Remark Note:

On the afternoon of December 2, 1942, the first Atomic chain reaction was set going in the presence of a handful of people on the campus of the University of Chicago. It was duly celebrated on the spot by opening a bottle of Chianti thoughtfully provided by E. P. Wigner. When everybody departed from the control platform to go home, Fermi and I remained alone. All that was left for us to do was to shake hands and go home also. As we shook hands, I said to Fermi, "I am afraid this day will do down as a black day in the history of mankind."

It was quite clear as early as that, that Atomic Bombs will be available within a couple of years and that they will pose a problem of the world which could not at the besolved on the level which each political thinking has been moving both here and abroad before the war.

It took imagination, resourcefulness, devotion and faith of a handful of men to accomplish the liberation of Atomic energy. It would take imagination, of rusing resourcefulness, devotion and faith to solve the political problem what which Wantel His the existence of bombs confronts the world. Was this likely to be forthcoming after the war - it didn't seem very likely, and to contemplate the consequences of failure was akin to having a nightmare. The the path following the line of least resistence will lead us straight to ruin was clear enough and yet this was the path most likely to be followed by the Governments. Not so clear was to us what ought to be done even though we had a vague notion that the problem a wayne with maken in which proceeding ris notingolable is only we can think it through but we didn't get around to giving it any serious thought for another 2 years. For the time being, and even later ph, up until the time of the collapse of Germany, we were haunted by the thought that Germany -- in possession of Atomic Bombs -- might force us to surrender before we were able to bring the war to an end. Only when Germany collapsed did we feel free -- at least those of us who were not directly concerned with the Bomb itself -- to shift our attention to the political problem created by the Bomb.

liven then of was quite merce Insert I much up of the d sun At the time these words were spoken we thought the Germans were ahead of us and even later on, up until the time of the collapse of Germany, we were haunted by the thought that Germany - in possession of atomic bombs might force us to surrender before we were able to bring the war to an end. Only when the Germans collapsed was this danger over and then those of us who were not directly concerned with the production of the bomb itself shifted our attention to the problem that the existence of the atomic bomb was able to pose to the world. The first immediately consequence of the bomb was obviously to bring Russia and the United States within striking range of each other. It was clear with the rising military power of the United States we threaten Russia and the rising military power of Russia is threatening the United States. It was difficult to escape. Situations of this sort have arisen before in history and they are rarely dissolved without war. The closest in eleogy perhaps in such was the situation in Greece, before the war that destroyed Greece. Insett 2. The Vicious Circle. Insert 3. Foreign Policy not Enough. Insert 4. After a policy of expediency

If a policy of expediency can not solve the problem of war, it can at least defer war provided it is a wise policy. At times when two great military powers face each other and the rapid increase in the power of the weaker can threaten to over take the stronger, the temptation to prevent war is ever present. In an attempt to maintain its policy of power, the stronger one will be inclined to take one calculative risk after another and if this situation is allowed to persist, war is not only probable but certain. Our post war policy was in fact a policy of expediency and more over it was a policy of expediency which was based on false premises. Because we were able to convince the Government that Russia - will have atomic bombs at her disposal in eloguent numbers within five years after the war. The Government made no serious effort to reach an agreement that would limit atomic bombs from national armaments, but preferred to make the atomic bomb the corner stone of its defense policy. To them and to some of the governments in Western Europe believed that America's possession of the atomic bomb will guarantee the security of Western Europe until such time as Western Europe could be made militarilly strong enough to defend itself even without relying on the atomic bomb. As policies of expediency go, this would have been a possible policy if only the premises had been correct. If it is true that Russia has an adequate number of atomic bombs and means for their delivery, Western Europe will be in no position to fight on our side if war should come. As far as Western Europe is concerned, our foreign policy las pursued for the seven years that followed the war an unattainable objective, that this objective was unattainable, although clear to many. But, in America the foreign policy that is adopted by the President and in speeches which Mr. Truman made after he had left office, the program is clear that even though the Government of the United States announced that Russia had exploded atomic bombs, the President himself did not believe that this was effectual. Only if we keep this in mind is it possible to understand the foreign policy which the United States pursured under Truman. It seems rather tragic that not only did the United States disbelieve those of us who in 1945, predicted that Russia will have atomic bombs within five years, but even this became an accomplished fact which was still unable to accept this fact and the policies to it.

The policy of expediency which we pursued since the end of the war starting in Germany with non-fraternization and the dismantleing of German industry and ending with an attempt to re-arm Western Germany as a bulwark of Western Europe starting with forcing Japan to unconditionally surrender and ending up with trying to make an ally of Japan, does not contain even the germs of a wise policy upon which a safe system of peace could be based.

We ruled Japan for a number of years with not as much as touching Japan's main problems, her increasing population pressure which is due to excessive birth rate.

