

Nuclear War Erupts!

Millions Dead in Wake of All-Out War

Fifth Estate Collective

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UPI—The dream of “containment” of a limited nuclear exchange to the European theater collapsed utterly today when the Reagan administration’s demonstration air-burst over the Baltic Sea touched off a rapidly-escalating series of events which culminated in all-out nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the West.

In a matter of hours, the most devastating war in human history was over, leaving at least one hundred million dead and effectively rendering the northern hemisphere of the planet a radioactive wasteland.

In the course of the three-hour exchange every population center in the U.S., Europe and the U.S.S.R. with more than 50,000 people was struck by at least one warhead. Most major cities (in particular national capitals), industrial centers and military facilities were struck by several, each raining the explosive force of several million tons of TNT onto its target. At this hour, fire storms rage across the hemisphere and five thousand years of civilization lie in ruins.

The war began as a confrontation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union over the latter’s increasingly belligerent threats to intervene in the bloody border dispute between its satellite East Germany and NATO-aligned West Germany. Refusing to heed U.S. warnings, Soviet troops continued to perform provocative “exercises”, in East Germany, spurring the Reagan administration’s “demonstration” explosion of a one megaton warhead over the waters of the Baltic. Nervous Soviet leaders, aware of the recently developed U.S. counterforce policy which posits the possibility of winning a limited nuclear exchange if Soviet weapons can be destroyed in their silos by an undetected first strike attack, placed the entire Soviet nuclear force on “fire on warning” status. This hair-trigger arrangement turned the decision to launch a possible counterattack over to an elaborate, computer-controlled early warning system which the Soviets had recently installed in response to accelerated U.S. efforts to develop a first strike capability.

Early this morning, responding to a radar warning of missile attack from the West, the Soviet computers, with only 17 minutes before arrival of the enemy missiles, launched essentially the entire ground-based Soviet nuclear force at the West. Stunned decision makers in the U.S., now confronted with only 17 minutes themselves in which to decide the fate of the world, concluded they had no choice but to launch lest their own missiles be destroyed in their silos, robbing the nation of adequate capacity for retaliation.

“The irony of it,” said Secretary of State Alexander Haig later from the safety of the airborne command center “Phoenix,” “is that we didn’t launch that first attack. This is not to say we weren’t going to, but as of that particular moment, no decision to launch had been made. The whole damn thing was set off by a goddamn Soviet computer error!”

Computer error or not, it would seem no exaggeration at this point to say that, as unprecedented as today’s destruction has been, it is really only the beginning. Already, huge clouds of radioactive fallout are carrying the devastation into those areas which somehow avoided direct hits. Soon, uncontaminated food and water will be all but non-existent, despoiled by radiation or the uncontrollable spread of contagious disease fostered by the millions of decaying corpses which escaped vaporization in the attacks. Since most medical facilities, like most doctors,



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NUCLEAR WAR ERUPTS!



MILLIONS DEAD IN WAKE OF ALL-OUT WAR

The nuclear arms race has reached a new stage of escalation. The United States and the Soviet Union are now engaged in a full-scale competition to develop and test more powerful nuclear weapons. This arms race is a direct result of the Cold War and the mutual fear of nuclear annihilation.

The United States has spent billions of dollars on developing new nuclear weapons, including the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program. The Soviet Union has also increased its nuclear arsenal and is now capable of launching a first-strike nuclear attack.

The danger of nuclear war is now a real possibility. A single nuclear warhead has the potential to destroy an entire city. A full-scale nuclear war would result in the deaths of millions of people and the destruction of civilization as we know it.

The only way to prevent nuclear war is to stop the arms race. This requires a complete ban on nuclear weapons and a commitment to non-proliferation. The United States and the Soviet Union must work together to achieve these goals.

The time has come when we must choose between peace and nuclear annihilation. We must stand up to the arms race and demand a world free of nuclear weapons. The future of our planet depends on our actions today.

MILLION KENSA REGISTRATION Draft Law at Standstill

The registration of young men for the draft has been suspended. The government has announced that it will not call up any more young men for military service. This decision is a result of the ongoing negotiations for a nuclear arms treaty.

The suspension of the draft is a significant step towards ending the military-industrial complex. It shows that the government is willing to sacrifice military power for peace. This is a positive development for the anti-war movement.

The anti-war movement has been successful in its efforts to stop the draft. This is a major victory for the peace movement. It shows that the people are willing to stand up to the government and demand an end to the arms race.

The suspension of the draft is a temporary measure. The government may resume the draft at any time. The anti-war movement must continue to work for a permanent ban on nuclear weapons and a commitment to non-proliferation.

The future of our planet is at stake. We must continue to work for peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. The time has come when we must choose between peace and nuclear annihilation. We must stand up to the arms race and demand a world free of nuclear weapons.

NO FUTURE?

1000 PEOPLE DURING YOUR LIFETIME

Anti-Nuke Conference
March 8, 9, 17

The Anti-Nuclear Conference is a three-day event that will bring together thousands of people from all over the world. The conference will focus on the dangers of nuclear weapons and the need for a complete ban on nuclear weapons. The conference will also discuss the role of the anti-war movement in ending the arms race.

The conference will be held at the University of California, San Diego. The dates are March 8, 9, and 17. The cost of the conference is \$10.00. For more information, contact the Anti-Nuclear Conference at 1000 University Avenue, San Diego, CA 92106.

were concentrated in large cities, even the idea of medical help for the injured and dying, who themselves number in the millions, is out of the question (though even if every medical facility had remained intact it would have made little difference, given the awesome numbers of injured).

Beyond even this devastation lies the incalculable damage done to the ozone layers of the planet's atmosphere. The crucial function that these layers perform in filtering out ultra-violet light literally makes life as we know it on this planet possible, and" it is probable that sufficient damage has been done to them to render the planet

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