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If I Were The President...

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If I were the President of these United States I would realize that it is indeed time for greatness, and would act accordingly.

I would subject the Kremlin to an acid test, by submitting to the world a bold, a daring plan, a plan that would re-establish America as the shining hope of the suffering world, as she once was.

A plan that would be as great as our United States.

I would call a summit meeting without much delay, and with previous approval of our allies and of Congress I would submit — openly, in plain sight of the whole world — the following plan:

Both sides to put an immediate stop to testing atomic and hydrogen bombs.

The NATO nations to evacuate West Germany, Russia to evacuate East Germany.

The Americans to abandon their overseas air fields, Russia to evacuate the satellites.

Both nations to cut the armed forces and defense budget in half, with the British and French, in fact all other nations to follow suit.

The immediate abandon of NATO and SEATO, also the WARSAW alliance.

Recognition of the Chinese government, and dropping Chiang-Kai-Shek by the U. S. with the Chinese government, recognizing the independence of Formosa.

All of these moves under strict international control, with the right of both parties to inspect each other's military and naval establishments.

With defense budget cut in half, the United States is to contribute twenty billion dollars yearly, during the coming ten years, to an international fund, to be managed by the United Nations, to assist the newly liberated have-not nations.

The USSR to contribute ten billion dollars yearly to the same fund, and a proportional contribution by every other nation profiting from the cut in their own defense budget.

With approximately forty billion dollars each year, the have-not nations would soon reach a tolerable level of prosperity, and the threat of general anarchy would cease everywhere.

And with the new peaceful atmosphere, and new prestige and power of the United Nations, such minor disturbance of Cyprus, Izrael, Jordan, etc. would soon be settled.

If the Kremlin is sincere in seeking a just peace they could hardly turn down the offer.

If they play up the everlasting prattle of peace only for propaganda purpose, let them beat, or even meet this offer.

Utopia?

It may be so.

But it is high time to take the initiative from the Krem-

lin, and to show the world the sincere goodwill of the United States.

Is it too high a price to pay for peace and for the sincere admiration of the peoples of the whole world?

What is the alternative?

Increasing tension between the two camps, increasing burden of armaments, forty billions for next year, more and more in succeeding years; until the burden would crush mankind in both camps; and perhaps an end too horrible to contemplate.

Let us consider our own position soberly.

We could stand forty billion dollars yearly, with twenty of them for home defense, and twenty for assisting our fellow men everywhere.

And every American would be far happier to spend half of our present defense budget for constructive charity, than for sterile and useless war machines.

With twenty billions to be contributed in machinery and goods our economy would not suffer from the sudden drop in defense spending.

With approximately forty billion dollars yearly assistance to the have-not nations, their standard would be raised sufficiently to provide a much larger market for business and commerce for the advanced nations.

Failure of such a plan for a gigantic help will inevitably drive such nations to chaos, and to totalitarian system, either communist or fascist.

Peoples of the world, even the so-called backward peoples are aware now that a better life exists than their own, and feel that they are entitled to a better life.

They know that industrialization is the answer, that capital has to be gotten, or created, and are impatiently searching methods to speed up their advancement.

Where is the tremendous amount to come from?

Private capital is justly unwilling to invade most of those countries, the fate of Dutch investments in Indonesia is a sharp reminder, and there are others in various other countries.

All that remains for them is to lift themselves by their own bootstraps, to take out part of the daily bread from the mouth of their own peoples, even as Russia had to do, and is still forced to do, to carry the armament burden.

Such sacrifice could only be obtained by force, for the daily bread is all too small in those countries.

Do we prefer them to follow this road?

The road that inevitably leads them to the Soviet camp?

Yes, it is time for sober evaluation of the world, and it is time for greatness.