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2209 Vine Street
Berkeley 9, Calif.
April 6, 1948

Mr. Bernard Kahn, Chairman
Berkeley Chapter
United World Federalists
2046A University Ave.
Berkeley 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Kahn,

I am convinced that you are sincerely striving for a just world peace. Your ideas for a federal world government are excellent in basic principle, but I can see serious difficulties in the impression the United World Federalists might make upon the people of the Soviet Union. In this communication I am attempting to make some constructive suggestions on how to approach this difficulty.

Instead of making reference to your talk of April 4 at the Inverness Club of the First Unitarian Church of Berkeley, I am referring to the pamphlet by Vernon Nash, "Yes But-". I note that it does not constitute the official position of UWF, but is intended as a "springboard for further thinking and discussion."

Page 4 - "The people who want world government:"
I suspect that citizens of the Soviet Union might question what Truman, Churchill and Bevin really mean by their statements which seem to approve of a world government. They might associate past hostile actions of these men with the program of UWF.

Page 7 - "Powers of a federal world system;" question 7 on interference in their affairs: Although Mr. Nash proposes that in internal affairs, every nation would remain fully self-

governing, the people of the Soviet Union have much evidence to be suspicious of the United States of America. The talk of a war against the U.S.S.R. heard in New York financial circles prior to V-E Day of World War II may have convinced some Soviet officials that some U.S. business interests wish to eliminate the soviet socialistic type of government from this earth. How can the people of the Soviet Union find out whether a businessman who is for world government is joining UWF to use the organization as a Capitalist front or whether he is sincerely willing to accept certain restrictions that would come with world government?

Page 19 - "Likelihood of participation of Russia":

The statement in the second paragraph is a good start, but it implies too much dependence upon a single diplomatic event, the "bona fide offer of a world government." This diplomatic event could easily be bungled by American or Soviet officials. This is the most serious defect that occurs to me in regard to the program of UWF. It boils down to a failure to build up contact with the people of the U.S.S.R. I do not see how it would be possible for a large fraction of 180,000,000 people and their representatives to show a favorable interest in world government immediately on receipt of an invitation from a country whose chief executive has publicly expressed his objection to the existence of Soviet Union (Truman's statement to the press that he objects to Communism anywhere in the world).

Perhaps political scientists have better ways of expressing this, but I shall use methods that are familiar to me as an engineer. I use the following charts to analyse

the situation. Figure 1 shows a guess at the way you would like to expand the influence of UWF during the next few critical years. Curve 1A indicates the number of members plus people in essential agreement with your program. Curve 1B indicates a slightly decreased number of adherents whom you might have if you used some of your organizing time to study the needs and reactions of the people of the Soviet Union.

Figure 2 shows a corresponding set of curves for the Soviet Union. Curve 2A is an approximation to the growth of support for world government that would guarantee acceptance of an offer of world government on the part of the Soviet Union. The steepness of the curve is ^a ^{change} greater than the ^{of the U.S.S.R.} people would support. Curve 2B is an estimate of the growth of support for world government that would be necessary in U.S.S.R. to insure the acceptance of an offer of world government. To approach this curve much study of the Soviet Union and probably many changes in your concepts of world government will be necessary.

³ Figure ³ illustrates the precarious situation in which we depend upon one great diplomatic gesture for world government. Figure 4 illustrates the strengthening of American-Soviet friendship through step by step discussion and mutual ~~discussion~~ revision of ideas of world government.

WORLD GOVERNMENT

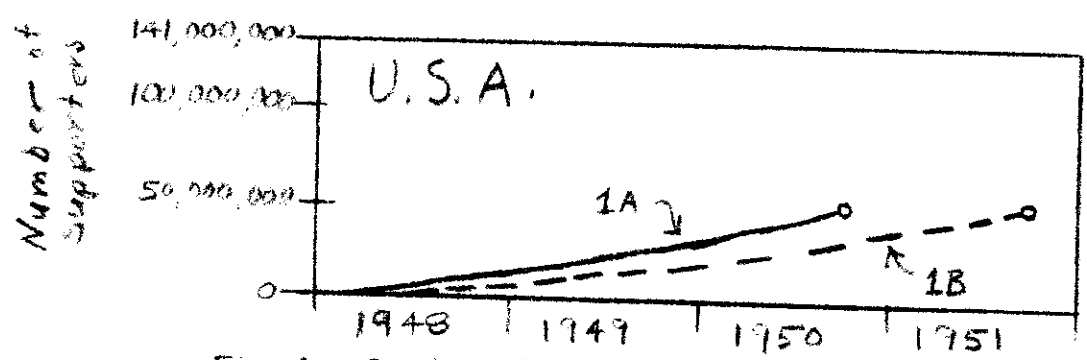


Fig. 1 - Projected growth of world government support in U.S.A.

