

MACARTHUR

“a perpetual state of fear”



U.S. ARMY GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR,
SUPREME COMMANDER OF ALLIED FORCES
IN THE PACIFIC, WWII

MacArthur, JFK and Vietnam

In April 1961, Gen. MacArthur met with President John Kennedy after the Bay of Pigs fiasco, advising him against escalation in Southeast Asia. According to JFK aide Theodore Sorenson, “MacArthur expressed his old view that anyone wanting to commit American ground forces to the mainland [of Asia] should have his head examined.” MacArthur restated this advice after a trip to the Far East in July 1961.

“ The powers in charge keep us in a perpetual state of fear, keep us in a continuous stampede of patriotic fervor with the cry of grave national emergency. Always there has been some terrible evil to gobble us up if we did not blindly rally behind it by furnishing the exorbitant sums demanded. Yet, in retrospect, these disasters seem never to have happened, seem never to have been quite real.

I am concerned for the security of our great Nation; not so much because of any threat from without, but because of the insidious forces working from within.

It is part of the general pattern of misguided policy that our country is now geared to an arms economy which was bred in an artificially induced psychosis of war hysteria and nurtured upon an incessant propaganda of fear.

The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.

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EAGLE vs. CHICKENHAWK

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