We were pursuing unattainable goals in our foreign policy but what is worse - had these goals been attained we would have ended up with a military strong Japan and the military strong Germany leading the war and Japan would have acquired domination of China, and Germany, the domination of Western Europe, and quite probably not only all Easterb Europe, which is precisely why we came in when we enterred the second world war.

It is difficult to write about these things and at the same time to conceal one's conscience for the architects of this policy.

The public discussion is accompanied

On the afternoon of December 2nd., 1942, the first atomic chain re-action was set going in the presence of a handful of people on the campus of the University of Chicago. It was duly celebrated on the spot by opening a bottle of Chianti thoughtfully provided by E. P. Wegner. When everybody departed from the control platform to go home, Fermi and I remained alone. All that was left for us to do was to shake hands and go home also. As we shook hands I said to Fermi: "I am afraid this day will go down as a black day in the history of mankind."

There are those who will say that these words are unduly pessimistic but might today one wind even ask whether they are not rather on the optimistic side; and after all they assumed that there will be history and today the continued existence of man is by no means a foregone conclusion.

In the face of the situation that faces us the public discussion of the issue is pitifully inadequate and the remedies advocated by our statemen are insult to our intelligence.

Politics has been defined as the art of the possible where science in the last decades has manifestly achieved the impossible. Clearly there is no solution to our problem unless politics does not become the art of the impossible.

Sometimes people ask why the human mind, that is responsible for the spectacular progress of science should not be capable of solving the problems of science which this rapid progress creates. There is no reason why it should not except perhaps that the minds responsible for the progress of science are not the same minds that grapple with the issues created by this progress of science.

To solve the problem posed by the existence of the stomic bomb today is no more difficult than it was to create the atmoic bomb starting with the discovery of the existence of notrons. Without The solution of these problems requires thought and beyond that it requires discussion among those who do the thinking. Statesmen, of course, are capable of thought and frequently they appear to be engaged in discussion but there is one important difference between the discussion among statesmen and discussion among scientists.

In view of the threat that faces mankind, the remedies publicly advoated by our statesmen are pitifully inadequate. The problem which faces us is difficult but it is no more difficult than it was to create the atomic bomb after the existence of the newton was discovered. In order to create the atomic bomb scientists had to over-come their reluctance to think - a reluctance which they share with statesmen and other mortals, and because no single individual seems to be able to carry the ball at one stretch for very long it took frequent and open discussion among the scientists concerned before they would arrive at the solution.

at that

In December 1942, our attention was focused on the job at hand. We thought that the Germans were ahead of us. And up until the time of the collapse of Germany we were haunted by the possibility that the Germans were in possession of atomic bombs and might force us to surrender. But, inthe in the spring of which the fame of the spring of the bomb shifted our attention to the political problem with the production of the bomb shifted our attention to the political problem possed by the existence of the atomic bomb. With time on our hands and our responsibilities fulfilled, we discussed the problem with a limited group of scientists, who were "in the know." It is deeply disconcerting to see that the proper discussion of this issue, which has been in progress now for over eight

Our discussions were of necessity limited to those who were in the know r and came to an end with the dopping of the bomb on Hiroshimo. But even so, what this limited group of scientists achieved in the limited time of their disposal seems to have gone further than the public discussion of the issue which has we been in progress now for oever eight year.

years, has even to date not reached the point which this limited group of

scientists achieved in the limited time of their disposal.

In view of the threat that faces mankind the remedies publicly advoated by our statesmen are pitifully inadequate at best and frequently they are an insult to our intelligence. Science today has become the art of the impossible while politics has remained what it was, the art of the possible. Clearly politics too, will have to become the art of the impossible.

In order to cope with the problem which now faces

But to solve this problem is no more difficult than it was to create the atomic bomb after the existence of the newtonrs was discovered.

In order to greate the atomic bomb scientists had to overcome their reluctance to think -- a refluctance which they share with statesmen and other mortals. But the willingness to throw over the shackles of precedent and to think thru the problem afresh is not enough. For some reason or another no single individual seems to be able to carry the ball of thought for very long, and it takes discussion among men to arrive at the solution of a difficult problem. Science is able to achieve the impossible because xxixxxx scientists have mastered the art of discussion. Statesmen do not lack the ability to think and occasionally they are able to shake off the shackels of precedent. Frequently they have time to solve the problems with which we are faced by negotiating with each other.

malean alumic On the afternoon of December 2, 1942, the first self-sustaining chain reaction was demonstrated in the presence of a handful of people on the campus of the University of Chicago. It was duly celebrated on the spot by the opening of

a bottle of Chianti generously provided by E. P. Wigner. After everybody left, men

the control platform to go home, Fermi and I memained as the lastlenes to leave. alane All that was left for us to do was to shake hands and go home also. As we shook hands I said to Fermi, "I am afraid this day will go down as a black day in the

history of mankind." It has been often argued ever since whether these words knue spoken were unduly pessimistic.

ash wholes and trackering as a Hydrogen playou Kil ann.C bomb, you might even argue that these words were optimistic rather than pessimistic

for after all they were bases on the premise that there will be history which is becomber by no means foregone conclusion. /In 1942 when these words were spoken, the pessimism such as Y expressed was based on the following:

It was a foregone conclusion that Atom Bombs will be available within a couple of years. The AAAA

It was evident that these Bombs will bring the United States and Russia within striking range of each other.

