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 pro-
 mote 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 nu-
clear weapons. One means by which the
spread of weapons can be inhibited is by
designating certain areas of the world as nu-
clear weapons free zones. States within these
zones commit themselves not to produce or
acquire nuclear weapons, and nuclear weap-
ons states agree not to place nuclear weap-
ons 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 nu-
clear weapons free zone in Latin America. Par-
ties 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 re-

dience have signed and ratified it. Cuba has re-

fused 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 coun-
tries 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 nu-
clear proliferation and would enhance the
security of all states in the region. Further-
more, 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 contribu-
tion 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 implementa-
tion.

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*The recommendation was approved. See
page 323.