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Our Letter

Our Letter No. 8
October 28, 1984

"REPRESENTATION" IN THE SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT of California

On October 26, 1984 the League of Women Voters of Marin County held a Candidate's night at the San Rafael High School Auditorium. One of the questions asked of the candidates was to comment on the relative affordability of the "High Frontiers" Antibalistic Missile system (ABM system) as compared to the popularized "Star Wars" ABM system.

Neither of the major party candidates had anything favorable to say about improving the ability of the people of this country to survive, in particular this Congressional District. And neither had much to say about defending the people against a nuclear missile attack. Boxer denied there was any defense possible against incoming missiles. "Any defense against a missile attack would 'be destabilizing' to international relations." Besides any antimissile defense would at best "only get half of the missiles." "Such a missile system as Star Wars would cost \$500 billion over the next ten years and besides the High Frontier defense system would cost just as much." The Republican Candidate, Doug Binderup, was not in favor of improving our defense against a missile attack either. Only the Libertarian Candidate, **Howard Creighton, spoke in favor of improving our defense against nuclear missiles,** saying "I always believed that the first one to capture the high ground had the best chance."

High Frontier anti-ballistic missile defense is a different, far less expensive, and a much more realistic system than the "Star Wars" Systems. It is a three step system of defense against incoming missiles: (a) get some as they are achieving early trajectory, (b) some more during mid trajectory and, (c) as many more as possible as end phase of flight is in process. All of these missile shoot-downs would be with "conventional" armaments.

National Strategy Information Center reports in 1983 and Heritage Foundation articles in August 1984 estimate that there would be a 90% takeout of incoming missiles by this program. Heritage Foundation Bulletin on Defense earlier this year described a cost of something under 1/4 billion dollars a year for three years to equip our F-15 jet fighter planes. Existing, "off the shelf" hardware would be used to make the High Frontier defense system a reality. HIGH FRONTIER as a technology involves sending up missiles that will make a direct hit on an incoming missile, thus ruining its targeting ability, rendering its nuclear

warhead inoperative, and therefore non-explosive. As we understand, the Armed Forces have already started testing these trajectory interrupters and have proven that they work.

Friday night Barbara Boxer stated **"only 50% of incoming missiles would be taken out by this system and therefore for that reason"** she said she is **"against any antiballistic missile system of this nature."** Apparently she feels and believes that we should suffer the full aggregate of nuclear blasts and fallout onto the population of this country; no half-way measures for her. The Republican candidate didn't have much different to offer to the country as he discussed the same question.

It appears none of the three candidates understood that there is now, currently, "conventional" hardware in the United States Department of Defense that once deployed and made operational would provide "we" the citizens of the country safety from 90% (or 50%) of the threat of missiles that could well be released on this country any time the Bolsheviks decide it is to their personal advantage.

It could be that neither of the two major party candidates in the 6th Congressional District feel that the citizens of this district have any **"entitlement"** to the expectation that they deserve being defended at least 50%, let alone the 90% . Existing technology and weapons appear to be available NOW except Congress sees fit to subjecting us to having **NO way for defending our FREEDOM.** Perhaps there are more reasons than are evident for keeping our country undefended.

The incumbent objects to the defense of the country ostensibly because of budget balancing needs and the other "entitlements" she considers so essential.

Opponents of any and all antiballistic missile systems do characteristically confuse the **High Frontier** defense system with the **Star Wars** technology.

High Frontier: is presently available technology, a weapon system costing less than 1/4 billion dollars a year for three years, is fully deployable within 2 years and involve NO nuclear detonations. The new David Grant Hospital at Travis Air Force Base will cost \$250,000,000. No new beds are being added over the current number of beds.

The "Star Wars" technology is variously estimated to cost 1000 to 2000 times as much as High Frontier. It involves a new undeveloped, unproven technology, but is predicted to have improved protective potential approaching 100%. This system would not be available for at least 10 to 25 years. This of course depends on how long a period our Congressional Representatives bleed it out over.

It is our impression that there has been an almost **systematic effort to blur over, cover-up and obscure the differences between "High Frontier" and "Star Wars"** methods of defending, differences in cost and CURRENT AVAILABILITY of HIGH FRONTIERS. Our representatives have done this, the media hierarchy has done this,

the candidates have contributed to it, and the list goes on.

There are organizations that are proposing and advocating PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH. A well prepared person is much less likely to be muscled up on, robbed, strong-armed. Psychiatrists tell us that the violent person is much less likely to be violent when confronted by a show of no-nonsense force. What would you prefer:

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH or WAR THROUGH WEAKNESS ?

It is obvious to Channel 4 KRON T.V. viewers on 10/28/84 Sunday that the Candidates of the 6th Congressional District do not understand the real threat of Soviet missiles to us in this district, particularly those of us living in Vallejo with our next door nuclear submarine base. Even though the two major party candidates act like we are not here, we feel that we are entitled to some real defense protection against the missiles surely zeroed in on us by the Bolshevik Warlords.

Some of us, perhaps mistakenly, still have the idea that one of the functions of our government, big or not, is the defense of the country and an entitlement to this by ALL of us who live in this country, even Vallejoans. No one denies that there is a massive buildup of Soviet nuclear weapons aimed at us here in this country, probably at us right here in the Congressional Districts that ring the San Francisco Bay.

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"This article is taken from OUR LETTER No. 8, titled "Representation" in the Sixth Congressional District of California, October 28, 1984. Published by Addresso'Set Publications, P.O. Box 3009, Vallejo, California 94590."