January 2, 1992

Mr. Richard W. Hansen  
Executive Director  
Educational Foundation of America  
23161 Ventura Blvd.; Suite 201  
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I am responding to your letter of 20 December asking for a review of the CFR’s proposal on its Arms Control Project. I believe you are aware that I sit on the board of the Council. While I am well aware of this project, I have not consulted any of the CFR officers in preparing this response. I am also affiliated with the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, and I was a founding member of the Center for International Security and Arms Control at Stanford University.

The fact is that the CFR is one of this country’s outstanding organs for public education and policy analysis in international relations.

The "Committees" are the means of outreach to major population centers not so well served as are New York and Washington; they complement by face to face interaction with principals and experts the dissemination of debate via "Foreign Affairs" and the broadcast vehicles. The agenda, the redefinition of security in the post-Soviet world, can hardly be disputed as our top priority in foreign policy. Especially because of the competing pressures of domestic needs, the disappearance of a monolithic threat requires ever higher public (and high-level!!) sophistication in the design of policy and the establishment of priorities. Our actions in the next few years will have an enormous leverage on the history of the 21st Century.

I believe you will also find that the project is frugal in its operation and thoroughly balanced in the range of political orientations represented.

I am almost embarrassed to be so laudatory; but the quality of the CFR’s effort is precisely why I do feel proud to have been a member and now on its Board.

Yes, the project has my unreserved commendation.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR