Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Eldridge

3232 Volta Place, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20007

July 20, 1968

Dear Mr. Lederberg

Your proposal for a missile-thinning agreement with the U.S.S.R. including consultations on the needs and means of mutual reassurance is predicated upon the theory that we are dealing with people who are not furnishing our enemy ~~in~~ North Vietnam with weapons; who are not behind every conspiracy for armed revolution; who do not employ 500,000 agit-prop all over the world to stir up every disorder that arises and seek to excalate it into a bloody riot or revolution; who do not want an orderly world but who want a world in chaos which they may eventually rule.

If these were made assumption they might be successfully contradicted but they are facts well substantiated by the records of our security forces.

To us to go ahead with a missile thinning program or agreement with such people, relying upon a gentle admonition that we fear they are not carrying out their part of the agreement but "We have it

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to you to decide how to convince us to the contrary" is to my mind the height of foohardiness. When will the naive followers of the Freudian ethic realize that there are bad boys who are not simply bad because their parents didn't let them suck their thumbs as infants but because they want to be bad? Our national safety is at stake in this matter of dis-armament and we should treat the nation that has broken every treaty if ever made and whose whole existence as a power is based upon deception, not as honest brokers, but as bad actors.

Your advice, I dont mind telling you, is bad and dangerous, and the great majority of the American people are not going to be hooked, as we were at Yalta, by another fiasco in the form of a treaty with the Soviet, unless we have iron bound assurance, thru inspection, that they are following out their part of the agreement.

If they weren't conspiring against the Peace of the World they would have nothing to hide and would welcome honest inspection.

Sincerely

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