The B-36 and the atomic bomb in the hands of the United States are the best safeguards against another world war that exist in the world today, Gen. Carl Spatz, former commander in chief of the Air Force, told the House armed services committee Monday.

The two weapons, Spatz declared, represent the industrial power of this country which is not only greater than that of Russia, but all of Europe as well.

As did Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, chief of staff of the Air Force, when he testified before the B-36 investigating committee, Spatz frankly named Russia as the only potential enemy of the United States.

"It is evident," he declared, "that Russia, with its mass armies and dominant position on the greatest land area in the world, could, if it desired, subdue by military force practically all of Europe and Asia in a relatively short time if we think in terms of war as it has been fought in the past.

"In such an eventuality, however, we would still be faced by the United States, whose industrial capacity at this time is not remotely comparable to that of Russia, but is greater, than Russia could achieve. Russia has occupied the countries she might overrun.

"Our industrial power should be a potent factor in defeating him if he starts a war but, more important, should be used as a stop sign to prevent him from starting a war."

Spatz, now retired, vigorously defended the B-36, joining previous Air Force officers in telling the committee that it has proved a far better plane than had originally been anticipated.

Nevertheless, he explained that it was strictly a gamble when it was first planned in 1940 and 1941.

Spatz said that he was chief of the plans division of the Air Force when the original contract for the bomber was signed with Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Company, and as commanding general of the Air Force when it was first proposed that the contract be canceled, he decided to go ahead with it.

Opposes Cut in Force:

"I believed that the results to be obtained from possession of an intercontinental bomber were so enormous as to justify going ahead and taking the chance of failure, just as was done in developing the atomic bomb, this plane is designed to deliver," he told the committee.

Spatz bitterly criticized President Truman's decision to reduce the size of the Air Force at this time, describing it as a "threat to the security of the nation."

Unlike active Air Force officers who have preceded him before the committee, Spatz spoke freely on the controversial issue. Active officers are under orders not to advocate a larger Air Force than the 48 groups approved by the budget bureau.

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Continued from Page 1, he feels that the originally planned 75-group Air Force is not adequate for the defense of the United States. "This year's" he said, "it will be necessary to evaluate the air group Air Force to one of only 30 groups." Rep. Melvin Price of Illinois then declared: "I have been listening to this debate with great interest and I believe it has been a valuable one." Rep. James E. Van Zandt of Pennsylvania declared that the floor of the House was "closed forever to me and my constituents." It was not present during Monday's debate. Craig made a final appeal for votes. "Before the hearings closed, another week's recess, during which the decision was made, and Gen. Curtis Lemay's recommendation to the Secretary of Defense, was flatly denied there that there could have been any favoritism shown. The decision was made at that time, and has given no indication of any political influence on the congressional immunity and prestige of the Air Force." 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