

Oct. 9, 2012.

The Editor,

The Chronicle Herald,

Dear Editor,

I agree with Peter Cochrane, [letter Oct. 9 : "Why nukes at all"], in his suggestion that no regime or nation should be permitted to possess nuclear weapons. The possession of these weapons is abhorrent and should be condemned by all peace-loving people.

However his statement that: "At this time, it appears that only peace-loving, democratic nations are allowed to possess weapons of mass destruction without question", contradicts facts on the ground. The US is the only nation that has already used nuclear weapons, and has waged many wars, including its current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. As to Israel, who has an arsenal of hundreds of nuclear weapons, and has waged wars of aggression, against its neighbours, in 1956, 1967, 1978, 1982, 2006 and has used phosphorus bombs in its war waged on Gaza in 2008/2009. As to democracy, where is Israeli democracy, when it practices racism and discrimination against its own Muslim and Christian citizens and conducts an oppressive illegal occupation against the people in the West Bank and Gaza?

Yours sincerely,

Ismail Zayid, MD.