



Silence is War by Ebert G. "Bill" Beeman

American voters are sleepwalking again. From the beginning of my campaign, I stated clearly in every public appearance that I am the Peace candidate.

I support reductions in military spending and foreign arms sales. Yet, the defense budget just passed is a whopping \$675 billion, 10 times that of Russia. American bombs, purchased by the Saudis, are falling on Yemeni civilians. A few members of Congress have finally woken up to the fact that Americans are partners in the world's worst humanitarian crisis, but most of our elected representatives, and candidates, are still sleepwalking.

I want to limit regime change. We continue to fund Islamic radicals to topple the Assad regime in Syria. Fabricated stories about the potential use of chemical weapons sound even less credible than the myth of Saddam's WMDs.

I support limits on NATO expansion. Yet NATO, a cold war relic, continues to expand, and our taxpayers fund the weapons that we insert near Russia's border in Poland, Romania, and Ukraine.

I support steps to prevent war with Russia. The sanctions started in 2012 were built on a fabrication to demonize Putin and pave the way for regime change. Now, our own interior secretary has floated the idea of naval blockade against Russia. A naval blockade is an act of war. The U.S. ambassador to NATO stated that we will, unprovoked, take out Russian missile positions, also an act of war.

Since we've removed most Russian diplomats from the U.S., choking lines of communications, we are at risk of miscalculation with a nuclear power.

The signals are there for all to see, and the stakes have never been higher. We're also openly pushing for war with Iran. Yet, Iran is not a threat to the U.S. Saudi Arabia, our alleged ally, is Iran's petro-rival in the Middle East, and it openly funds terrorists to topple the Syrian and Iranian governments.

Is it too much to ask that these issues get debated by candidates for Congress?

As a voter, and a taxpayer, do you care where our bombs fall and why they are dropped?

Do you trust President Trump to make good decisions?

Or would you prefer to sleepwalk into more hostilities with Syria, then Iran, and then Russia?

And are you aware that both Democrats and Republicans have fueled these policies every step of the way?

I want to debate these topics in Congress. If I lose the election, I want our Congressman to have the ability to think clearly on these issues.

Why didn't Mike Kelly want to debate these issues? Ron DiNicola said he's willing to debate but he's also was perfectly fine with participating in a "debate" that excludes a third of the candidates. Why were they both willing to violate Federal Campaign Finance Laws rather than have a real and honest debate?