# The Christian
# COURIER

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## WAR AND THE CHRISTIAN

A brother from Washington recently sent to me an article by an Associated Press writer concerning investments by many American Denominations in war industries. Large amounts of money has been invested by many large denominations in industries engaged in producing material directly involved in the war.

I pass this on to you, together with the short article by the brother which I consider good and most timely in view of the present conflict.

J D Logan

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## CHURCHES INVEST HEAVILY IN ARMAMENT CONTRACTS

By George W Cornell, AP Religion Writer.

American churches, among the chief critics of the war in Vietnam, are reaping big profits from it, a study reports.

It said they have not matched their expression of moral concerns with their investment policies, but instead have put themselves "in a position of complicity."

The study found that 10 major protestant denominations, making up about a fourth of U.S. church membership, have investments of$203 million in prime military contractors.

This is only a "small portion" of the total, the report said Tuesday but it illustrates "the direct involvement of the churches in the continuing war" and their financial benefits from it, despite their criticisms of it.

Earnings for the church investments listed totalled $6.2 million in 1970, a relatively bad year for profits, the report said, adding:

"These investments are big business for the churches representing an important if not the most important

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important portions of their holdings."

It found they have investments in 39 of the top 60 military-producing corporations, turning out such items as bombers, missiles, guns, antipersonnel mines, rockets, tanks and guidance instruments.

"Like other investors, the church(es) has placed itself in a position of complicity with the irresponsible, immoral and socially injurious acts of the corporations represented here," the report said.

Frank White, director of the center, said the whole idea of setting social criteria as a factor in investments is SO NEW THAT THE CHURCHES CAN'T BE ACCUSED OF BEING HYPOCRITICAL ABOUT IT UP TO THIS POINT. (Emphasis mine) The study found the biggest of the 10 denominations, the United Methodist Church, has nearly 60 million inbested in 23 of the military contractive firms, 14 per cent of its total investments.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), although ranking fifth in the amount of such investments, has the highest portion of its total portfolio--41 per cent of $8.6 million--invested in military contractors.

Other churches, and their investments in companies producing military hardware, include:

United Presbyterian Church, $57 million; American Baptist Convention,(General Baptists) $30.5 million; Episcopal Church, $29.9 million; Lutheran Church in America, $7.7 million; United Church of Christ, (This is not the Church of Christ, but an amalgamation of several denominations calling themselves by this name), $2.9 million; Presbyterian Church U.S. (southern) $1.4 million; Church of the Brethren (a pacifist church) $801,199.

The national Council itself, a cooperative organization of 33 denominations, but with comparatively small investment holdings, has $332,831, or 11.7 per cent of its total in companies producing military items.

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BY BROTHER H. STOLNAKE,
Yakima, Washington.

The clipping says that the American Churches, (among the chief critics of the war in Vietnam) are reaping big profits from it,(and it mentions several), that their earnings from the war investments totalled over $6 million in 1970. (And that 1970 was a bad year for

profits) So they PROFIT IN WAR, BIG PROFITS, and Jesus said in Mark 8: 36, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul." And again in Matt 6: 24, "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon."

The clipping says, that the study found that 10 major Protestant denominations, (making up about a fourth of U. S. Church membership) have investments of $203 million in prime military contractors. (Churches investing such sums in war for profit).

Is this not abomination to God? James 5: 3 says, "Your gold and silver is cankered, and the rust of them shall be a witness against you." We read in 1 Tim 6: 10, "For the love of money is the root of all evil," and Col 3: 5 says, "Covetousness which is idolatry."

The clipping says that these investments illustrate the direct involvement of the Churches in continuing the war.

We read in James 4: 1, "From whence come wars and fightings among you, come they not hence, even of your lusts, that war in your members?"

In Matt 26: 52, Jesus said to Peter, "Put up thy sword, for all they that take the sword, shall perish by the sword." (The sword of the Spirit, Eph 6: 17), and he said in Matt 5: 44, "But I say unto you, love your enemies."

Now, these churches that are preaching, "Peace on earth" and furnishing war weapons, are they following Christ? Paul says in Gal 2: 17, "Is Christ the minister of sin? for if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make my-self a transgressor."

To preach peace by Jesus Christ, and invest in war, is this not double minded? James speaks of a double-minded man saying, "Let not that man think that he will receive anything from the Lord," Jas 1: 7-8

We read in Rev 3: 1, "--That thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." and then in verse 18, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried with fire, that thou mayest be rich."

We read in Eph 5: 27, that the Church must be a glorious Church, not having a spot or a wrinkle.

