

速達

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京都大学基礎物理学研究所 湯川記念館史料室

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c082-025 豊田利章

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冠者 酷しい寒気が続いておりますが
お慶りなくお越しのこと、拝察しております
さて本日到着しました「ロビンソン・オブジ
アトミク・サイエンティスツ」の最近号
(一九八一年一月号)に昨年八月末オランダ
で開かれたオミロバグワツシエ会議に参り
せられた先生のメッセージの全文が掲載
されております。ここにそのセロックス・コピー
と同封します。なお昨日ローマ法王ヨハネ・
パウロ二世が広島で平和アピールと出され
た際、新聞社のもとめに応じて行った少
の講演の切抜きコピーも同封します
御覧願下さんば幸いです
科学者京会会議継続委員会の募金
も増潤に進んでいます。そして五月中旬

に予定しています。会につきましても
坂本さん等と相談し、具体案と練って
います。作業の入試業務が済みま
した段階で参上し、拜眉の上、後々御報告
御相談申し上げたいと思っております
御自愛と祈りつゝ

海々

一九八一年二月二日

豊田利孝

湯川秀樹先生

HIDEKI YUKAWA

The absolute evil

A quarter of a century has passed since I signed the Russell-Einstein Manifesto. I am now deeply worried about the present world situation which has not improved in the intervening years, but has rather entered a more tragic phase.

For a short period tension between the East and the West seemed to be relaxed and dialogues on peace between the United States and the Soviet Union became more active. Recently, however, there has been a retrogressive move to Cold War times. This is obviously against the spirit of the Manifesto. It is not only short-sighted but also dangerous for scientists to try to close the way to international dialogue. Clearly, free exchange of opinion internationally and domestically is vitally important for peace as well as for the progress of science itself. If we give up our efforts for mutual understanding, there remains only confrontation through military power.

It is now quite evident what will come of military confrontation between the major powers, or mutual deterrence based on nuclear weapons. A balance of terror with huge and highly sophisticated nuclear weapon systems, far beyond comparison with the state of the world 25 years ago, seems to have reached an almost intolerable stage. Recently, horrible accidents sur-



Hideki Yukawa, Nobel laureate, is emeritus professor of physics at Kyoto University, Japan (606). He presented this address to the 30th Pugwash Conference.

rounding nuclear strategic systems have repeatedly been reported. I believe this to be the sternest warning that the danger of the nuclear annihilation of human beings by an unintended major war has now become a reality.

Why are we human beings still treading such a foolish and pernicious path? What can we gain from the spiralling arms race? With much regret I have to state that even scientists gathering at Pugwash Conferences in pursuit of world peace cannot avoid some responsibility for this matter. One of the fundamental causes for the present awful situation of the arms race, I think, is that we have rejected as unrealistic the original idea of Bertrand Russell that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil and must be eliminated. In the process, we have accepted the illusion of keeping peace with nuclear weapons. This is in principle wrong and is unintentionally or intentionally affected by vested interests with respect to possession of nuclear weapons. I am afraid that any peace design based on vested interests of nuclear weapon states cannot be persuasive to many of the non-nuclear weapon states.

Another fatal cause may be that we have been so indolent, if not rather timid, in pursuit of a new world order where one can live without armaments, while we have been supporting complete and general disarmament. Designing such a new world order is indeed a difficult task, because it will be associated with some change of the present political status. I believe, however, short-sighted technical manipulation

without a future prospect will not be able to resolve the present tragic situation.

A future scenario is not explicitly depicted in the Manifesto. Insofar as I know, however, Russell and Einstein were considering this problem. In fact, in order to control the sovereignty of states both were thinking of a world federation, an idea with which I am also sympathetic in principle. This idea may still be premature, but it should be elaborated upon in collaboration with experts from different fields. At the Pugwash Conferences in the past decades, even discussing such a problem has been put aside in favor of detailed arguments regarding the technical aspects of arms control.

I therefore appeal to all of you to make a fresh start based on the original idea of the Russell-Einstein Manifesto and cooperate to implement it however difficult it may be. □

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