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Humiliate: “to cause a person a painful loss of pride, self-respect or dignity; mortify; to humble...” (Webster’s College Dictionary)

When I was flying over Germany during World War II dropping bombs on cities and civilians, underneath the intense concentration of formation flying in a group of 12 B-17s, I felt morally degraded as a human being. My profession was acting. On stage, facing an audience, I was joyful, fulfilled and felt worthy of life itself. My relation to my audience was one of mutual respect, appreciation, even love. Each performance was a mystical bonding experience, eternally fresh. To me the theatre was a temple of joy and wonder, justifying my humanity. But as a wartime pilot, ordered to kill, I lost my humanity, my soul, if you will. I had become a mere killer of fellow humans. My rationale, (the “Allies” rationale) “Win the war” was my sole motive in life at that moment. Despite the thrill of flying and the atavistic tribal certainty of “rightness,” against an “evil enemy,” I had become a national citizen, a subject to a modern tribe; no longer only a happy entertainer. I felt debased, unfit, and yes, humiliated.

I had surrendered my true human identity to the false god of war.

Then came Hiroshima, August 6, 1945...and THE BOMB!

Politically, my sovereignty as a human being was at once annulled by THE BOMB’s very existence. My sacred rights —and that of my fellow humans—to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” was vitiated by the

presence of a total weapon in the arsenals of competitive, warring nation-states.

In short, what was my new earthly ID vis-à-vis THE BOMB? What is yours? What is humanity's? Especially following the death of my own brother at the invasion of Salerno I was forced to reevaluate my very human purpose living on planet earth.

Why indeed, did Einstein himself claim that “*a new type of thinking is essential if mankind is to survive and move to higher levels?*” “*Today the atomic bomb,*” he wrote, “*has altered profoundly the nature of the world as we know it, and the human race consequently finds itself in a new habitat to which it must adapt its thinking...In the light of new knowledge, a world authority and an eventual world state are not just desirable in the name of brotherhood, **they are necessary for survival**...This must be the central fact in all our considerations in international affairs: otherwise, we face certain disaster.*”

Along with Einstein's warning, Stafford Beer, former president of the World Association of General Systems and Cybernetics wrote that “*Man is a prisoner of his own thinking and his own stereotype of himself. His machine for thinking, the brain, has been programmed to deal with a vanished past.*”

The “vanished past” is obviously the horse-and-buggy 18<sup>th</sup> century nation-state imposed on the instantaneous, one world 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Here today we are discussing “humiliation” as a precursor to conflict. But does not the nation-state system itself, in dividing humanity artificially into its tribal units with anarchy separating them, generate and perpetuate conflict? Is not humiliation then embedded in our very primary political allegiance to the dysfunctional and warring nation-state system? Moreover, given the nuclear threat to humanity, is not THE BOMB the ULTIMATE HUMILIATION today embedded with this entire dysfunctional system?

The BOMB, absolute in its indiscriminate destructive power, exposes our national citizenry as virtually and literally impotent. In this century, when,

via technology and electronics, time and space have utterly collapsed between us, the nation-state leaders, feeling their power fading, tighten the screws to our fictional state coffins in the false name of “security.”

The dichotomy could prove mortal.

That is our problem. Do you need more evidence? Note the platforms of the US presidential candidates, both Democratic and Republican, now vying for their citizens’ votes. Do any of them claim to have a program to outlaw war once they are in office? They do not because they cannot. They are on the wrong political level. Do they claim to eliminate the nuclear threat if elected? The next US president will swear “to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.” The same oath George Washington took in 1789. But whereas the first president commanded muskets and short-range cannons, the next US president will command an army and navy with an arsenal of upwards of 6,000 nuclear missiles enough to wipe out all living matter on our planet.

He or she will become the “commander-in-chief of national humiliation.”

My views here are dictated by my status as a willfully stateless person. That is, I personally owe no allegiance to any nation-state nor can any sovereign-state claim my allegiance. In short, my perspective since May 25, 1948 when I legally renounced my United States citizenship at the US Embassy in Paris is “outside the box looking in” as it were.

Second, I speak clothed with the sovereignty of one single human being born as you from another human being onto our common planet Earth. The first article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides that *“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”*

Thirdly, as of the date mentioned, in order to meet this ultimate threat to me and my humanity, I have claimed as my primary political identity: “citizen of the world.”

As THE BOMB itself is global so am I....and you, if you but claim it.

This claim is legitimate. Why? Because each one of us has the sovereign right as human beings to identify ourselves politically or otherwise.

Einstein wrote that *“Imagination is more important than intelligence....”* while Emery Reves pointed out in *“The Anatomy of Peace,”* *“There is no ‘first step’ to world government; world government is the ‘first step.’”*

My inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, as first expressed in the Declaration of Independence, required a valid political framework consistent with my identity as a world citizen.

The Founding Fathers of the United States of America **had first to imagine** a new government before filling it in with ideology, strategy and tactics...and fellow citizens.

Therefore, as all governments begin with de facto or self-claimed citizens, so world government begins with self-claimed world citizens.

A mandate came from an unexpected but official source. Following our interruption of a UN General Assembly meeting in Paris on November 22, 1948 demanding *“one government for one world,”* in her column, *“My Day”* of December 15, 1948, Eleanor Roosevelt, the US delegate and chairperson of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Commission, wrote *“How very much better it would be if Mr. Davis would set up his own governmental organization and start then and there a worldwide international government. All who would join him would learn that they have no nationality and, therefore, not being bothered by any special interest in any one country everyone would develop what he believes to be a completely co-operative feeling among all peoples and a willingness to accept any laws passed by this super government.”*

Indeed, the wife of the US president, Franklin Roosevelt, was only confirming article 21(3) of the human rights declaration proclaimed by the General Assembly December 10<sup>th</sup> of that year: *“The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government...”*

After registering over 750,000 world citizens from January 1, 1949, therefore, on September 4, 1953 from the city hall of Ellsworth, Maine, I declared the World Government of World Citizens. Its administrative agency is a Washington, D.C. corporation called the World Service Authority. Its web site is [www.worldservice.org](http://www.worldservice.org).

At Lucknow, India, there is a high school of 30,000 students, CMS, the largest in the world. From day one, upon entering, each and every student is made aware that he or she is a “citizen of the world.” Becoming computer literate almost from their first grades, they are already globally aware of the imminent danger of a nuclear holocaust brought on by national politics which artificially separates them from their fellow students worldwide. They already know that war itself — bred by a condition of anarchy between nations — must be outlawed by world government. To them, that is a given. **Their** brains are NOT “*programmed to a vanished past*” but are operating in the eternal NOW.

And they are demanding of us adults to OUTLAW WAR via the world government.

For, they assert, they and their 2.4 billion fellow students can be served by nothing less.

Our mission then is clear: We must reject our global humiliation *and* THE BOMB by claiming our rightful human heritage as Citizens of the World and its institutional corollary, the World Government NOW!

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