That these Bombs will bring the United States and Russia within striking range of and of appea each other was practically certain. In 1942 it seemed likely that as soon as the common enemy is defeated Russia and the United States will regard each other as potential enemies who will be on the opposite side in the next World War if War comes.

December 2012 to those of us who attempted to look ahead into the future, it seemed quite probable that it will take less than 10 years before we shall face an International crisis as a direct result of what has been accomplished on that day. It seemed very unlikely that the problem posed by the existence of Atom Bombs can be resolved on the level at which political thinking -- even the very best political thinking -- has moved before the war. It is difficult for you to describe the burden carried by those who were in the know. the burden which cannot be lightened by discussing the issue with others except the handful of people who were in on the secret. In 1942, '43 and most of '44 these handful of people were too busy doing a job to be able to pay much attention to the consequences of their doing until Germany was clearly defeated.

Meeting of December 9, 1953

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On the afternoon of December 2, 1942, the first Atomic chain reaction was set going in the presence of a handful of people on the campus of the University of Chicago. It was duly celebrated on the spot by opening a bottle of Chianti thoughtfully provided by E. P. Wigner. When everybody departed from the control platform to go home, Fermi and I remained alone. All that was left for us to do was to shake hands and go home also. As we shook hands, I said to Fermi, "I am afraid this day will go down as a black day in the history of mankind."

north were unduly penshwotorx: It is the that ween

It has been argued again and again ever since that time whether the words spoken on that occasion were unduly pessimistic. But now that we have the "Hydrogen Bomb", one might even ask whether these words aren't rather on the optimistic side; for after all these words assume that there will be history and the curricular excellence of Missing today is be no means a foregone conclusion.

(appeared In December, 1942, when these words were spoken it was alear that Atomic Bombs will be available within a couple of years. That these Bombs will bring the United States and Russia within each other's striking range was practically certain and there was little doubt that as soon as the common enemy is defeated, Russia and the United States will regard each other as potential enemies, expected to be on the opposite sides in the next World War if war comes. / Situations of this sort had occurred repeatedly in the course of history and they were resolved without war, for whenever two great military powers within striking range of each other regard each other as potential enemies, there is set into motion a vicious circle. More and more the governments of these powers will be concerned to make sure to win the war if war comes but every step which either of them takes to improve her strategic and military position and every step the other takes in the response, lessens the chance to avoid the war. Clearly on the issue of who shall win the war, there is no possibility of compromise and the more logical their policies are, the more they will regard all other issues to be of minor importance. Therefore, the more logical they are the more single-minded and consistent their policies, the more inescapeable war will be. Their actions will then follow the pattern followed by Sparta and Athens which lead to the Peloponnesian War which destroyed Greece. If such a vicious circle is ever broken it is broken either through vice or through virtue. It may be broken through vice for if the policies followed are ineffective, fallacious, confused or inconsistent, are dictated by the interest of certain pressure groups by the interest of the nation, the vicious circles may fall apart. The opposite case, that is the case

of virtue unlikely though it is, can also break the vicious circle, that is the vicious circle can be broken if the policies are dictated by wisdom.

In December, 1942, it was clear to those who tried to look into the future that the existence of the Atomic Bomb will post a problem which cannot be solved unless we are willing to use everything that history has taught us and then make one further step for which us in guidance. It seemed quite clear at the time that the problem posed by the Atomic Bomb cannot be resolved on the level at which political thinging -- even the very best political thinking -- has moved before the war. Before the war it was actually possible to resolve t an international crisis without war by following what may be termed enlightened foreign policy. But even the best of foreign policies had never achieved more than to postpone the war that is to lengthen the interval between two subsequent wars. Even before the first Atomic Bomb was tested on July 16, 1945 in New Mexico, those in the know had a pretty clear idea of the general direction which the development of Atomic Bombs will take and the rapid rate at which that part of destruction may increase withing the 10 years that will follow the war. No one who was in the position to see this development could get as enthusiastic about the foreign policy that could do more than postpone the war which will be all the more terrible the later it comes.

