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28 March 1980

Dear Matt,

Thanks very much for your letter of 8th March about my paper on allegations &c. You should by now have received a finalized version, which takes a few of your comments (which arrived too late) into account. I plan a second edition, to cover the early March Afghan allegations (are they any more firmly grounded than the January ones?) and of course the Sverdlovsk affair. It's a pity I had missed the Bild Zeiting pieces; do you by any chance have a copy I could have of the FBIS translation of them?

Your phone call had the effect of propelling me to Geneva for the last few days of the BWC review conference, which, after all, didn't end too badly. I enclose a copy of a piece I did for Nature on it all at their request: very truncated, I expect, it will be coming out in the 3rd April issue. You will see that I have overcome my qualms about Nature. I've also done them the enclosed piece on chemicals. This will appear, slightly shortened and unsigned, as a Nature editorial. It's topicality is rather heightened over here just now since Now! magazine has just come out with a piece saying that Britain is likely to buy binary munitions from the USA. BBC-TV Panorama, one of our better tele-documentary-current-affairs things, is working on a programme about CW, filming in April or May: I have been working quite closely with them. They will be coming over to the States: I have impressed upon them the need to talk with you, not only qua expert but also as a lead in to people in Washington they should interview. Survival-- the IISS journal-- has a piece in the offing, unfortunately by Brian Beckett, who was responsible for the Now! item I've just mentioned and is not very good. Stern magazine in Germany is working on a piece about the US stocks. And there seems to be a lot else besides. I've been advertising Scientific American widely. I'm just off for ten days in the South of France; I'll let you know further what's been happening when I return.

Is it at all likely that your West Point person--? Mike Brown--will let me have a sight of his CW paper you were telling me about? I have been working up some calculations of my own on the use of soman or HCN in breakthrough operations.

As you recommended, I have sent copies of my allegations paper to Leach, Berdes, Frank and Craig Johnstone, and gave one to Mikulak in Geneva. Otherwise the only other American that has it is Jim McCullough.

Why do you imply a figure of about 2000 tons per day per side for consumption of chemical munitions in a European war? Not that it looks unreasonable. I gather there are satellite photos of streets in Sverdlovsk being bulldozed.

As ever

Robin

J P Perry Robinson

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