

December 22, 2003

The Right Honourable Paul Martin
Office of the Prime Minister
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Martin:

Your candid dialogue with the CBC on Thursday evening, December 18 was much to my liking, though I did not hear any discussion of military policy and, especially, that relating to our neighbour to the South. There I have some concerns. When discussing proliferation of nuclear weapons, our media, Canadian and American, seem immune to mentioning that Article 6 of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) requires Nuclear Weapons states to get rid of their stockpiles as part of the bargain, and that they help Non-Nuclear nations with technology needed to build nuclear power plants for peaceful use. That is, the NPT is not just about prohibition of proliferation of nuclear weapons to and by Non-Nuclear states such as Iran, North Korea, etc. It is also about “physician heal thyself.”

Again, your interlocutor made no mention of Canada’s potential association with the USA’s Ballistic Missile (BM) program. Here, we in Canada, have been well-served by a study published by the Simon Foundation of British Columbia, co-sponsored by several equally reliable organizations concerned with foreign and military policy. I am presuming that your office has already received a copy, since their release states that it has been sent to all Members of Parliament.

In a more general sense, in a communication of this sort in these critical times, I would be remiss if I did not call your attention to the activity of that great cause, Pugwash International, and its most recent activity at Dalhousie University and Pugwash, N.S., July 14-22, 2003, in the form of its 53rd Annual Conference on Science and Public Affairs. Among the hundreds of attendees from the furthest reaches of the world was my wife Ann Straus Gertler, member of the executive of the Canadian Pugwash Group. (Enclosures include a report on the conference from *Maclean’s* magazine of July 14, 2003, the keynote address by Nobelist, Sir Joseph Rotblat, one

of the founders of the Pugwash movement, and even brief remarks by Ann on that intractable, but inescapable issue, world peace. It is no exaggeration to say that the conference enjoyed the widest coverage in the metropolitan press across Canada.

Last, but not least, I have recently revisited the little volume, entitled *Why War?*, published in Germany in 1933. It emanated from a letter by Albert Einstein to Sigmund Freud in 1932, to which the latter responded in September of that year. I could not find my copy of the book in English translation in my study where I saw it last, but I recalled that it had been reprinted in a magisterial work, entitled, *Einstein On Peace*, co-edited by Einstein's friend and literary executor, Otto Nathan, and Heinz Norden, published by Simon & Schuster of New York, in 1960. I have not ventured to send you a copy of the 700-page volume, but I cannot think of a finer Xmas present at the beginning of your term, than to excise and send that part only which includes the text of *Why War?*, together with some of the prelims and "Contents," which suffice to place it in context (enclosure 6). You will find that in 4,000 words, more or less, it not only asks the question, *Why War?*, but also contains more of the historical, psychological, dynastic, economic, etc. answers than a library of many sage volumes. Moreover, it is as relevant as if it were written the day before yesterday. I hope you will enjoy reading it and cherishing it as much as we do.

Our congratulations on your ascendancy to the prime ministership. Best wishes to you and your family for the coming year, and beyond.

Maynard Gertler, C.M.