On the afternoon of December 2nd, 1942, the first atomic chain reaction was set going in the presence of a handful of people on the campus of the University of Chicago. It was duly celebrated on the spot by opening a bottle of Chianti thoughtfully provided by E. P. Wigner. When everybody departed from the control platform to go home, Fermi and I remained alone. All that was left for us to do was to shake hands and go home also. As I shook hands, I said to Fermi, "I am afraid this day will go down as a black day in the history of mankind." There are those who will say that the words spoken on that occasion were unduly pessimistic. But now that we have the hydrogen bomb, one might even ask whether these words weren't rather on the optimistic side; for, after all, they assume that there will be history and today the continued existence of man is by no means a foregone condusion.

In December 1942, when we had our little celebration, it appeared likely that atomic bombs would be available within a couple of years. That these bombs would bring United States and Russia within each other's striking range was practically certain, and there was little doubt that as soon as the common enemy was defeated, Russia and United States were going to regard each other as potential enemies who are likely to be on opposite sides in the next world war if war comes.

Whenever two great military powers who are within striking range of each other regard each other as likely enemies, there is set into motion a viscious circle. There may be a number of issues between the two governments on which a compromise might be possible, and such a compromise would lessen the chance of war. Most of the issues involved might be viewed from one single point of view by the two governments. Thus, the settlement of the issues one way or another, increases the chances of winning the war ordoes the opposite. It is natural that, when war appears likely, a government should want to make sure to win the war if it comes. They should regard this one issue as all-important and all the other issues as secondary. Being clear on the issue of who should win the war, the two governments have no possibility of reaching a compromise. Since every single issue has some bearing on this one major issue, no issue can be settled, at least not if the attempt to negotiate about it as if it were an isolated issue. Both governments might sincerely want peace, but #1 single steps they might consider to take in order to lessen the chances of war will lessen the chance of winning the war for one orthe other of the two governments. In such a situation, the only steps that are actually taken are uni-lateral actions taken by one or the other of the two governments for the purpose of improving the strategic positions

Hans.

and making more sure that they are going to win the war if war comes. And every such step that is taken and the counter-measure that it evokes increases the chances of war. The more single minded they are, the more logical their reasoning, and the more consistent their policies, the more inescapable will be the war.

Such situations have repeatedly arisen in the course of history, and they are rarely resolved without war. The actions of the two nations caught in such a vicious circle follows the pattern that was followed by Sparta and Athens, which led to the Peloponnesian war that destroyed Greece. Perhaps Russia and the United States could have avoided this situation if Wilkie's advice had been followed, who urged them to try to reach a settlement while the second world war was still on. But even if that had been done, it is unlikely that the statesmen would have found a solution to the problem which now faces the world. For the existence of the atomic bomb and the rapid increase in the destructive power of these bombs confronts the world with a problem which cannot be resolved on the level at which political thinking, even the very best political thinking, has moved before the war. There have been in the past long periods of peace, and by following an enlightened foreign policy, it was seen possible to avoid a war, but even the best of foreign policies have never achieved more than to postpone a war, i.e. to lengthen the interval of peace between two subsequent wars.

Among those of us who #fe/involved in the war of atomic energy before
Hiroshima and who concerned themselves with this problem, found it difficult to
get enthusiastic about foreign policy that could do no more than postpone the
war which we knew would be the more terrible the later it came. For the purpose
of this discussion, we might use as a starting point the lines written by H. G.

"I do not know whether a negotiated settlement with the Soviet Union is possible. I do know, however, that no such attempt at a negotiated settlement has been made; instead we have wasted our time with polemics over isolated secondary issues which must remain insoluble as long as the basic issues remain unsettled. I also know that, in view of the present and foreseeable distribution of power bytween the United States and the Soviet Union, the choice before the world is between negotiated settlement and war, i.e. universal destruction. I finally know that no nation can survive the ordeal of a third world war, If it can survive it at all without being convinced in its collective conscience that it has done everything humanly possible to preserve peace. It is for these reasons that I deem it bikknywikk worthwhile

and even imperative to consider seriously the possibility of a negotiated settlement with the Soviet Union."

No such negotiations have taken place in the $3\frac{1}{2}$ years that have passed since these lines were written, and, in view of the confused state of our politic all thinking, one should perhaps add "Trank God". The time has come for us to ask if the problem which faces the world is to be solved, what is the nature of the settlement that might solve it, and just what kind of negotiations could lead to such a settlement. Are negotiations on the government level at this time likely to produce an answer to these questions? Or isn't rather what we need now most urgently between us and the Russians a meeting of the minds that could be followed by the kind of negotiations which will give us the type of settlement that will satisfy their needs and our needs? My job here would be easier if I could start from the scratch without first having to remove the rubble of the misconceptions that have been accumulated in the years that followed the war.

