

GUY V. MOLINARI

14TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS  
AND OVERSIGHT

SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 24, 1983

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
412 CANNON BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 226-3371

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
FORT WADSWORTH, BLDG. 203  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10306  
(212) 881-8800

8308 4TH AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11208  
(212) 880-1000

Mr. Angelo D'Angelo  
172 Coventry Road  
Staten Island, New York 10304

Dear Mr. D'Angelo:

Thank you for contacting me urging support of the nuclear weapons freeze. I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your views on this issue.

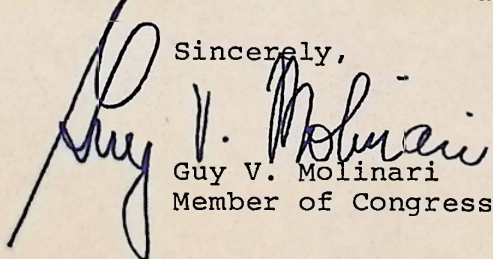
Every reasonable person is interested in reducing the nuclear stockpiles of the United States and the Soviet Union. Without nuclear arms control, the future of our planet could be dim indeed. However, the resolution of arms control issues poses a difficult dilemma. We need to reduce the nuclear arsenals of both superpowers to equal levels in a verifiable manner. The START and INF negotiations represent an important beginning.

The intent of some of the freeze resolutions coming up in the Congress is a mutually verifiable freeze. By freezing first and negotiating later, as the resolutions direct us to do, we would be locking ourselves into a position of strategic inferiority. Any bargaining leverage we would have in convincing the Soviets to reduce would be negated, leaving the Soviets with no incentive to continue talking. Though there are valid arguments being made on both sides of the nuclear debate, the important imperative is that we negotiate with the Soviets from a position of at least strategic parity.

I believe that most of us are working toward the same goals. The important point is that we use the correct means to reach them.

Again, thank you for writing. Please do not hesitate to contact me about this and other matters in the future.

Sincerely,

  
Guy V. Molinari  
Member of Congress

GVM/mb