another "no win" war, as

we did in Korea and Vietnam. We have reason to be concerned about the loyalty and courage of a substantial number of our own citizens in the event of another Pearl Harbor type attack.

While thousands of Americans were giving their lives and their limbs in Vietnam thousands of others were parading in behalf of the enemy back home. Some of these are pushing the anti-nuclear movement, and a number have been identified as outright communists.

One effect of the "don't fight for freedom" campaigns was seen last year when nearly a million young Americans failed to register for a possible military draft. This reflects a lack of patriotism, lack of courage, lack of understanding or something.

Unless we make up our minds to fight for freedom, the panic that could occur after the first bomb is dropped on American territory might be the last because it could be the end of our nation.

The best way to keep peace is to be prepared for war.

*R.M. Atterley*  
*1987 FCK*  
*Albino, OK 75008*

Dear Mr Deering,

29 September 1983

I am writing this after reading your article in today's Daily Oklahoman. I want to tell you I certainly appreciate your articles and wish there were more like you and that more newspapers carried your articles around the nation.

As you pointed out in your article there are many people who lack patriotism, courage, or understanding when they refuse to register for the draft or when they parade for the cause of the very people with whom we are at war as was the case during the Vietnam years, and now in the same newspaper there is an article about Americans working in Nicaragua. I believe they are for the most part misguided and do not understand that the ultimate goal of the communists is world domination and that Nicaragua is just another step in that direction. Do not misunderstand my meaning. I am not condemning the people of Nicaragua just those who govern them.

I wish I knew the answer to the problem of our people not being better informed and more aware of the threat to our country but I do not have it. Newspapers, TV and radio are part of the answer and the family and schools are another part; also, better laws and their enforcement would be helpful but regretfully beyond that I can offer no solution.

I do not believe we have to think there is a communist hiding behind every bush and rock to believe that our country is threatened by communism. There is a threat to our country and I want you to know that I agree with you when as you said in your article that we have to "make up our minds to fight for freedom." Furthermore, I believe we all need to try harder for our situation does not seem to be getting any better.

Sincerely,

*R.M. Atterley*