

Voice of the People: 'Merchants of death'

Alfred Baker Lewis

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'Merchants of death'

RIVERSIDE, Conn. — Our manufacturers of warplanes and other munitions are busily engaged in selling, for high profits, war materials of the most deadly sort to many countries with the permission and encouragement of the State Department and even the President himself.

Besides Iran, we are selling arms to Saudi Arabia. About half a dozen Latin American countries are on the list to buy our warplanes, altho they do not need them to prevent attacks from other countries and can only want them to help retain dictatorships or other unpopular governments in power.

This whole business is evil and vicious. If jobs are needed, let us provide them by waging a war on pollution and a war on poverty thru a massive federal program of useful public works, not by providing weapons for wars on other people.

Have we become so used to the subservience of our government to big business and other kinds of rascality in government that we make no protest against our government's encouraging companies to be "merchants of death"?

Alfred Baker Lewis

Writers should be as concise as possible. Give full names and addresses. Manuscripts are not returned. Space is limited; the right to condense letters is reserved. Address letters to Voice of the People, THE TRIBUNE, Chicago, Ill., 60611.

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