(WHAT THE CLIPPING HAS TO SAY DOES NOT SOUND GLORIOUS, DOES IT??)

## WAR---SHOULD A CHRISTIAN PARTICIPATE ??

The subject under consideration is a highly emotional one. One may discuss the merits or demerits of politics, public education, or a host of other subjects without even raising an eyebrow, but somehow when the subject of Christian participation in carnal warfare is raised, tempers flare, anger comes to the fore, and it seems impossible to think with the cool objective thoughts so necessary to christian understanding.

But this is a bible subject and is certainly dealt with by biblical writers. Is it proper to avoid controversial subjects merely because they are controversial?

Many young men have approached the age of what is commonly termed "their military obligations" with confusion and indecision. As Christians, what should their answer be when called to go? And if compelled, how can they be expected to act? Should I go? Should I refuse? What must I do is the question we hear so often today.

Frankly, there has never been a doubt in my mind how a Christian should answer if called to go to participate in warfare. However, for a long time nothing has been said by most preaches on the subject (I say this to their shame--mine also) and I feel that it is high time for the haze of uncertainty to be brushed away from this subject by an application of scripture where it will do the most good.

Christ was called by Isaiah, the Prophet "The Prince of Peace". Isa 9:6 His "government" was said to be "upon his shoulder". Isa 9: 6 Jesus declared himself to be a king, (Jno 18: 47) but that his kingdom was not of this world, (Jno 18: 36) and thus his followers could not fight, even to protect him from his enemies.

What possible reason could we have to participate in carnal (physical) combat; what cause could be so compelling, that we could esteem it more important than protecting the Lord himself from his physical enemies? If Christ did not claim the right to such protection, what right do we have? Are we better, or more important than Christ, our Lord?

Our weapons are not to be carnal (physical). "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flash: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (physical), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. SEE PAGE 5

2 Cor 10: 3-4. How can we take up carnal arms, and participate in a carnal war in view of the foregoing scripture?

I am aware of the many reasons given by the advocates of carnal war for the participation by Christians in this dreadful act. I am also aware of the fact that never has any man given me in the entirity of my life a TRULY LIGITIMATE BIBLE REASON for a Christian to participate in war.

There is a song that is sung by a well known singer (I know not whether he is a Christian) which goes something like the following, and typifies the utter contempt felt by many young people today for the utter hypocrisy of professed Christians:

"Urged on by the captain, blessed by the chaplain, singing, "Onward Christian Soldiers", "Good old time religion."
"God said love your brother, yet wer'e killing one another."

It seems the world senses that something is wrong and doesn't hesitate to point out to Christians their own inconsistencies.

More importantly, do we not see how God, himself must recognise our shortcomings when we openly praise Him, avow our devotion to His Son, and then openly participate in an act so flagrantly opposed to everything His Son stood for? I believe the answer is obvious !

If there is any doubt in the minds of any Christian over the thoughts of God and His opinion of carnal war it remains only to read from Rev 6: 4, "And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

It is significant to note that God groups this dreadful scourge together with Death, Hell, hunger, and "with the beasts of the earth". Rev 6: 8.

This should be sufficient to sway the mind of anyone sincerely searching for truth. But others may say, "are we not to obey the laws of our country?" By all means for many reasons.

"--Fear God. Honor the King." 1 Peter 2: 17

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"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers (governments), to obey magistrates (officers of the laws)," Titus 1: 3.

"Tribute to whom tribute is due;" (taxes) Rom 13: 7. "--Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Mark 12: 17.

Which brings us to a very critical point. What are the "things of Caesar's" and what are the "things of God's" ??

We have enumerated some of the things that are ascribed to "Caesar". (Civil governments) Respect for officers and government officials; taxes; obedience to laws.

What, then, are the things that are "God's"? "--Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matt 22: 37. Our devotion is to be to our duty to God and this is to be from our HEART, SOUL, AND MIND. Apparently, this leaves no room for anyone or anything else in our devotions.

We may (indeed we must) have respect for those governmental powers over us, but our devotion of the heart, mind, and soul must be to God.

What then, if there is a conflict between the two? What if one power demands us to do what our devotions of heart, mind and soul insist we cannot ?? Here we have a conflict and we must resort to the Scriptures of God for an answer.

"--Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4: 19.

The background is significant. Peter and John were doing the work of God among men. They were called in question by the supreme court of the Jews, and commanded to cease their activities. They refused, and their answer is quoted above. Is this not the answer for all Christians ?

Young Christian: If you are called to take part in the military, your answer should be, "My weapons are not those of war" "I am to be gentle with all men", I must love all men, even my enemies. "Therefore, I cannot go and take part in a carnal war."