Musting of the would A Hold When me ropified the aroter of the United Naplaces Thenh if Militaince and unitaderal When the Howher of the Unithed Hardens por de buser et la tarstance of the justance e hamb and aleased the winter the drown ber If the Un Ked Waldows new weder aufuged inthe dow on the My'cet Telt soog nerg strangly that The first of the W.S anythe To unhe the existence of when bounds known to the world so that the public so thes and I dhe more public the insouren of the corner that me have to most in the post false premises, their appeal for

president was lisibled any for the exhibit that men and in keg portkræns in urr aven frut mine "hold" ahand The bamb, during thom m tenfortunately they were informed not by in but Hrough blandis donoing those who were informal was felfouries then for at that frue for His Limpsy Jesouse same from afterwood for thubust hall sorther are over the French Club that he linel Several from Shellimins then fewerthing of that the that we the small that In ear be contest ma prehouse and or prinosful, Het it cantol sundboth Dobyn lounds & Dettry metro this is how we bearness that some attan mer taken in response servery that reservabled what

REMARKS AND INSERTS:

wall have he Insert paragraph 4A on page 14B. The inclemintation of the a greement may take place in stages; are the chances toget safely through those and Burne ? are the skryes There is a serious problem involved here which may be illustrated by the following example: 1+ is likely that the agreement will involve, in the final at some stage, the dismantling of Russian Air fields (as well as Americ an) air instalations from which the bomb attacks could be launched . against other nations. It is also likely that the agreement will (or mall is throughout and un throlve an aprix opening up of Russia in that they are secret violations of ensorm) agreement, as long as the agreement is not openly abrogated inp By the time was reach the last stage of enclemintation, with the mat will be my lost as danger of remote and our military instalations dismantled as specified in the agreement, there is no reason why Russia should want to keep the locality of her air fields secret and hor an 6. MAD But how do we heach this final stage of inclemintation? Should the first stage merely provide for the opening up of Russia (as well as America)? Otherwise the capability for an instant attack remains undiminished.

And also the opening up of Russia (as well as America) is reraging enough to enable us to discover any secret evasion of the agreement.

But which should come first, the dismantling of the air installations or the opening of the country? to travel appear on inspectors or whatever method of detection of violation might be agreed upon.

In the final stage when all military installations and equipment which wissia an America the capability for an instant attack when hos come to be and war is regarded as a remote possibility. such an opening up of the country which would enable to discover the location of Russia's air installations/to be objectionabl to Russia. At least not in view of the great benefits that she will derive from the agreement but should one expect Russia to agreex to the opening up of the country as the first step and leave the dismantling of military installations for a later stage? Russia argue that as soon as her country is opened up America will learn the location of all of her military installations and, if for some reason or other the implementation of the agreement stops and goes no further, America would be in a position to destroy those installations in one single sudden attack and so deprive Russia of any possibility of retaliation. Er can, conversely, America be expected to agree to any appreciable dismantling of air installations prior to the opening up of Russia when in its absence the hunder runtil mut is no way of knowing whether Russia has carried out the dismantling

of her installations on the required scale.

mos

Inset 5A.

Is it possible to devise a set of partial abrogations which the United States or Russia could invoke if necessary.

The possibility of America or Russia using the legal right to abrogate as a support of a demand to be given greater asurance against the possibility of secret evasions of the agreement would be much stronger if there had been devised a set of partial abrogations which can be evolved. If the United States, for instance, suspects that there are some perhaps not yet exceedingly dangerous,

get final axxuax assurance on this point, she would be forest

faced with a dilemma of tolerating these evasions or by revoking her right to appropriate thus precipitating a fresh atomic arms

which in these circumstances would almost certainly lead towar. to war. But, if the United States and Russia have a well thought out plan for a brogation in status when they would remain legally free to carry the a brogations to any desired state, the United States could, in a moderate case, just invoke the first stage of this plan and, for instance, begin to build a small number of air installations, bombs and airplanes suitable for their delivery, and do all this preferably openly and still under the supervision of some International authority even though this would be a grave step to take and might lead to a complete reversal of the trend back into "full arms" race and complete secrecy, still there would be time to straighten out the difficulties by remedying the situation.

Only if the United States would fear that the agreement might be evaded on such a scale to create a situation which madanx endangers the security of the United States when would the United States have

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have to invoke simultaneously all stages of its abrogation schedule, the last stage of which would presumably impose complete secrecy on such questions as locality of air fields, type of bombs and planes, etc.

Meeting of the

BY: Joseph Alsop

THE WASHINGTON POST - January 18. 1954

In the manner of Louis A. Johnson talking about the lesson he would teach Joe Stalin," the Pentagon is now piously prating about our great superiority in atomic weapons. The fact is, we have had enough atomic weapons to devastate the Soviet Union for at least three years. Meanwhile, the Pentagon carelessly glosses over the really new factor in the air-atomic balance. This is the acquisition by the Kremlin of enough atomic weapons to devastate the United States.

