

THOMAS, Hon. Norman
Chairman
Post War World Council
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Berlin Blockade

Wrote to the President re the present Soviet peace offensive; thinks Stalin's tactics give the President an opportunity to recover initiative for an honest American drive for peace and its first condition, the end of the disastrously expensive armament races; couldn't the President, as head of our nation, proclaim to Stalin and the world that he and the American people are anxious for conference looking to an end of the armament race and a strengthening of the United Nations in the interest of international security? Decision to end the armament race must be prompt and immediate; cannot rest on any one proposal concerning atomic energy or the size of military forces, but must include (1) universal abolition of peacetime military conscriptions; (2) demilitarization of narrow waterways and island bases; (3) the general abolition of weapons of mass destruction and the reduction of armaments and armed forces to something like a police level for maintaining order; and (4) the international control of atomic energy only for peace; mobile parts of an international police force should be recruited from the smaller nations incapable of imperial ambitions. Stalin's lifting of the Berlin blockade might be made the preliminary to general discussions on the end of the armament race and also to a German settlement.--On 2/2/49, the President replied that he had read Mr. Thomas' letter with a lot of interest and is most happy to have his views on the world situation and Mr. Stalin's fake peace proposal.

SEE 220 Misc.