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3rd October, 1969

Dear Lord Russell,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 16th September which I read with much interest. I, too, agree that there is a need for Pugwash to reaffirm its original goals and I have put this on the agenda for the next meeting of the Continuing Committee which is to be held in Sochi later this month just prior to the Pugwash Conference. I do hope that it will receive sympathetic consideration by the Committee.

You will remember that a few months ago you asked me about the claims made by Professor Sternglass about the effects of strontium-90. I told you then that the matter needs further investigation. Dr. Lindop and I spent some time on this and we have come to the conclusion that there is no basis at all for Sternglass' claim. We have written up our conclusion in the form of a paper to the Pugwash Conference, and I enclose a copy of it.

It was most pleasant for us to see you and Lady Russell, and I hope we may have the pleasure of paying you another visit next summer.

With best regards, *and please remember me to Lady Russell,*

Yours sincerely,



The Earl Russell,
Plas Penrhyn,
Penrhyndeudraeth,
Merioneth,
N. Wales.

copy

16 September, 1969. Plas Penrhyn

Dear Rotblat,

Cyrus Eaton has sent me a copy of Galbraith's little book How to Control the Military with a letter suggesting that it is time for "the entire Pugwash group to reaffirm the original goals of the founders." He thinks that the coming conference in Moscow would be the ideal time for such a declaration. He says that he has also written - and I suppose sent the book - to you and Born, Yukawa and Pauling and various other Pugwash scientists.

The book, I think, is excellent. I take issue with it only on two major points: I do not think that Galbraith gives due weight to the ~~pressing~~ pressing need that there was for demonstrations and sit-ins and teach-ins, etc., in arousing and informing public opinion in the U.S. and in forcing the public to face the necessity of taking action even at personal risk; and I think that he accepts too readily the power that organizations will wield. Both demonstrations and organizations are necessary to my mind, though both have pitfalls: possible hysteria and undirected excess in the former; and, in the latter, the comfortable and respectable impotence of caution and repudience which risks nothing, but hides beneath brave banners of liberal, even radical, protestations and ~~legal~~ unobjectionable action.

Mr. Eaton's suggestion seems to me to be equally excellent and I much hope that you may be able to act upon it. Since the Pugwash scientists, in the words of the Press, "repudiated" me, I do not feel that I can take any initiative in the matter, but, if you and the other Pugwash scientists wished it, I should be glad to support such a declaration as he suggests. I should be ^{glad} glad if you would let me know your thoughts on the matter.

Both my wife and I much enjoyed the visit that you and Dr. Lindop and her two children paid us here.

Yours sincerely,
(signed) Russell