



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

July 9, 1987

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Albert Wohlstetter
R&D Associates
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4640 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey, California 90295

Dear Albert:

You will not be surprised that I enjoyed DISCONT, very much.

The technology of the guided missile is just as you say. But it does not seem to have made the least dent on the planners of our Navy, who design fleets that must be amortized over the next 30-50 years during which that technology will not diminish.

"Crumbling of alliances" is another dimension. Unlike the inexorability of the technology, we can take measures to change the course of history. Taking our partners for granted is hardly the way. Not that they are always clearheaded and cleanhanded either.

In my view, the most likely course of events is the continued attack on NATO by the USSR -- not by force but by far more subtle "peace" campaigns, (backed by unmitigated military capability, to be sure). And the Russians are likely to turn their attention to the US-Japan-China encirclement as soon as they can devise a strategy to exploit the US-Japanese economic, and the never absent undercurrents of Japan-China, tensions.

I am sorry to miss the meeting on July 14: my schedule just does not match the majority. But I look forward to seeing you August 25-28 in San Diego.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

cc: c/o Col. Sullivan