

However, since we failed in the past to remedy the basic causes of world conflict, we find ourselves today confronted with the immediate and pressing need for providing more adequate national defense in an effort to forestall the outbreak of another world war. Another global war would mean total war with atomic and all other weapons of destruction, and likely could not be won by anyone; on the contrary, it might well lead to the total destruction of civilization itself. I believe that the people of the world, including the Russian masses, are against war, because modern war places every man, woman, and child in the front line of battle, exposing them to suffering and hardship beyond the limits of human endurance. Warfare today has obliterated the meaning of space and time -- land distances and ocean barriers no longer afford protection; the whole earth has been encompassed into a relatively small neighborhood. We must not, therefore, allow ourselves to think of war as inevitable, for, to quote from a recent editorial, "out of another war would come such an abomination of destruction and annihilation, such a desolate aftermath of woe and upheaval, such sorrow and revulsion everywhere that the only happy people would be the dead people."