

Russia calls for ban

Last October, the Soviet Union introduced a resolution in the United Nations asking the Geneva Disarmament Conference to outlaw weather research for military purposes.

Soviet Ambassador Jacob Malik said scientists had concluded that a future weather weapons arsenal might even include the ability to create "acoustic fields on the sea and ocean surface to combat individual ships of whole flotillas."

The Senate's subcommittee on oceans and international environment recently held hearings on the subject of weather modification.

Dr. Gordon MacDonald, of Dartmouth College, an internationally known expert on geophysics and planetary physics, outlined some of the possibilities for the subcommittee.

He said that continued cloud seeding over a long

Dr. MacDonald said there may also be ways to control hurricanes, steering them in predetermined directions to "terrorise substantial parts of the populated world".

The steering might be done by spreading over the ocean chemicals that inhibit evaporation, thus preventing the sea from providing energy to a hurricane.

He said "disastrous effects are predictable if chemical or physical means are developed for attacking one of the natural constituents of the atmosphere—ozone.

"A low concentration of ozone in a layer between 15 and 20 kilometres altitude has the utmost significance for life on earth.

"It is responsible for absorbing the greater part of the ultraviolet from the sun . . . a temporary hole in the ozone layer over a target area might be created by physical or chemical action, perhaps using

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could remove sufficient moisture to prevent rain one thousand miles downwind . . . so that a nation dependent on water vapor crossing a competitor country could be subjected to years of drought."

rockets as a delivery system."

He cited speculative theories that the release of thermal energy in the Arctic or Antarctic, perhaps through nuclear explosions along the base of an ice sheet, could initiate outward sliding of the ice sheet.

"The immediate effect . . . would be to create massive tsunamis (tidal waves) that would completely wreck coastal regions."

Pierre St. Amand, of the earth and planetary sciences division of the Naval Weapons Centre, China Lake, California, says, "There are situations wherein the technology would not be used in actual combat to hurt the enemy but might greatly aid our own troops.

"Excessive fog could prevent resupply as it did in the Battle of the Bulge," he explained.

"Available techniques can now, with a very high reliability, clear super-cooled fog in a matter of 30 or 40 minutes. It would have

shortened World War II by several weeks if this technology had been available. Would it have been wrong to use this technology? I think not."

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• **The Age - Dec '74.** Russia calls for a ban on weather modification but of course the US had no intention of EVER stopping and in fact, blame anything weather modification in Russia, when we know Russia wants out!

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