



ETHICS

Chaplain, Captain Shin Soh



*WHO ARE YOU WHEN
NO ONE IS LOOKING?*

**Five Ethical Principles
For Service To The Air Force**

Five Ethical Principles



1. "Worlds" Often Collide.



Five Ethical Principles



2. Majority is NOT always right.



Five Ethical Principles



3. You Can't Just Turn it ON When it Matters.

"In a disaster, you don't rise to the level of the situation, you **sink to the level of your training.**"



Five Ethical Principles



4. Win at All Cost Will Cost You.



Five Ethical Principles



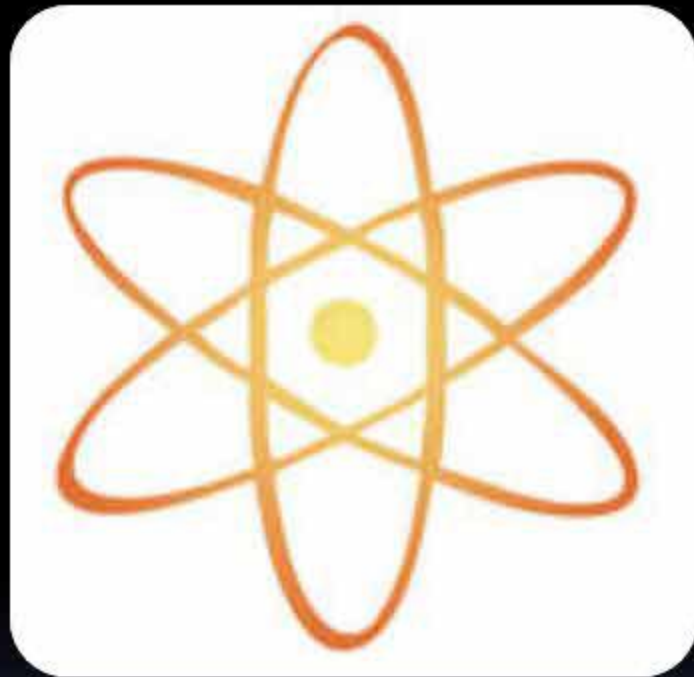
5. You Are Not a Maintainer, You Are a Model.



Integrity First

Service Before Self

Excellence in All We Do



NUCLEAR ETHICS & NUCLEAR WARFARE

Overview



- More than just benefits
- Can a person of faith fight in a war?
- Can War be Just?
- The Unique Position of the Nuclear Missile Officer



The financial and medical benefits of military service are considerable, but the real question is...

***DO YOU BELIEVE
IN THE MISSION?!***





CAN A PERSON OF FAITH FIGHT IN A WAR?



Can a Person of Faith fight in a War?



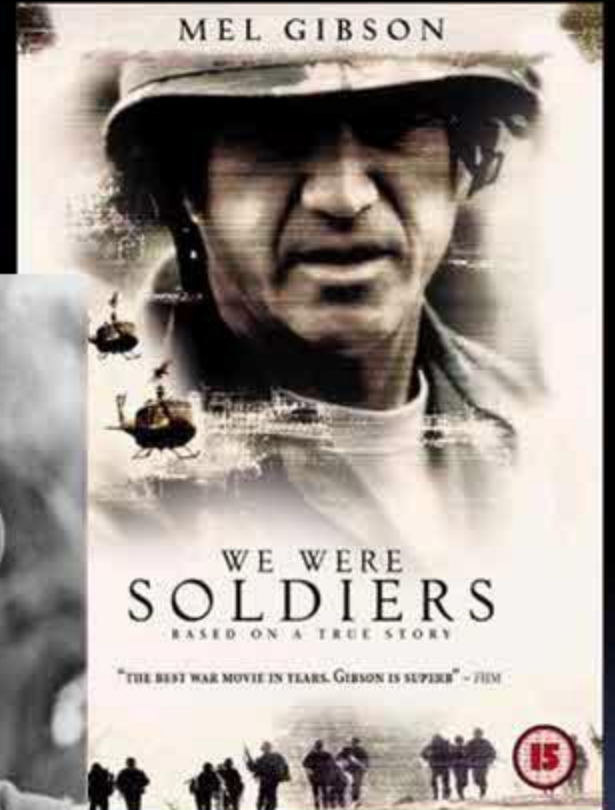
Chamberlain



Washington



Jackson



War & Faith



CAN WAR BE JUST?