- 1. Meeting of scientists proposed
- 2. Negotiating from strength fallacious concept
- 1.) 2.9 3.)
- 3. The agreement in order to solve our problem must be self-generating
- 4. What incentives may induce Russia to continued cooperation
- 5. The agreement must be far-reaching enough to eliminate instability which is inherent in the power conflict
- 6. At what level of thinking must we seek the solution of the problem which the existence of the Abomb posed to the world
- 7. Some changes will be acceptable only if possibility of world war is regarded as remote
- 8. Most contraversial points become irrelevant within a new setting
- 9. Agreement should satisfy legitimate national aspirations
- 10. Possibility of abrogation cannot be entirely disregarded to the principal abrogation cannot be entirely disregarded to the must be sure there are no secret violations of the agreement

as long as it is not openly abrogated

- 12. How to enforce the agreement on countries who have no right to abrogate
- 13. Suggestion for what it is worth (disarmament)
- 14. No beace negotiations, but stepwise implementation
- 15. The desirable may not be possible.

at the inthist posselle glade Mostxofxyguxprobablyxagreex letter is to propose that we try to/convene a meeting of scientists from Russia, America, and a number of other an by to meach nations in order to explore whether it is possible for us to reach that a meeting of the minds on the problem to the existence of the Hydrogen-Bomb poses to the world. One of the most important question that we would have to clarify in our minds would be the question that kind of over-all political settlement between Russia, America M modern other nations in would create a setting in which the elimination of Atomic-Bombs and Hyrdogen-Bombs from nati nal armaments would become acceptable to the American and Russian 138 WW governments as well as to the governments of the other mations involved. If it were indeed possible to reach a meeting of the minds among a group of carefully selected scientists with such diverse national background Lgreat step would have been made in the be fatien in the a melinguist direction of peace. The public discussion of the issues involved could then perhaps lead to a clarification of thinking and a finally climate of public opinion xhaxxwouldxhexfavorable in which negotiations for an over-all settlement could be carried out at a governmental level with some hope of success. Before saying anything me about the nature of the proposed meeting of scientists, I should like to set forth in the following a few remarks concerning the nature of the problem which confronts us me to counte that my came up for Attreussy These remarks, some of the points of views which I shall stress, and myrestitues sink some of the tentative propogals which I will threw out, I put forward and forward on this assertant I um alterupting mainly for the purpose of trying to define the spirit in which I believe the proposed meeting could explore its subject matter, wisth some lupe if troses

It is my hope that there remarks

Moreover the contents of this letter might perhaps serve, if not as basis of discussion, then at least as starting point for the discussion. The pu lic discussion of the Russian-American conflict which we have witnessed in these nine post-war years has obscured rather than clarified the nature of the Russian-American conflict and the real difficulties which obstruct the resolution of this conflict.

Meroured) Nothing seems to me has confused quite and much the problem which we are faced than the popular slogan of negotiating from melisne strength. This concept/applied to the negotiation of an over-all settlement between Russia and the United States to a fallacy probably originates through reasoning by analogy. If you negotiate a business deal in private life and if you are in strong position when you do so you may be able to settle most contraversial points in your favor and may get the other fellow to sign on the dotted line. After that you may be able to make him perform by taking him into court if necessary. But what good would it do to have Russia sign an agreement in which most contraversial points are settled in MNK America's favor. Where is the court where Russia Kurs ta curled be hateen may be taken and who could enforce the verdict of that court? After the first World War, collective security might very well have been the answer to the problem of maintaining peace. But today / no combination of nations that-short of war of indefinite duration and unpredictable outcome -- could attempt to coerce Russia or for that matter the United States. Rux even if America today had overwhelming strength this would be of little help in negotiating a

sextlement and were ready to use it this would help her only if what

dy.

in magnifications"

It mens for me that the fine tras to last at the problem sof on very at on overall rettlement with sums to demast at this time some fresh approach and I shall for diserrha mel an approach in the fallowing: and it winowed also blues of the ti osu of theer ever bue lightly she wanted to negotiate was unconditional surrender.