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It may be necessary to pay the price for your devotion to duty. Criticism, persecution, by the world; even malice and persecution by your own brethren at times. But what of it ? This is a small price to pay for the assurance of a home with the Lord if we are faithful.

Think it over, brothers. Let us stand side by side on this matter and support our young brothers who have the genuine christian virtue (courage) to resist participation in this terrible act which is so alien to Christ and his teachings.

J D Logan,
3708 Mission Rd.,
Stockton, California.

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## WE ASK FOR YOUR SUGGESTIONS

We recently were approached by some brethren on the subject of whether it is proper for women to write articles on scriptural subjects to the paper for publication.

While it was a thought I personally had not had occasion to consider, I could not help but recognise some good points made at the time.

Some brethren disagreed and couldn't see that it made any matter. My point is simply this:

This paper is not the property of any one brother. Any brother has the right to write articles for publication and expect them to receive fair treatment. However, there are conditions to be met. The articles must deal with bible subjects; must be written with the view of dealing honestly with the scriptures; articles submitted must not be written on controversial subjects merely for the purpose of furthering one's own party-ambitions or furthering a division in the Church.

We would appreciate it if all the brethren concerned would write to the paper and express their understanding of the scriptures with respect to whether or not it would be proper for women to have articles published in the paper.

Permit us to pose certain questions for discussion: Is it proper to print articles by sisters for GENERAL edification on the bible ? Is this article-writing on a par with the public teaching referred to by Paul in 1 Cor 14: 34 ? If it is not proper for women to write

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articles for GENERAL EDIFICATION, would it be proper for them to write articles for LIMITED EDIFICATION such as the teaching referred by Paul in Titus 2: 4-5 ?

We are holding some articles which we considered good which were written by sisters. We do not wish to offend either the writers or those who read, so please send your suggestions to us on what the bible teaches on this matter.

While we are on the subject of articles there is something further I wish to state. I find it hard to believe that we are all so busy that we have no time to sit down and write an article of good bible teaching.

You have no doubt noticed there was no July edition of the Courier. This was not occasioned by our negligence. We did not overlook the Month of July this year. THE PROBLEM WAS THERE WAS SIMPLY NOT ENOUGH ARTICLES TO FILL HALF A PAPER.

Brethren, none of us are professionals. If we were, we would have sufficient time to write articles in abundance and never miss a deadline. But we all have our jobs to do and we are all tired when night comes and like to rest. However, for some there is precious little of the latter. Many things are necessary to getting out a small sheet such as the Courier.

Perhaps most important is the articles we receive. Or perhaps I should say the articles we do not receive. It is relatively simple to prepare the stencils if we have well written articles to work with. But when nothing comes in, our work load does not double, it quadruples. If nothing at all comes in, it is impossible to put out an edition.

We have a correspondent from another state who writes an abundance of good intelligent articles and sends them in. We use pieces by him from time to time, but simply can not fill up the entire paper with his writings, good as they may be.

I want every brother who reads this column to ask himself this one question: Do I intend to do nothing to help with the progress of the Courier ? If you answer yes, you are doing the right thing, nothing ! In this case the paper will die because of non-support.

We trust that each and every one of you will give the matter due consideration and help us every way you can in this vital work. JDL

## ON WOMEN TEACHERS
## ..1 Cor 14: 34-37

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the truth. Jno 18: 37. We read in 2 Thess 2: 12 that, "they all might be damned, who believed not the truth."

It is written in the Gospel of Christ, "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak," and in verse 37, "--the things that I write unto you, are the commandments of the Lord."

"It is not permitted"! (So no matter how much we search the New Testament, we will not find that it gives women permission to speak in the Church.)

The Gospel of Jesus Christ does not contradict itself. (If it did, it would not be the "perfect law of liberty; it would not be the truth.)

Paul says in 1 Tim 2: 7, "I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not." In 1 Cor 11: 5 Paul speaks of women prophesying; (but he does not say, "in the church) If it was in the Church, then he would not deny it in 1 Cor 14: 34. Just so, there are brethren who prophesy not in the Church, but at home and on the way.

In Rev 2: 20 Christ rebukes the Church at Thyatira. "Thou sufferest that woman Jezebel to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication." (in departing from sound doctrine)

Paul says in 1 Cor 14: 37, "The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord," and Jesus warns in Jno 12: 48, "He that receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him the last day." (So this commandment of the Lord, "Let your women keep silence in the churches" will judge us the last day if we do not obey it.) Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Mark 13: 31.

