

**Subject:** Re: Pugwash Workshop Geneva December 2007

**From:** Graham Pearson <Graham\_Pearson@compuserve.com>

**Date:** Sun, 1 Apr 2007 08:23:48 -0400

**To:** Julian Robinson <jppr@hspqsq.u-net.com>, Matthew Meselson <msm@wjh.harvard.edu>

**CC:** Graham <Graham\_Pearson@compuserve.com>

Ouch! Annotated version omitted from previous message. Here it is!

- ----- Begin Original Message-----Message  
text written by Graham Pearson

"Dear Matt

Thank you very much for your thoughtful and useful proposals for Geneva. I will incorporate them into a revised agenda once I have heard from Julian .

My aim will indeed be to have invitations going out far in advance - - so that we can indeed decide whether to commission two or three though- pieces. I shall seek information from Jean-Pierre Stroot in about three weeks time as to how the fundi ng quest is progressing.

Thank you for reminding me to look at your excellent paper on yellow rain . I have added a few comments in track change s and added comments :

A. to make it clear that it was COE Porton Down  
B. to point out that I don "t think you pick up the low toxicity of T- 2 trichothecene -- which makes it a virtually incredible agent, and  
C . to point out that the US added T- 2 to their CBW threat agent list and hence devoted -- and wasted -- resources into counters to this -- detectors etc -- and I also think they leant on NATO to add T- 2 to the NATO CBW threat list (although you would need to check this) hence wasting resources there too. The lesson to be learnt is that false agent identification wastes scarce resources.  
I hope these are helpful.

Best Wishes  
Graham

Begin Original Message  
Message text written by Matthew Meselson

Dear Graham,

Very good of you to prod us into thinking about Geneva soon enough that perhaps this time will can have proper invitations sent out a few months

before the event.

Your agenda items I and II, the introduction and the steps beyond Revcon VI are certainly essential. In addition, it seems to me that with the Revcon and much else now behind us we should include a substantial further agendum aimed at the encouragement of broad thinking. The intention could perhaps be conveyed with a Roman numeral agendum III "The problem of biological weapons: Where are we now?" In addition to the need for new ideas and analysis, the title might help draw the participants we want as we are all looking for new ideas .

A further possibility would be to commission two or three thought- pieces  
4/4/2007 6:36 PM

Re: Pug wash Workshop Geneva December 2007

2 of 3

to be circulated in advance.

In any case, let us ourselves set the pace toward Geneva, with Sergei's assistance when he is able to provide it but without being dependent on it .

On another matter, I wonder if you have any suggestions for improving the draft Yellow Rain paper I emailed to you last week.

As ever,

Matt

Graham Pearson wrote :

Dear Julian

Now that Noordwijk is behind us, it would be good if you and Matt could look at the draft Agenda for the Pugwash workshop in Geneva in December 2007 .

I haven't copied this e-mail to Sergei, but would be glad if any replies and comments on the draft Agenda were copied to all four members of the Steering Committee as our aim is not to exclude his inputs but not to be dependent on his inputs!

Best Wishes

Graham