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THE U.S. ARMY -- POWER FOR PEACE

by

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The United States Army first came under Communist gun fire 38 years ago in the snows of Siberia and in the swamps near Archangel when it helped a Czech legion to freedom. As those shots echoed, Communism was mounting the seats of power in the Kremlin. Since this era of the Red Revolution, our Army has faced and fought Communists in the cold war of Berlin, in the guerrilla war of Greece, and in the hot war of Korea. Today, because Communist military power still threatens peace, the U.S. Army is deployed before Red military forces. By being ready to repel aggression the Army deters war. It is on guard for peace, and on guard against Communism.

The Army defends this nation against Communism in many ways not directly related to the weapons and fighting men which form its military deterrent power. The Army's efforts to combat Communism fall into four categories.

First, it trains our soldiers to recognize and to resist Communism.

Second, it conducts extensive security and intelligence programs to prevent Communist infiltration.

NOTE: Article forwarded to Congressman Walter on 5 July 56

Third, it reinforces the will and skill of free nations to resist Communism.

Fourth, it deters Communist aggression by the presence and posture of its armed strength.

Under the first of these categories, the Army carefully trains each soldier to strengthen him as an individual American. When a young man puts on a uniform, the Army continues his education in American citizenship and the American heritage. We teach the soldier to take an interest in his government and to use his vote. We keep him abreast of current affairs so as to make him a better informed citizen and soldier. We teach him how to recognize Red propaganda, and how to use the weapons of democracy, information, and alertness to nullify it. He is trained to resist Communism wherever he meets it.

The Army's intelligence and security activities protect our national and military interests against Communism at home and abroad. The Army conducts counterintelligence activities to neutralize hostile agents trying to penetrate it for purposes of espionage, sabotage, or subversion. Army intelligence knows Communism very well. This knowledge and awareness of Communist aims and techniques contribute materially to the Army's ability to combat the Communist conspiracy. Army intelligence is well aware of attempts by Soviet Bloc agents to penetrate the Army, and it is active in preventing such infiltration.

We combat Communism through our personnel security program. By screening and investigation we insure that the retention of personnel in the Army is consistent with national security. Persons who must have access to the nation's top military secrets are carefully cleared. We guard against Red subversion and espionage in industry by controlling military secrets in the hands of private manufacturers who supply the Army. Defense industries are inspected by the Army to insure that proper security measures are taken. These measures are especially necessary since the Communist Party, USA, is known to have a "colonizing" program for infiltrating members into defense industries.

The Army's third major effort is to reinforce the will and skill of other nations to resist Communism. Our military missions and aid groups are to be found in 44 countries, ~~ringing the Communist Bloc~~ from Korea to northern Europe. We are teaching the indigenous forces of free countries how to use and maintain American equipment. In this effort some 200 foreign divisions are being strengthened. The Army of the Republic of Korea was completely rebuilt after 1950 by such an effort. By the Army's assistance, many countries which would otherwise incline to neutralism or Communism are developing confidence in their ability to defend themselves. This effort is creating strength in many areas where a power vacuum would otherwise exist, but it is a time-consuming process requiring years for completion. However, our military men are at the potential trouble spots of the world, sharing the risks

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with other free peoples who live under the guns of Communism. Their presence is a reassurance to other nationalities that we accept our share of responsibility in the struggle against Communism.

The major effort of the Army is to help deter war in any form -- from a guerrilla campaign to a nuclear conflict. This responsibility generates many problems. For example, the Army must be prepared to fight any type of war in any climate or terrain. Furthermore, it must so organize, dispose, and deploy its forces as to create in the mind of a potential aggressor a clear conviction: one, that any aggression will be contested; two, that any aggression will fail in the end. The Army directs all of its efforts to contribute to the establishment of this deterrent conviction.

It has combat-ready forces deployed in Europe and the Far East. Both of these forces constitute military obstacles to aggression. The U.S. Seventh Army of five divisions and supporting troops is deployed up against the Iron Curtain. It forms a significant part of the NATO shield. A corps of two divisions stands alert on the Armistice Line to help insure peace in Korea. In all, some 40 percent of the Army is overseas where its forces are deterring war by their presence.

At home the Army's antiaircraft defenses -- guns and guided missiles -- are on 24-hour duty to protect major cities against sudden air attack. Our antiaircraft weapons for the defense of the continental United States are a reminder to an enemy air force that their bombers will suffer heavy casualties

if they undertake to attack us. Also here in the United States is the Army Strategic Reserve -- several divisions reserved for emergency use. These troop units in readiness for prompt overseas movement represent to the Communists the immediate reinforcements that they would encounter if they started war. Behind these active Army forces stand the divisions and other units of the National Guard and the Army Reserve which would be called into active service in an emergency. They, too, represent power for peace.

While our ground forces are outnumbered by the Red armies, we seek to create in our military organization a strength derived more from quality than from quantity. For this reason the Army has modernized its firepower and structure in the last ten years. We have developed new weapons, such as the HONEST JOHN rocket, the 280mm atomic cannon, and the NIKE, CORPORAL, and REDSTONE missiles. We have tested new tactical organizations and tailored units toward the requirements of atomic war. The Army has the capability of applying military power with weapons of great flexibility ranging from the pistol of the Military Policeman to the atomic warhead of the guided missile.

The Army stands ready to meet Communist aggression. In their aggregate, Army operations abroad and at home are varied and complex. They have, however, a single purpose: to deter conflict by being ready for war.

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