JUST WAR THEORY



Augustine 354-430 AD



Visigoths invade Rome, c. 410 AD



Augustine's Qualifications for Just War

JUST CAUSE

(to avenge or to avert evil; to protect the innocent and restore moral social order)

JUST INTENT

(to restore moral order, not expand power; not for pride or revenge)



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Christian Just War Theory



- Many examples of believers engaged in wars in Old Testament
 - **Abraham** organized an army to rescue Lot (Gen 14)
 - **Judges** (Samson, Deborah, Barak) – God is motivating judges to fight and deliver Israel from foreign oppressors

Christian Just War Theory



- *Old Testament examples cont.*
 - **David** is a warrior who is also a “man after God’s own heart”
 - Hebrews 11:32-34 uses as examples of true faith those **OT believers** who engaged in war in a righteous way

Christian Just War Theory



- Inter-testamental Period
 - Maccabees – Jewish revolt against their Syrian oppressors
 - No pacifistic sentiment in mainstream Jewish history



Christian Just War Theory



- New Testament Examples
 - Luke 3:14 - John the Baptist doesn't tell the Roman soldiers to leave the army before being baptized
 - Luke 7:10 - Jesus uses the Roman centurion as a positive illustration of faith
 - Acts 10:2, 22, 35 Paul interacts with Cornelius, a Roman army officer – known as “devout and God fearing”

Christian Just War Theory



- *New Testament examples cont.*
 - Romans 13:4 In spite of personal blemishes, God calls the emperor to be an instrument of justice
 - II Timothy 2:3 Paul chooses three illustrations to show what it means to be a good disciple of Christ
 - Farmer – work hard and be patient
 - Athlete – be self disciplined, train

Christian Just War Theory



- *New Testament examples cont.*
 - **Soldier – be willing to put up with hardship**
 - **Revelation 19:11 Jesus Christ is the mighty warrior**

If war in the natural order is inherently unethical, it cannot be a good illustration in the spiritual order



“WAR IS
AN UGLY
THING . . .”



