

JOINT REPORT NO. 2 OF THE
 WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
 WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW SECTION
 AND STANDING COMMITTEE ON
 WORLD ORDER UNDER LAW
 AND SECTION OF
 INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
 RECOMMENDATION*

Be It Resolved That the American Bar Association calls upon the United States Government to undertake effective measures to promote the full participation of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Cuba in the Treaty of Tlatelolco establishing a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in Latin America.

REPORT

The United States has long recognized the dangers inherent in the proliferation of nuclear weapons. One means by which the spread of weapons can be inhibited is by designating certain areas of the world as nuclear weapons free zones. States within these zones commit themselves not to produce or acquire nuclear weapons, and nuclear weapons states agree not to place nuclear weapons in the zone.

The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco, 534 U.N.T.S. 281) creates a nuclear weapons free zone in Latin America. Parties to the Treaty agree not to acquire nuclear weapons and to accept IAEA safeguards upon their peaceful nuclear activities. In addition, a regional organization was created to police compliance with the Treaty. The Treaty is in force for many Latin American states but will not be fully effective until all states in the region have signed and ratified it. Cuba has refused to sign the Treaty; Argentina has signed but not ratified. Brazil and Chile have ratified the Treaty but have stipulated that it would not come into force for them until all eligible countries have ratified it.

The Treaty has two additional Protocols dealing with matters that concern non-Latin American countries. Protocol I involves commitments by non-Latin American countries that have possessions within the zone

and Protocol II is a commitment by nuclear weapons states to respect the Treaty and not to use nuclear weapons against states within the Zone. The United States has accepted both Protocols.

A fully effective Treaty of Tlatelolco could significantly reduce the dangers of nuclear proliferation and would enhance the security of all states in the region. Furthermore, an effective treaty could act as a model for the establishment of other such zones throughout the world. The first step toward ensuring such success would be to obtain full participation in the Treaty by all Latin American states.

The United States and other major nuclear suppliers could make a significant contribution towards the goal of nuclear non-proliferation by providing incentives to Latin American states to become full parties to the Treaty, and by supporting its full implementation.

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*The recommendation was approved. See page 323.