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NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021
MURRAY HILL 8-1111

8 June 1967

Dear Mrs. Meagher:

Just an item or two:

Had a pleasant chat with Harold Weisberg in Maryland, having seen a (false) item that Peter Owen in England was publishing his CIA Whitewash -- Oswald in New Orleans.

He now has an agent in New York. When I told the agent that when we read Weisberg, we liked what he said but couldn't follow the way he said it, our people thinking his writing style impossible to keep up with, the agent said that would now be in the past because his work could now have the benefit of professional editing. I will hope that if what he has to say about the CIA is true, then it can get wide approval and acceptance.

I learnt the identify of Jacob Cohen, and thought you might like to have it for your records. Brandeis sent my letter back with the appellation "Professor" ~~and an address.~~ and an address. I am considering writing him to ask him if he has changed any of his attitudes or had any second thought on his championing the W.C.

Ralph Schoenmann intrigues me. He first came to my attention in the "New York Mag. Scavenger Lewis & Schiller article" as having broken into Epstein's place to purloin his papers. Is there any truth to this? And has anyone done anything on this Brooklyn boy, especially since now I hear he is the alter ego of the senile Lord Russell. Is any of this true? If the Lewis charges are true why wasn't he arrested in Ithaca?

Kindest regards,

John S. Lewis

GENOCIDE IS LAID TO U.S. AT 'TRIAL'

Russell Aide Says Civilians
Are Targets in Vietnam

By DANA ADAMS SCHMIDT
Special to The New York Times

STOCKHOLM, May 7—Ralph Schoenman, secretary to Bertrand Russell and secretary general of the so-called International War Crimes Tribunal here, charged the United States today with attempting genocide in North Vietnam.

Seventeen members of an unofficial "court" are hearing charges against the United States on the war in Vietnam.

On the basis of what he said were his own three trips to North Vietnam and evidence gathered by five teams, Mr. Schoenman told the hearing: "It is not possible to drop four million pounds of bombs every day on a country the size of New York and Pennsylvania without exterminating the civilian population — and this is genocide."

Mr. Schoenman, 31 years old, was born in Brooklyn. He has been associated with Earl Russell since 1960. He is director of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, which is sponsoring the tribunal.

In addition to his genocide charge, Mr. Schoenman said the United States was using chemical warfare against the people of Vietnam.

Sees Deliberate Pattern

The pattern of bombing, he told the tribunal, led him inevitably to the conclusion that there was a deliberate intent to destroy the civilian population.

"Wherever there are habitations, and within those areas especially wherever there are particular psycho-social achievements such as schools and hospitals around which the lives of many people circulate, that is where the bombs are falling, and the weapon most in evidence is the pellet [antipersonnel] bomb."

Wherever he went in North Vietnam, he said, the houses were riddled with "these pellets, which are effective only against the bodies of human beings or animals."

Rejecting statements by the

The Proceedings In the U.N.

SCHEDULED FOR TODAY

(May 8, 1967)

ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

Meets at 11 A.M.

Committee for Program
and Coordination — 3 P.M.

Committee on Nongovern-
mental Organizations — 2:30
to 3:30 P.M.

Social Committee — 3:30
P.M.

*Tickets may be obtained at
the public desk, main lobby,
United Nations Headquarters.
Hours: 9:15 A.M. to 4:45 P.M.*

United States Defense Department that efforts were being made to concentrate attacks on military objectives, he declared "all the evidence shows that this is untrue."

His chemical warfare charges were ruled out of order by the presiding officer, Vladimir Dedijer, the Yugoslav writer, who said the subject would be taken up later.

The tribunal is discussing plans for further sessions next autumn, possibly at Auschwitz in Germany, or in Tokyo or New York.

Nevertheless, Mr. Schoenman read to the tribunal what were said to be extracts from a diary of a North Vietnamese, Dr. Nguyen, who had been nearly blinded by chemicals. It has been printed in full as part of Russell entitled "War Crimes in Vietnam."

The doctor's account told of an attack by a helicopter and two planes in Lamdong Province in November, 1964.

"The smell of the chemicals was unbearable," it said. "It was very sharp and burned the nostrils. It had characteristics of chloroform. After five minutes leaves of sweet potatoes,

rice plants and trees became completely dessicated.

"Domestic animals would not eat and almost all died. People in the area experienced very severe headaches."

There was a second attack 15 minutes later, the account said, and continued:

"The next day all our poultry were dead. The fish in the streams and lakes were floating on the surface of the water, discolored. All crops were without leaves and burned and the unburned vegetation was rotting. All the women who were pregnant and all pregnant animals had miscarried on the spot."

After a third attack 10 days later, the account said, "People were unable to work or do anything for weeks and months. I was unable to move. I vomited all the time. My throat, mouth, stomach and bowels were inflamed."