

ROYCE BRIER

Western World's Moral Order Shattered in Goa

Politically, the Western world has slowly devised a moral order, and the Eastern world has technically adhered to it. This does not mean the West, let alone the East, always acts morally. It is a goal, an effort to rise above jungle history.

The moral order was for-

malized in the League of Nations. The sign of its decline was the failure to stop Mussolini, a tin-horn contemptuous of the moral order, in his Ethiopian adventure. In the 1930s, moral confusion had gripped League members.

The United Nations is only a renewed effort to uphold

the moral order, which has its roots as far back as the Napoleonic upheaval. But in recent years an ominous moral confusion has tarnished the outlook and acts of United Nations members. To be fair, let us not overlook the Cuban debacle.

An immediate victim of

this moral confusion is Prime Minister Nehru. The Indian aggression against Goa is an exact example. This was an ancient colony administered by a present cynical dictatorship in Lisbon. It was a thorn in the side of self-governing India.

But its seizure was a manifest violation of United Nations Charter. This is not altered by the fact that Portugal is not self-governing. Pandit Nehru professes to uphold nonaggression, and he didn't in this case. He pleads necessity, which is always the plea of the morally confused. He also says in extenuation that he was overcoming colonialism, a dying historical form. He is hurt by world exhortation of his Goan adventure, heartened by support of the Soviet Union, which always pleads necessity, and obstructs, when it can, the moral order goal of the United Nations.

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Pandit Nehru denies his seizure of Goa was a violation of the United Nations Charter, but he cannot say why. Lord Home, the British Foreign Secretary, with Adlai Stevenson, flatly declared the Goa seizure a violation. Lord Home speaks for a self-governing nation which upholds the moral order.

THIS WILD WEST by Lucius Beebe

Princeton Profs Declare There Is No Hope for Us

A group of Princeton University professors has gone on record in one of the paid manifestos in the public prints, through the agency of which everybody and his brother are able to get into the great nuclear hallelujah now, to the effect that "it is doubtful if Russia would stand by while the United

States built enough underground shelters to assure survival after a nuclear war."

Now, of all the numberless statements, pronouncements, forecasts, prognostications and expert thinking generally daily presented to addle what's left of the public wits, this is certainly the one that ought most urgently to

rock the American people on their collective heels if anything at all has the power to do so.

For here, explicitly and without any equivocation of any sort, any hedging, double talk or evasion, is the flat and outright statement that war with Russia is inevitable and that it is momentarily imminent.

The Princeton professors are neither politicians nor militarists, although available to the same general suspicions of amiable incompetence that attach to all academic personnel. They are men of more than common intelligence and a good deal more confidence may be reposed in their finding than in most of the self-appointed experts, and it is their considered opinion that the enemy with whom we are now all but formally at war will not permit the American people to take the steps they think suitable for their own preservation.

"Russia will not stand is the phrase the Princeton men used. "Russia will undertake to destroy the United States before it can assume any reasonable posture of defense" is what they said just as clearly.

For Fallout Shelters, whatever may be anybody's opinion of their effectiveness, are not weapons of aggression. They are no more agencies of military strategy than fire escapes in public places or life preservers on ships. There is a good deal of doubt and controversy over their usefulness and, hilariously, over their moral implications as though, at this stage in the game, there were either room or time for metaphysical considerations. But one thing fallout shelters are not, and that is a menace to the Russian state and yet, in the informed opinions of the Princeton experts, Russia will not "stand by" while Americans take any steps whatever to safeguard their own lives.

By indirection and purely parenthetically, this would seem to be the most explicit imaginable endorsement of fallout shelters and their mandatory construction on a universal scale. It may well convince a good many of us who have had our doubts about the whole obscene business. If the Russians do not want us to have fallout shelters, Americans would be well advised to provide them for every one of the 180 million of the present population. That, however, is not the point in argument at the moment.

The intelligence that Russia isn't going to permit the people of the United States of Aemica to take all and any precautions for their own safety and possible preservation, whatever may be the factual merits of shortcomings of the measures themselves, is going to come as something in the nature of news to those who still harbored the idea that Americans didn't have to apply to the Kremlin for permission to do anything at all in the field of purely domestic policy and internal determination. A number of people who voted for him will be distressed if Mr. Kennedy formally applies for the gracious permission of Mr. Khrushchev for individual Americans to stock canned goods in the cellar or project dug-outs in the back yard.

If the Russians don't like it, it is the incontestable duty of the Federal Government to see to it that every man-jack under its jurisdiction does precisely what Russia may not want us to do, regardless of its possibly preposterous or improbable nature.

And still another consideration implicit in the Princeton manifesto would seem to be the fact that the professors think that universal protection from nuclear fallout is possible of achievement. They say outright that the Russians believe this, else why the agitation in the Kremlin? Professional thinking being what it is, they urge the President to pay this aspect of the matter no mind and abandon all thought of a Government program of shelters. This may give you some insight into the thought processes of our academic betters which at times seem not to rise above the level of consistency of a Berkeley clown.

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