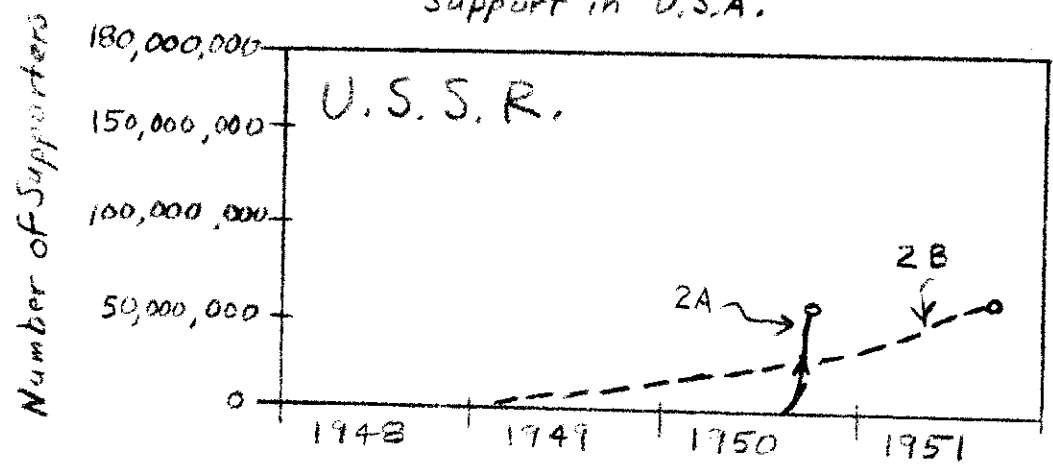


Fig. 2 - Projected growth of world government support in U.S.S.R.

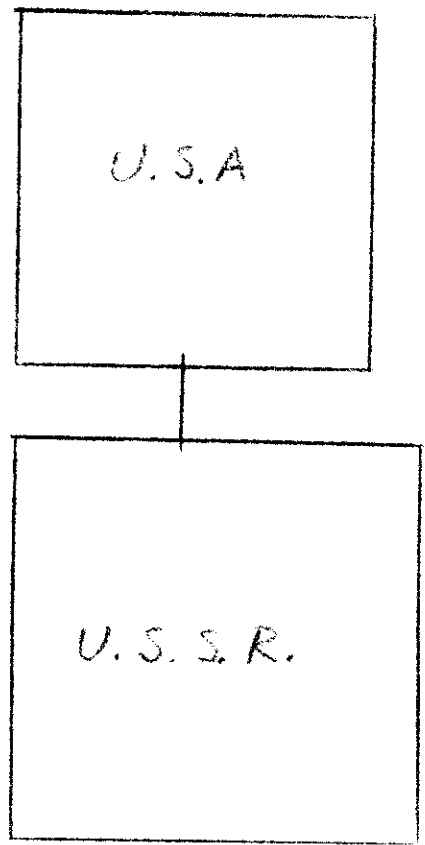


Fig 3 - Precarious state of dependence on one big diplomatic gesture.

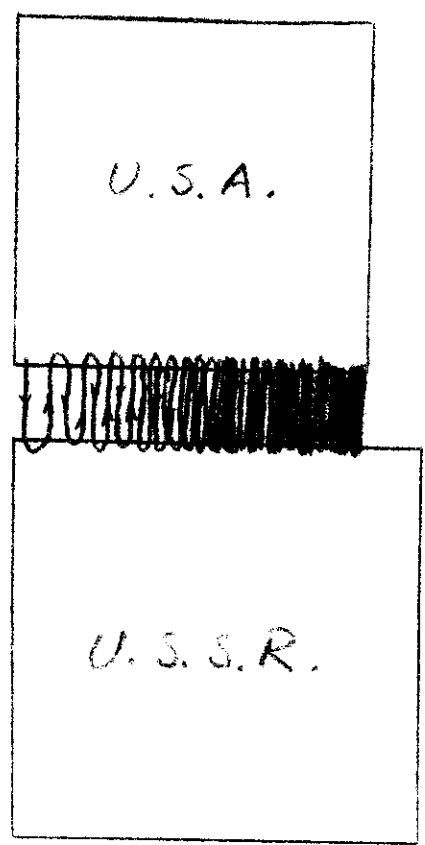


Fig 4 - Stable development of joint Soviet-American interest in world government.

The following projects might be undertaken by UWF to correct this defect in the world government program:

1. The UWF could start building an understanding between the peoples of the USA and USSR, by first conferring with local people who have studied the problems of the people of the USSR. Perhaps the American-Russian Institute, 101 Post st., San Francisco, could help on this project.

2. The UWF could find out what magazines and newspapers give a fair picture of what is going on in the Soviet Union.

3. If UWF people would devote part of their time to studying the comments of people who understand the Russians, they experimentally arrive at revised ways of explaining the possibilities of world government so that the Russians could be sure of the sincerity of the UWF. An attempt would have to understand what the needs of the people of Soviet Union are, so that plans for world government would take them into account.

4. After a trial experiment has been started in one place, such as Berkeley or San Francisco, a report could be prepared to help other UWF chapters make contact with groups like the National Council of Soviet-American Friendship.

5. After several chapters in different parts of the country have developed a better understanding of the people of the Soviet Union, it might be worthwhile to send literature to and invite the local Soviet Consul to UWF meetings so that some Soviet government officials would have a better chance to see how sincere the people are who work for UWF.

6. Later further steps could be taken such as writing articles for Soviet newspapers and magazines and visits to the Soviet Union by leaders of UWF.

I have not taken time to get this material into polished form, but hope that it will help you find ways to increase the chances of a just peace in which all the peoples of the world can cooperate.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick B. Wood