The

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Statement Of Purpose And Program Drafted

After several weeks of writing and re-writing, the Board of Directors of the American Freedom Association have been able to prepare a Statement of Purpose and Program for the Association. Recently, the entire membership of the Association was sent copies of the proposed Statement and the following is that statement, with some changes made to include corrections and suggestions made by various members. Many fine suggestions were received but all could not be included because of duplication, too detailed explanation, extreme brevity, disagreement over the suggestion, and the desire to keep the Statement as brief as possible without sacrificing clarity. Some minor changes may be made before the Statement is printed if necessary.

The Statement is as follows:

The Purpose and Program of the American Freedom Association, Inc.

WHY WAS THE AMERICAN FREEDOM ASSOCIATION FOUNDED?

Our Nation and all humanity are faced with immediate dangers which can utterly destroy us and everything worthwhile that man has achieved on this Earth.

FIRST: ALL LIFE CAN BE DESTROYED

Secretary of State Dulles said (Sept. 1953): "Physical scientists have now found means which . . . can wipe life off the surface of this planet. These words that I speak are words that can be taken literally. There is no problem which compares with this . . . problem of saving the human race from extinction."

These weapons are now, or soon will be, in the possession of the Kremlin, and can be developed by any other potential aggressor.

There can be no adequate safeguards against such weapons short of preventing war itself.

SECOND: OUR FREEDOMS MAY BE LOST

Russian imperialism, aided and promoted by Communists everywhere is only one danger, even though a serious one. Mobilization for Atomic war and even the costly preparation for modern warfare restricts, and can destroy individual freedoms. A despotic centralized World State could do the same.

THIRD: OUR FREE ECONOMIC SYSTEM CAN BE DESTROYED

Excessive depletion of natural resources, increasing centralization of governmental powers, incentive-killing taxation, and government controls are eating away at the foundations of our free economic system. Increased international pressures, and World War III can mean the complete disintegration of our economy.

FOURTH: MAN'S SPIRITUAL NATURE IS BEING UNDERMINED

The callous "eat, drink and be merry", "let George do it" reactions to these threats to one's fellowmen and loved ones are unworthy of our religious heritage.

The complacency with which men are coming to regard the probable destruction of whole populations—friends and foe, innocent women and children—is immoral and appalling.

CAN THESE DANGERS BE ELIMINATED? IS REAL PEACE POSSIBLE, OR IS WAR INEVITABLE? DO WE ACTUALLY HAVE ANY CHOICE AND CAN WE REALLY DO SOMETHING?

The members of the American Freedom Association believe that war is not inevitable; that we *do* have a choice, and that we *can* do something to preserve our Nation and humanity.

Throughout the history of mankind, the only reliable method of safeguarding individual freedoms and preventing conflicts between people has been through the institution of just and enforceable law.