

ALL MAY BE LOST IN WAR, DECLARER PONTIFF URGING TOTAL DISARMAMENT TO END ALL WARS

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"Nothing is gained by war, that cannot be achieved by peace.—In war, all may be lost."

—Pope Pius XII

The average man, the typical citizen, is keenly concerned about the Post War Peace. Is it to be a mere prelude to a more ruthless global War III — or is it one that will be more devastating in its effects than any war recorded in history?

The average man realizes that our geographical position can no longer be considered a protection. Tomorrow will bring B-52s and robot bombs more destructive than any weapon of the past, for the potentiality of these new weapons of war is, as yet, an unsolved problem.

Pius XII and Disarmament

Perhaps, the most difficult problem which will face our statesmen who plan the peace will be the elimination of Total War and Post War Disarmament. What does the Holy Father propose in answer to these questions?

In his Christmas message of 1940, he states: "The order, thus established, if it is to continue, undisturbed, and insure true peace, requires that the nations be delivered from the slavery imposed upon them by the race for armaments, and from the danger that material force, instead of serving to protect right, may become an overbearing and tyrannical master. Any peaceful settlement, which fails to give fundamental importance to a mutually agreed, organic and progressive disarmament, spiritual as well as material, of which neglects to insure the effective and loyal implementing of such an agreement, will sooner or later show itself to be lacking in coherence and vitality."

In his Christmas message of 1941, he states: "Within the limits of a new order, founded on moral principles, once the most dangerous principle of armed conflict have been eliminated, there is no place for total war or a mad rush to armaments. The calamity of world war, with the economic and social ruin and the moral dissolution and the breakdown, which follow in its train, cannot be permitted to envelop the human race for a third time. In order that mankind may be preserved from such a misfortune, it is essential to proceed with sincerity and honesty, to a progressive limitation of armaments . . . To procure the re-birth of a moral trust, certain institutions must be established, which will merit the respect of all, and which will dedicate themselves to the most noble office of guaranteeing the sincere observance of treaties and the practice, in accordance with the principles of law and equity, necessary corrections and revisions of armaments."

The Holy Father's "warning" is definite; it is positive. Millions must die in another Total War, before we can have a stable international order in the Post War World.

Total War and Moral Law

What is meant by Total War? Total War may be defined as a war waged without any limitation of means, aims or methods of war. It is an attempt to neutralize all moral grounds because it violates rights bestowed by God on all human beings. Total War is a violation of the law of God.

It is a violation of the law of God, because it violates the commandments of God, which prohibit us from killing our fellow men,掠奪 their property, or destroying their homes and property, to mention the practice of kidnapping, torture, and so forth.

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Total War is also condemned because it violates the Law of Humanity — the recognition of the fact that there is a common bond among men of all nations, since all men have been redeemed by the Blood of Christ. The continuation of the practice of Total War means the end of our civilization. If every ten, fifteen, or twenty years, the principal nations of the world are to be destroyed, what hope remains for civilization? Total War means the return of the dark night of barbarism. Can our Christian heritage survive? It can survive only when men will once more learn to respect God and His Moral Law.

The Holy Father, therefore, with great wisdom places the abandonment of Total War, as the first requisite for a stable International order.

Disarmament Required

The second requirement for such an order in the post war world is a *progressive* program of armament limitation — a universal and progressive disarmament program. It will be necessary for all nations to proceed with sincerity and honesty to a mutually-agreed, organic and progressive limitation of armaments. The Holy Father does not call for total disarmament. He knows that in the chaotic conditions of the transition period, an international police force will be necessary. He realizes further that a military force will be required to give effective sanction to the working of an international peace organization. Through Pope Pius XII has not advocated an International police force so much, he has clarified this whole question in two recent addresses. Speaking to the World on Christmas Day 1940, he said: "A true peace is not the result of the result of a proportion of forces, but in the last and the final analysis, it is a mutual and permanent agreement. We must, in fact, achieve peace and the disappearance of international hostilities through the support of a moral minimum of power."

He returns again to the same subject, in his address on the 20th anniversary of the year. His words are as follows: "We must, in the last analysis, achieve peace and the disappearance of international hostilities through the support of a moral minimum of power."

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The Holy Father makes it clear, that *true* peace is established, it cannot be maintained if nations continue the race for war armament. There must be a mutually agreed limitation of armaments, at least, to the point where it can no longer menace the peace of the world. This is only elementary common sense. The history of Europe during the last hundred years has shown that this mad race for armament has been one of the direct causes of the wars. This has been true especially, in the case of the stronger nations.

The weaker nations, looking upon such a course as a threat to their own safety, immediately sought to protect themselves by counter measures, such as, treaties, pacts, secret alliances, etc. This, in turn, moved other nations to similar programs, until ultimately all national and international security was destroyed.

Conclusion

Closely allied with disarmament is the big question of Centralization. This matter has been discussed at length in the public press. The militaristic zones urge us to have the best equipped army, navy and air force in the world. They assert that, only in this way, can other nations be prevented from attacking us. This force will be met with compulsory conscription. All adult that we do need a well-trained army and navy. We should also have adequate reserves to enable our armed forces to expand in time of need, but not by compulsory conscription. Let us realize that by so doing, we shall be preparing the way for World War III. . . .

We forgetting that this very system has been one of the reasons why Germany and Japan were drawn into a false security? Why they were ready to go to war on the slightest provocation. In short, we will become the type and picture of a world that will despise us, and which will use every subterfuge to divide and economically overthrow us. When compulsory conscription, it will be necessary to convince the world of our sincerity in our desire to live in peace.

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attitude, if the world, peace is to endure. This would mean a radical change in ideologies. All nations must be made conscious of the fact that great national armaments are not the way, nor even the best, spur of national defense. These must be substituted, a peace program for the present state of affairs. All nations must be made to see the folly of war. Here two are the words of the Pope: "Peace must be gained by love, that cannot longer be忍受ed by violence. By love, violence is overcome. True love, however, must be manifested above the heads of every individual and of every government building."

How will this required disarmament be effected? The solution will require the combined efforts of the world's most brilliant statesmen. Perhaps, if no other force can convince the world, prolonged and terrible suffering.

Because of the endless suffering caused by the present war, the common man has gone a long way in liberating the truth. At all events, we must not miss the point that, unless there is a radical disarmament, there will be continued war, and continual peace.

Our God, our country, and only our God, can give us the power.

—At a Service of Prayer
Buy Your Lot, November 15
and the
16th