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OFF THE DEEP END

Senator G.G.McGeer has been down at Seattle giving an interview and a speech. There was nothing wrong with that, if Senator Gerry had only been passably discreet. There are a thousand subjects on which he could have spoken and on a great many of them he could, no doubt, have spoken quite well, But he had to go playing with dynamite.

"Let us hope," said Senator McGeer, "that we never have to defend ourselves against Russia, but certainly we don't want to be in the position of defending ourselves against Russia without making adequate preparations for it."

Now there is nothing essentially wrong with either statement the senator made. But everything was wrong with the time and the place and the manner of his making them.

There is not the slightest reason for war between this continent and Russia and every reason why the peoples of the Americas and the peoples of the Soviet Union should live in peace and harmony and even in friendship. But sad experience has shown that if nations think war and talk war, war they will get. It is the part of wisdom, then, to think and talk peace.

There was not the slightest need for Senator McGeer to make the statements he made at Seattle. Even as a private citizen he should not have made them. For a senator to make them was inexcusable. For a senator to make them in the United States was even more reprehensible, and for him to make them in the United States at this time, when U.N.O. is walking a knife-edge on the brink of an abyss, is

incredible.

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