In these circumstances It seems to me that we ought to approach the problem of arriving at an over-all settlement with -> The agreement must Since we know it is impossible to force either Russia or America to continue to observe an agreement we may just as well assume that America and Russia have reserved the legal right to abrogate the agreement at any time. For Russia and America to reserve a legal right to abrogate might be desirable f news uns also ich will be discussed laker urther below. Naturally it would The noght he as L'un le landed for home on fre lent of mations, since agreement would be of little value if it could be upset by any one of a large number of nations. Allowing Russia and America to retain a legal right to abrogate puts emphasis on what should be obvious in any case that the agreement will remain in force only as long as both Russia and America want to keep it in force. One of the most important questions to which we must find an answer is in this. Can we devise an agreement that wexzen offer to both Russia and America such strong incentives for wanting to keep an agreement in force that we can be sure that the agreement will not be abrogated enlightened as long as Ruxxixx considerations of national interest will guide the policies of these two nations. \ If we think about the Russian American agreement in these terms then it becomes quite clear that in negotiating our objective/must not be to settle as many contraversial points as possible in our favor then it becomes critically that our main must not be objective in negotiating/to settle as many contraversial points is possible in our favor but rather that we must be encerned

In thinking about an over-all settlement this is one of the most important aspects of the agreement about which we must be concerned. If we can give a satisfactory answer to this question then we have gone a long way toward solving the problem that confronts us. We cannot of course disregard in any case a possibility of abrogation which would almost ce tainly be followed by a fresh arms race and along with it the serious risk of war. For this reason both Russia and America will have to examine carefully in just what kind of military and strategic position abrogation would leave them.

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what are the main incentive which such an overall settlemen could provide for continued Russian cooperation. Any Russian policy if it's rational and is based on the national interest must be greatly concerned about security from attack and the economic development of the country. Security from attack means first of all the elimination of a threat of the Atomic Bomb which would permit a direct attack on the cities of Russia, And also the elimination of an attack by land armies based on Western Europe motivated by freshly awakened German nationalist movement. We should have therefore to examine what type of disarmament could give this kind of security to Russia, and whether the kind of disarmament that would do this can be reconciled with a legitimate desire for security of Western Europe, the United States and the rest of the world.

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in Russia is kept within reasonable bounds there would be a rapid increase in the standard of living which would create a favorable climate for the successful operation of a stable government.

Clearly, the type and degree of disarmament that the agreement might stipulate has a bearing not only on the issue of security but--as has far as Russia is concerned--it is also an important bearing on the RENNEMIE incentives which it may offer to Russia with respect to her economic prosperity.

Rational Considerations of the national interest

Perhaps I should have made it clear at the outset that my analysis will be limited to rational considerations of the national interest involved. An analysis which is so limited can at best give an answer to the question of what would be desirable, it can not give an answer to the question whether that which is desirable is also possible and how close the possible might come to the desirable and how close the possible might come to the desirable and accordance to what extent the government may be able to act in accordance to what the national interest even though it may clearly recognize

even though i government may clearly recognize what are to be done in the national interest the political system within which that government has to operate may severely limit the extent to which the government's action may actually follow the national interest:

and it may not be possible for the government to do what it

considers desirable to do.

What is possible for the government to do what it do may be very different from kkm what the government itself would consider desirable to do.

In any case usefully to discuss what is possible

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must be sufficiently for reaching 11A for Mund make the duralistally that yourses with in a power conflued The economic advantages which far-reaching disarmament would offer to the United States are not negligible / But the united States will reap these advantages only if the it succeeds in adopting an economic policy. Today we are spending about \$40 If the government can spend this amount of billion for defense. money, assuming there is no change in taxation, the government would be in a position to send every family each year a check for \$1000 in 12 installments with a request to please currently spend arbudly This of course is not what would be done and there are many sales for hory with will be maintaining full But no matter how it is done, the average consumption employment. of a family oould go up by a \$1000 a year if full employment were maintained and defense expenditures virtually eliminated. so, for the United States, the increase of prosperity resulting from I and brondy remove far-reaching disarmament would not be per se a very important The agreement consideration. must the hope that I would the one curred the Madlack minute the over-riding issue that dominated in the Russian-American relations in these nine post-war years greatly reducing the probability of war. ances pringhermy bears responsibility for the dead-lock in these post-war simply the issue of who whall win the war if there is Jwar. In this a in which setting the more unlikely war appears to be the more the government of the United States will look on any proposed settlement of a given contraversy from the point of view of whether that settlement will increase or decrease her chance to win the war if war comes. The many Russian government scrutinizes of course any proposed settlement from the same point of view and since the issue of who whall win the next

and since the issue of who shall win the war if war comes is the one issue on which compromise is not possible, none of the contraversial points which have strategic military importance can be settled as long as the possibility of war is uppermost in the minds of the American and Russian governments. Any attempt to make progress towards a general settlement piecemeal, by taking phonepore) up contraversial issues one by one is doomed to failure. impossible to break the deadlock by proceeding piecemeal In this setting, and as long as war appears to be probable, there is a strong temptation beth merica to improve their Russia and But The molution) position by taking unilateral action. Unfortunately, for America alor taken unilaterally for the purpose of increasing chances to win the war if it comes also increases the probability that war will come and therefore a situation in which war appears to be probable is unstable and the danger is great that it will rapidly deteriorate because the greater the probability of war the more likely a government caught in such a power conflict will take steps that while over three will improve her military and strategic position, would at

increase the probability of war.

