

during such a process, are immediately rejected and no reasonable method of carrying ^{out} the process of disarmament is proposed. It would be wonderful, from their viewpoint, if the West would agree to immediate and total disarmament. Let us give up our arms, destroy our bombs, do away with our defenses, and make it easy for them to march in and take us.

There is no point in a conference to consider ways and means of advancing an objective unless both parties in the conference favor that objective. If one side has continually announced that its ultimate purpose is the utter destruction of the other, a conference can accomplish little, beyond seeking to lull us to sleep, or to gain a propaganda advantage over us.

The very idea of a summit conference is fundamentally contrary to principles of Western democracy. We believe that government should come from the consent of the governed, not from the fiat of a human leader. The individual citizens have a right to change their government, as and when they choose. Our democratic nations are so organized that the leadership is, as a matter of fact, constantly being changed. Under these circumstances, all that a democratic leader can do at a conference is to promise to make certain suggestions to his own people. He has no right to make binding agreements or promises that must be observed. It is up to his people acting through their elective assemblies to determine what they will do. A summit conference has little meaning in a democratic set-up.

As long as Communists remain communists, real and lasting coexistence is impossible.