

... the Ultimate in Anti-Personnel Weapons

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without exception will be the losers.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation, an inter-religious peace organization, in Nyack, called the bomb "obviously immoral," because, if produced and deployed, it will escalate the arms race and "once used in combat, it will make all-out nuclear war almost inevitable."

The Tablet, the London-based international Catholic weekly, has argued that, in addition to serving as a stimulus to the arms race, the bomb "lowers the threshold of nuclear war."

"It is a much greater temptation to use such a weapon in a crisis exactly because of its limited effect and precision," said the journal.

Many of the critics of the neutron bomb denounce it as an expression of a reversal of values: matter over human life.

India's Christian Association for Peace with Justice, scoring the bomb as a doomsday weapon in a statement that "the

'The neutron bomb exposes the lie . . . The purpose of war is to kill people'

specialty of the neutron bomb is that it destroys all life without destroying property."

"This is quite contrary to the criteria followed earlier," the statement said. "The concern was to destroy the material resources of the enemy with the least possible harm to human life. This concern is now reversed. All who consider human life as having a higher value than material (things) have to condemn the American plan to produce this most heinous of war weapons invented by man."

For Sheila Collins, a contributing editor of a publication of the United

Methodist Church, the neutron bomb "is the ultimate capitalist weapon, preserving property for the owners while wiping out all those who threaten to change such ownership."

"Make no mistake!" says Ms. Collins. "It is not simply Russian soldiers who would be 'incapacitated' by such a bomb, but the millions of poor and working Europeans who happen to live in the target areas."

In the opinion of the U.S. Catholic weekly, Our Sunday Visitor, the neutron bomb "unmasks" the truth of war, forcing us to face the fact "that the point of war is to kill people."

"We have shielded ourselves from the glare of that truth," said the paper, "by convincing ourselves that war is against things" and that the deaths of people were "a secondary effect of our primary motive."

"But," it said, "That has always been a lie and the neutron bomb exposes the lie. The purpose of war is to kill people."

The Midwest Chapter of Clergy and Laity Concerned claims that deployment of the neutron bomb would be contrary to international law besides being immoral.

In a letter to President Carter, 20 members of the ecumenical anti-war group said that "all war is hell and all weapons are immoral."

"But," they said, "so long as men have fought they have also sought to establish rules and to set limits beyond which, by common consent, decent men will not go. We believe the neutron bomb crosses that threshold."

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weapons," the group of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergy, nuns, and lay persons cited the Hague Convention on Land Warfare banning "arms, projectiles, or material calculated to cause unnecessary suffering," and

the Geneva Convention outlawing "collective penalties" against civilians.

The group maintained that the neutron bomb fell within the category of proscribed weaponry, and consequently was illegal by international law.

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