We read in Heb 2: 1-4, that "we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things spoken by the Lord;" and that was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; "for if the word spoken by angels was steadfast," and every disobedience was punished, "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" Jesus said, "if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out." (That is how

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much we can neglect from the word spoken by the Lord.)

We read in 1 Tim 2: 14 that Adam "was not deceived". Why then did the Lord God condemn Adam? "Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife," etc. (We must not hearken unto anyother voice, but do as the Lord has commanded.) Jesus said, "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you." Jno 15: 14. This is the condition how we can be a friend of Jesus.

Adam hearkened unto the voice of his wife. Adam did not rule over his house. We read in 1 Tim 3: 5, "--for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God ?

Unto the woman the Lord God said, "He shall rule over thee." (This is an ordinance of God and just as binding today as, "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return.")

"He shall rule over thee," and we read in Eph 5: 22-24, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife; even as Christ is the head of the Church, therefore, as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything." In 1 Pet 3: 1-4 he tells us that this is in the sight of God of a great price.

1 Tim 2: 13-14 explains, "for Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." (We notice from Genesis 3rd Chapter that the woman did the talking when it hapened) So Adam had the preeminence.

Although we are all one in Christ, Gal 3: 28, yet we read in 1 Cor 12: 18, "But now hath God set the members everyone of them in the body as it pleased him." (So: "Let your women keep silence in the Churches" is an ordinance of God.) Romans 13: 2 tells us that those who resist the ordinance of God receive to themselves damnation.

Paul says in 1 Cor 14: 37, "The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord," and we read in Isaiah 45: 9, "Woe unto him that striveth with his maker."

"So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." Jas 2: 12 (So we must not only so do, but also so speak as it is written, so we

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will not be condemned by our words.) Jesus warns in Matt 12: 37, "By thy words thou shall be justified and by thy words thou shall be condemned." So Jesus is listening.

We also read in Numbers 32: 10-13 that only Caleb and Joshua shall see the promised land, for they have WHOLLY followed the Lord.

H. Stolnake,
Yakima, Washington

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NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

(Please note that the following letters are late; one was received about 3 days too late for June, and the other intended for July edition. Neither could be printed before August since there was no July printing,)

Stillwell, Oklahoma

Dear Brethren:

Since Brother Daniels left our congregation, it seems we never get around to writing the church news. He has left a vacancy no one can ever fill.

We've had a lot of sickness. Bro & Sis SS Brown have been sick most of the winter. Sister Cantrell just came home from the hospital and Sister Emma Brown is in the hospital now. She is not feeling well.

Brother Floyd Cantrell, whom many of you knew, passed away April 14. He was always at church and we miss him very much. Please publish as soon as possible. Our meeting at Stilwell starts August 6-16 with Bro Donald Dabbs doing the preaching. We welcome any visitors.

We have bought a place in the country and will be moved to a new address by then. It is ten miles from Fort Smith; Rt 1, Muldrow, Oklahoma. I don't know what our phone number will be, but if you need to get in touch with us, call my place of business in Fort Smith. Boen Truck Service. 783-5276

We still look forward to receiving the Courier. Thanks again to the staff for such a good job when the rest of us do so little.

With Christian love,
Sammy and Barbara Boen.

Write and let us know the outcome of the meeting.
Good Luck !!

VENTURA, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Well, we here in the Ventura congregation are all right as far as our health is concerned with the exception of Sister Dodson; she has had an operation but is now home recovering.

The church here is growing and all the glory to God. Two young people came forth this Lord's day and were baptised. Their names are Rick Lyons and Debbie Love.

We had a good sized crowd this Sunday with a lot of outsiders. So, with the Lord's help, we are going to grow.

Some of the members are visiting with the Lakeside Congregation. Donna and Celesta Dabbs, Charles Johnson and John Lyons. The Dodson Family is visiting the Bellflower Congregation. We hope they will all be back with us next Lord's day.

I will hold a meeting in Stillwell, Oklahoma this August, starting the 6th through the 13th. We would love to see all of you there that can be there.

There is a bus load going back with me and we are looking forward to the trip. Brothers, pray for us.

Yours, in Christ,
Donald Dabbs.

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Modesto, California

Dear Brethren:

We in Modesto are progressing in the work of the Lord. We have had several visitors from other congregations. Brother and Sister Al Way from Bellflower were among us. Also, Brother Dodson, from the same locality was with us, and his family. Both brothers delivered timely lessons.

We are grieved to report the passing of Bro Ben Rollins. Many of you were acquainted with Bro Rollins for many years. He had been ill for several years.

Space is running out, so must stop. Just a reminder: DON'T FORGET TO WRITE YOUR ARTICLES AND NEWS !!