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In any case we would have to deside first what is desirable before we can consider what is possible.

This does not make it less important for a government to know what is desirable, for even though a government does what is possible it is vital for her to know to what extent the possible deviates from the desirable.

A few examples will help to clarify the point I am trying to make. It is generally accepted by the enlightened public and well-known to the administration that it would be in the national interest to abolish all tariffs step by step within a comparatively short period, say perhaps five or km at most ten years. Yet the political system within which the United States government operates makes it impossible to accomplish this or even to make m really significant progress towards abolishing all tariffs, wen though a modest beginning has been made in this direction.

after the first World War it was writzknewn to the German government lightened public in Germany and well known to the German government that the building of capital ships by the German Navy was a useless waste of German resources from the point of view of the national interest. Yet such ships were built in compliance with the wishes of the Navy not because the Navy thought that these ships were really needed for defense but rather that because in the absence of them the German Navy could not have had a satisfactory number of Admirals and possibilities for promotions in the Navy would be severely limited.

Those of us who know the United States are inclined to - believe that we know what is politically possible, but we would do

Assuming for instance that an over-all settlement

ETEXALEGACE AND THE PROPOSED Which would give Russia military

security to the point where it would be the national interest for

Russia greatly to reduce her arms expenditure by greatly reducing

the size of the army and eliminating most if not all heavy equipment

by reducing the size and the heavy equipment of its military

establishment would the Russian government be able to mex do what

is in the national interest or would the Army want to maintain a

large military establishment irrespective of security considerations

for the sake of maintaining a large establishment and would the

political influence of the Army be great enough to prevent the

Russian government from accepting far reaching disarmament.

Any discussion which we can carry on among ourselves here in America will have to be limited to the question what might be desirable from the point of view of American and Russian national interest. And any discussions that we might have with our Russian colleagues would have to clarify this question before we could proceed -- assuming that it is deemed advisable to proceed -- to the question of what might be politically possible.

Because of this there is an inherent instability in a power conflict whole sime when obtained quickly war within a few years increase 🙋 the probability of war within a period of a est as in the proon It follows that the political settlement and the degree and kind of disarmament for which it provides must be far-reaching enough to make war unlikely to the point where this vicious circle no longer operates and the power conflict ceases to be the factor that determines the course of events. What kind of political settlement and what type of disarmament would accomplish this? easiest to meet this requirement if we were willing to to this unestin ester into an agreement that would set up spheres of influence and us thing were determined to rigidly maintain some kind of a status quo. as the that could be solved the level & which political thinking moved before the war, then we should be probably give serious consideration to such rigid solution. Infortunately then the existence of such posed a problem to the world which cannot be solved on that level. Before the war the legitimate aim of foreign policy was to prolong the peace, that is to prolong the interval between wars. This today is no longer enough. The over-all settlement which we need now is one that will create a setting in which it will be possible to move along some preamanged path and perhaps even at a prearranged rate towards the altimate solution of a world government. We cannot very well expect to come anywhere close to the ultimate solution somer than within two generations, but we have to get there without soing through another would war.

Secause of such consideration, in this view is accepted,

It seems to me that if we meet with our Russian colleagues it will be necessary first to discuss what we believe is desirable from the point of view of the national interest and only if a meeting of the minds is reached on this level should we try to go further if indeed it is possible to go further prodest and discuss how closely the desirable can be approximated by what we and our Russian colleagues believe to be feasible.

We cannot reconcile ourselves to having to go through another world war and if we were certain that another world war is to come than those who were instrumental in postponing its date would be rendering a very doubtful service to mankind.

Rather than to represent an uneasy armistice the over-all settlement ought to create a setting in which it will be possible to move along some prearranged pat and perhaps even at a prearranged rate towards the ultimate solution of a world government. What matters is not the whether this ultimate solution is approached within one, two or three generations, what matters is that we have to get to that ultimate solution without going through another world war. If this general approach to the problem is acceptable then xxxxxx it would seem important that for a generation at least there should be no forseeable need for major xxxxxx ad hoc changes in the world settlement. But can we maintain rigidly the status quo and have spheres of influence fixed for so long a period of time.

port meching of the I The from Appeal Capy Thomas dias margh me Atren there morels quere opretain it mes clar margh One until see probe danty of the home of when fliese months were spoken that abound bombs will be aundable lufore methin a pew years and that they will proe a problem to solved at the level at which polobidal pliniking, have and solvand, but been morning moned in the prot. -It hear meybrukner and resurrefullouss devutrue and forth to rest the print to accomplish the tuye relate Whenkern of abarric energy It wis would pake the want some productions things po the fromb of pros for the

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