

RRR000127

1 [ Big war with all the fixings, heavy armaments, uniformed soldiers and especially nuclear weapons are exorbitantly expensive and ineffective in today's wars against terrorists. Since atomic weapons have been in the hands of more than one country, they have never been employed. The doomsday scenario precludes its use by the sane. Over half a century of this ugly and wasteful posturing is far too long. There hasn't been a cold war in nearly a generation. At long last, it's time to end World War II and proceed with global nuclear disarmament. At minimum the world would be far more prosperous.

The oil price run up of the last six years has cost everyone on earth dearly, especially those living in the USA. Even if prices should become more affordable, petroleum use is toxic and a major contributor to global warming. Its ever-dwindling supply only serves to make reliance on its use more senseless. Until developmental breakthroughs make fuel cells economically viable, atomic energy must be considered among the feasible alternatives.

This could join two problems and make one solution for both. If nuclear disarmament becomes a reality, it will create a worldwide supply of prepaid fuel from the plutonium in the atomic warheads. And this too points to the inadequacy of Yucca Mountain for spent but still radioactive fuel. Will each of the nuclear-outfitted nations have to build their own Yucca Mountain atrocities, multiplying the myriad dangers of such storage? There must be a better way.

Nuclear waste is an international dilemma. Why not tackle it on a worldwide basis? I favor storing the whole world's waste in a storage area far from humanity, a polar region perhaps. All involved would share the costs, and the risk of calamity significantly reduced. Everyone on the planet would benefit. ]

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