

**SCIENTIFIC
AMERICAN**

415 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017 (212) 688-3900

Established 1845

Piel CBW

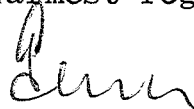
7 November 1972

Dear Matt:

Last Friday evening Alva Myrdal and I were discussing our joint-mutual admiration for you. Then she gave me a copy of her contribution to the U.N. proceedings of this season. And I see that "the only real disarmament measure" she recognizes is the one you unilaterally got the U.S. to put unilaterally on the books -- see enclosed.

I look forward to seeing the Amazon book. It was good to have a glimpse of you.

Warmest regards,



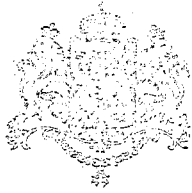
Gerard Piel
Publisher

GP:td
Enclosure

Professor Matthew S. Meselson
The Biological Laboratories
Harvard University
16 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

*Book sent
13 Nov 72*

PERMANENT MISSION OF SWEDEN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



STATEMENT BY H.E. MRS. ALVA MYRDAL, MINISTER OF STATE, IN
THE FIRST COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 2, 1972.

Mr. Chairman,

In my statement today I intend to deal broadly with the items on our agenda 26, further 30 a) and c), as well as 31 and 32.

On the very urgent issue of disarmament, intensive and sustained negotiations have now gone on in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament for eleven years since the memorable agreement on the Zorin - McCloy's principles. These principles were accepted as guides to what was intended to be a rapid advance towards general and complete disarmament.

In several of the statements in this committee now in 1972 we have listened to an enumeration of treaties and agreements, which are called "important" or even "historic". This might give an outsider the impression that disarmament has been steadily progressing, although admittedly by partial measures. In fact, no real disarmament has been achieved. The world has seen no decrease in arsenals, not even any levelling off of the competitive arms race. The only real disarmament measure, translated into action, has been the militarily not very significant but nevertheless encouraging one of the United States to eliminate biological and toxin weapons from their arsenals, a decision elaborated not through negotiations but taken unilaterally in 1969, later followed by an international convention. In how far similar steps have already been taken by other governments is not known.

To get a fair assessment of the so-called achievements in the disarmament field, we should turn to parties who are interested but non-aligned. I wish for this purpose to refer to the pessimistic statement by the distinguished representative of Argentina on October 24. The list of what has not been achieved becomes conspicuously confirmed when we read the meager content of the report from the CCD this year (Doc. A/8818). It is therefore natural that we should anxiously look for some means to open a new chapter. I intend to discuss the World Disarmament Conference (Item 26) against this background of near-despondency.