YOU DO NOT WANT WAR WITH RUSSIA?

You will get it whether you want it or not-for it is in the making-unless you do something about it and do it quick.

You may think there isn't anything you can do about it and perhaps you are right for this war might come now any day and there mightn't be time left even for mature reflection. But if there is left a short period of grace, and if enough of us understand what is to be done, and if we put our foot down maybe the war can yet be averted and real peace be secured.

What can you do? First of all you can't ry to understand what real peace means and how it might be gotten. See if this will make sense to you.

I say to you that there will be peace only if there is an overall settlement of all issues outstanding between America and Russia.

Clearly such a settlement would have to embrace many nations and once reached its observance could be enforcedly collective actions with respect to most mations but thus it could not be/mm enforced with respect to either America or Russia. There are not enough nations of sufficient independence left in the world whose combined forces would be strong enough to coerce either Russia or American. Neither of these two giants can be coerced short of a world war of indefinite duration and uncertain outcome.

What then, you may ask, would be the value of our having an agreement with mussia if the observance of that agreement can not be enforced? This is a good question and if there is an answer to it your life and mine may depend on finding that answer.

An agreement that can not be enforced with respect to Russia and America (even though most other nations could be *bhbaffed* compelled to continue its observance) will remain in force only if it gives both these countries security and permits them to achieve and to maintain economic prosperity. It will remain in force only if it regarded by America and Russia at the time when they put their signatures to it as advantageous, and if they continue to regard it as advantageous so much so that they would wish to maintain it in operation even if they have retained the right legally to abrogate it at any time.

Could such an agreement be devised? This above all is the question to which we must find the answer if we want peace to prevail.

If we think about an agreement with Russia in these terms then we shall see no objection to let Russia and America retain the legal right to abrogate the agreement (even though this right could not be granted to most other nations that may be signaturies to it) and there would be perhaps even some advantage to let them retain the right to abrogate. For disputes arising out of the implementation of the agreement will sooner or later arise between America and Russia, and it is difficult to see how they could interest any international body with their settlement. The right to abrogate would enable them, however, effectively to press for a remedy of their grievances if these are sufficiently serious to warrant the risking of the continued existence of the agreement.

If we think in these terms about a Russian-American agreement, then the argument that we must be fully armed before we can negotiate an advantages

agreement loses its validity. During this past five years, this argument has been advanced again and again; it is time the fallacy of it be recognized for what it is.

Yes, if Russia and America were two private persons about to negotiate an agreement the one in the stronger position would probably get the best of the deal. For if

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You may ask, have we not tried again and again to reach such an agreement with Russia? The answer is that we have not. In the May issue of the bulletin of the Atomic Scientist, Hans Morgenthau, Professor of International Relations, wrote:

only the government can negotiate the agreement that is needed, but/we can not rely on the government to do all the thinking that has to go into it. All of us can take, and must take, a part in ## that.

What should be the substance of such an agreement? Here is one man's concept for what it is worth: You may be able to improve upon it, and if you are will you please let me know:

It seems clear that

1)/ no agreement will remain in force unless it provides for far-reaching

disarmament and means through which Russia and America can make certain that the

provisions relating to disarmament are not secretly evaded

should. How faf \$1/4/1 disarmament go and what/\$1/4/1 be its nature. What type of disarmament would strengthen the defensive against the offensive security to and could give/Western Europe which in case of abrogation of the agreement would be faced with overwhelming Russian land armies arising almost over night?

The kind of disarmament needed would eliminate all heavy mobils arms such as atomic bombs, ordinary bombs, bomber planes, tanks, mobile guns, flame throwers, etc. and individual permit among mobile weapons only rifles and machine guns which may be necessary for internal policing. Permitted, however, would be also the building of fortifications and heavy guns and other fixed weapons which are built into fortifications.

As long as the agreement is not abrogated by either America or Russia,

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countries like France, Belgium, and Holland could/protect//thedset/ves against any

surprise by maintaining a Maginot line. In case of abrogation, presumably there

would start another arms race. But with such an arms race starting from scratch

American and Western Europe would have years in which to prepare for the worst.

As long as the agreement is in force Russia and America must be able to reof the disarmament provisions assure themselves that there is no secret evasion/anywhere/ Within the framework of an overall agreement, with all outstanding political issues settled, and with disarmament an accomplished fact, there would no longer be a legitimate reason left for continued secrecy. There is no reason why we should not permit Russian spies to operate openly or secretly in the United States, why we should not grant immunity to spies of any nation, and revoke the Espionage Act to permit our own would citizens freely to cooperate with spies of any nation. Nor/in there/any rational reason for Russia to grant such facilities to our spies. Russia might resist this thought and so might many people in this country, but there can be no security in this world short of complete abolition of all secrecy, and such Russian reluctance as will become manifest will have to be overcome by emphasizing the great advantages which Russian acceptance of the overall agreement would give Russia. Russia might legitimately wish to safeguard herself against subjection subversion by our agents and we should not hesitate to give her guarantees on that score. That Russian agents might be able to subvert the United States seems hardly likely to me, but many people might think otherwise, and if necessary safeguards would have to be provided against such a contingency.

To negotiate some such agreement we do not have to wait until we are fully armed, but we may have to wait until we have a Secretary of State who has the faith that such an agreement can be regotiated, for to get such an agreement will be a hard job, and it will take faith. It will take the faith of a great man in charge of the negotiations and the faith of many people who will rally to his support. No statesman can do this job unless there is first a popular demand that the job be done.

If we want this job to be done, we have little time to lose.

For immediate action there are to be set up A LOBBY FOR REAL PEACE in Washington.

And for action in 1952, there are to be set up A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE which will cut across the political parties and will make its weight felt in the forthcoming presidential election.

What can you do? Right now very little, for the plan outlined above will mean little unless outstanding Americans who can command respect will take the leadership. But this you can do right now. Think this plan through as fast as you can and make up your mind. Would you support such a plan if men in whom you have confidence were to come forward with it? And if such men did come forward, would you part with one per cent of your income in its support?

Make up your mind and let me know your answer. Don't send me money, checks, or pledges, for I have no use for them. What I shall do is this. If your letters show that there is enough support for the line of action proposed, I will try to see if the men who are to lead this movement will take courage, step forward, and assume the leadership. Whatharakkasacasadkasanak If they do, I shall report back

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