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ANTI-CARTER DOCTRINE

Today Americans hear a disturbing call for action which is all too remenent of the seemingly endless times young blood was spilled in the war to end all wars. Since the end of World War I the United States has moved continually toward the idea, it must protect the world, or at least what she deems hers. Similarly, the U.S.S.R. has felt a growing need to protect her part of the world. Historically, these policies have divided the world into either allies or enemies. And its precisely this polarization which creates the war they "wish" to prevent. Thus the Carter Doctrine is no more constructive than the Truman Doctrine, containment policy, "revolutionary" communism, Jacobinism, or the Crusades.

I have no doubt that Carter actually believes that preparing for war in democracy's name is just. As I have no doubt Brezhnev believes that he is right in defending Socialism [sic] in Afganistan. Or that Caesar, Mussolini and Hitler all believed in their causes. All have in common a belief in hierarchy and that they know what is best for the people. Yet each upon joining the system has left the people. And it is not the system that will die on the fronts, but the people.

A question must arise as to whether the people in "our" countries wish U.S. military aid? It must be noted that those Carter has pledged to defend (Pakistan, Saudi Arabia) have not asked for our military. There are no countries clamouring for mutal defence treaties with the U.S. government, or the U.S.S.R. for that matter. It would seem that those countries most directly imperiled are realizing that armies will help little. Possibly, the people of these small nations are no longer willing to be anyone's puppet. Not even Afgan rebels wish our troops. These are sure signs that the age of imperialism (in whatever form) is winding to a halt.

The proposed Quick Attack Force will not act as a deterrent to any new war. It will only serve to further tensions between the side pushing the world closer to the brink of disaster. And Carter seems determined to involve the entire earth. Only peace can bring peace, war can only bring more war.

Scott M. Rodell