

(PREDICTIONS, con.)

eventually will occur, no matter how formidable our retaliatory system is. Beyond that, missiles can be launched without "authorization", or "accidentally." Possible causes of accidental launches could be defective launch mechanisms, misinterpreted command signals, and psychologically unstable missile base crews. Since the risk of an unauthorized launch always exists, the formula can show us when a launch will become probable.

In addition, since the formula can predict when the launch of one missile will become probable, it also can predict when the launch of one of many missiles, and even a missile salvo, will become probable. In other words, we can mathematically predict when a nuclear attack will become probable. This means, among other things, that we can mathematically compare peace strategies that are variations of deterrence. The more missiles the strategy involves, the sooner it will precipitate at least an unauthorized nuclear attack. This means that a freeze is a safer strategy than Reagan's, for a freeze would at least hold constant the number of missiles. Reagan's strategy increases U.S. missile arsenals.

It also means that the fewer missiles there are, the lower is the probability of nuclear war, and, ultimately, that to permanently prevent war, we must deactivate all missile systems. This is how the science of prediction shows that even unilateral disarmament is a wiser peace strategy than continuing to seek peace through maintaining and increasing nuclear arsenals. -BL

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(GALBRAITH, con.)

Prof. Galbraith believes nonviolence would have been, or would be, ineffective against - it's reasonable to believe that Gandhi would have advocated nonviolent resistance against all of these tyrannies, and would have believed that nonviolence could prevail.

This isn't to mean that Gandhi would have said that a person practicing nonviolence against severe oppression always could expect to survive personally. Gandhi wrote that a "Satyagrahi", or nonviolent resister, should be prepared to face death at any time during his or her struggle. What Gandhi almost cer-

tainly would have maintained is that the technique of nonviolent resistance, if firmly adhered to, eventually would prevail. Gandhi's position was much like that of military leaders, who say that soldiers must be prepared to die to defend their country, but add that if the soldiers are steadfast, their cause will prevail.

This clarification concerning Gandhi's position can be considered important because of Professor Galbraith's ultimate evaluation of Gandhi's significance. To the millions of people who've shown that they're interested in Gandhi's ideas by attending the film Gandhi, the most important question is, Can nonviolence resistance be considered a practical alternative to military force? These people have a profound sense of unease concerning the direction in which the search for security through military violence has taken us. Despite the constant reassurances of their political "leaders", and political analysts like Prof. Galbraith, they doubt that enormous, antagonistic nuclear arsenals will preserve peace forever. They doubt that deterrence can really be made "stable." They wonder if freedom and peace might better be maintained and promoted by nonmilitary means, of which Gandhi's strategy of nonviolent resistance seems one of the most promising. Gandhi almost certainly would have recommended that the United States abandon its military defense program in favor of defensive systems based on overcoming the economic and social causes of war, and nonviolent resistance in case of an "enemy" attempt to occupy the U.S.. Prof. Galbraith's article therefore may be considered less a penetrating discussion of Gandhi's ideas, than another effort to "steer" public concern about the arms race and nuclear arms away from skepticism about the workability of military programs, into continued support for "deterrence." -BL

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Articles in this Report signed "-BL" are by Bradford Lyttle, a United States Pacifist Party candidate for President.