

United States until a considerable time later. A good many people at that time believed or thought it likely that, given the hostilities in the post war period, that we would be unable to avoid a major confrontation or war with the Soviet Union, and that particular event right after Stalin's death in August 1953 stimulated that fear and yet here we are thirty years later well into the nuclear age and really running against the probabilities historically as regards of the likelihood of conflict among great powers.

It is a rare time in history that we've had four decades without a major conflict. There are many arguments about why that may have been the case. Of course, there have been many other conflicts, many hundreds of thousands of people have been killed and maimed during this period, but the big frightening catastrophic conflict has not occurred. And yet, as Mr. Steel has said, there is and has been in recent years a mounting sense of insecurity in the western public especially. I am not sure that the same is true in the eastern communist world or in the Third World, but in parts of the western world this has been true. I don't want to engage now in a sociological and psychological analysis of why this may have been happening over the last several years, but I would only make the sad comment that a great many of the propositions that are put forward, out of this fear and in this mood of anxiety that are supposedly designed to make the world safer and more stable, would almost certainly make it less so if they were implemented, and sometimes even the mere making of them and the political theatre associated with the making of them is likely to make the world less stable than it is. We cannot disinvent nuclear weapons. We have inherited them and we are therefore required to live with the problem of