John Stuart Mill

World War II

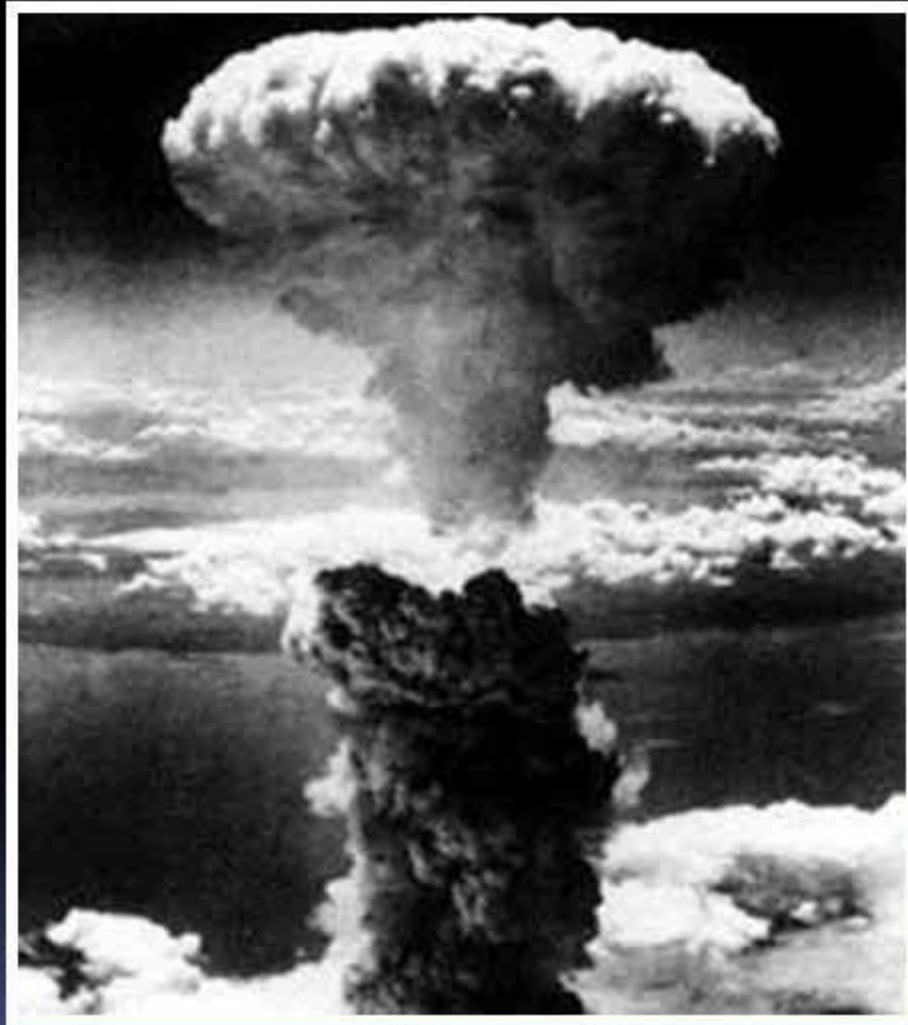


“Fewer than 20% of the soldiers who fought in World War II shot at the enemy.”

The Weighty Position of the Nuclear Officer



The stakes are much higher



Hiroshima — August 6, 1945



- The initial heat blast was 900 times hotter than the sun.
- 48,000 out of 76,000 buildings were destroyed

The Faces of Hiroshima



- 80,000 killed instantly
(by 1950, 200,000 people had died)

However . . .



- March 10, 1945: Tokyo firebombed
 - 80,000 to 100,000 dead in one night!
- When Truman became President in April 1945, US casualties were averaging more than 900 *a day*.
- If the Japanese or Germans had made the atomic bomb first, they have testified that they would have used it.

The Nuclear Ethics Question:



- Can you imagine a set of circumstances that would warrant a nuclear launch from the U.S., knowing that it would kill thousands of non-combatants?
- Consider: WMD, hostile missiles inbound, Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- Historically – always a response, never first strike, remember the cold war
- Chronologically – after air and sub launch

Nuclear Ethics:



- Can we exercise enough faith in our decision makers, political and military, to follow through with the orders that are given to us?
- Can we train physically, emotionally, and spiritually for a job we hope we never have to do?

Nuclear Ethics:



- To accomplish deterrence, we must have the capability and the will to launch nuclear weapons. Do we have the will now? What about fifty years from now?
- Bonus question: Are we morally safer in other career fields, leaving the key turning to someone else?



“Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living. We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount.”

– Gen Omar Bradley



Nuclear Ethics:

Wernher von Braun upon surrendering to the Americans in June of 1945 said “We knew that we had created a new means of warfare, and the question as to what nation, to what victorious nation we were willing to entrust this brainchild of ours was a moral decision more than anything else. We wanted to see the world spared another conflict such as Germany had just been through, and we felt that only by surrendering such a weapon to people who are guided by the Bible could such an assurance to the world be best secured.”



Thoughts from a Nuclear Warfare Officer:



“Each of us in the strategic nuclear deterrent force must establish a moral foundation for our service. Our will to unhesitatingly fulfill our duty will strengthen deterrence, the morally best choice of action to defend peace and freedom.”

Captain Charles H. Nicholls
Electronic Warfare Officer,
328th Bombardment Squadron

Time to Decide



- “Those of us on missile or bomber crews must also make the decision now. Before taking the oath of office or donning the uniform, we must commit ourselves to duty. We must decide now that our mission is compatible with our morality, or else we must resign our commissions.”

- Captain Charles H. Nicholls



The focus is not “making war,”
but “keeping peace.”

Chaplain Shin Soh

381 TRG Chaplain



- Confidentiality
- Spiritual Development and Mentoring
- Counseling & Crisis Intervention
- Work Center Visitation

Office at Bldg 8290, 606-5773 or 606-8963

Base Faith Communities



Vandenberg Jewish Community

The Vandenberg Jewish Community's POC is:

Brady, Teri L MSgt 148 SOPS/CCQ; call: 275-3665

Islamic

Islamic Center of Lompoc

For more information, call the chapel @ 606-5773

Base Chapel Worship Services



Protestant Communities

Contemporary 0830

Gospel 1130

Catholic Community

Sunday Mass 1000

Daily Mass 1130



ANY QUESTIONS?

