



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1995

No. 160

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. CLINGER].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 17, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable WILLIAM F. CLINGER, Jr., to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of May 12, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority and minority leader, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

JOSEPH ROTBLAT, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER, CONDEMNS FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on the first day of this month, the Government of France exploded another nuclear bomb in the South Pacific, its second detonation in a new series of tests. France's nuclear bomb—invol-

ing a 110 kiloton blast—was seven times more destructive than the bomb that we exploded in Hiroshima 50 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, as we recall the destructive nuclear fury that was first unleashed in history against the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I think it most appropriate to recognize Mr. Joseph Rotblat, a physicist working on the manhattan nuclear bomb project during WW II who quit in protest because of his convictions, and who was personally devastated when he learned of the bomb's consequences in Japan.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Rotblat, a Polish-born scientist, who has just been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize by the Norwegian Nobel Committee. Mr. Rotblat, the world's first protester against nuclear weapons, has devoted his entire life to ending the madness of the nuclear arms race. He is the founding member of the Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, as well as the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, a leading think tank on security and disarmament issues.

Mr. Speaker, at a time France is thumbing its nose at the international community, over 160 nations have officially protested this madness by President Chirac and the Government of France to continued exploding of nuclear bombs in the South Pacific, I find it highly commendable that the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Mr. Rotblat, one of the world's most eminent and vocal opponents of nuclear testing.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Rotblat has condemned France's resumption of nuclear testing and has written French President Chirac, urging that France immediately cancel its tests. Mr. Rotblat says, "There is no reason at all in my opinion for President Chirac to resume

tests. I can't see any tactical reason at all. I can only see this as an attempt to make their bomb a little better, or develop perhaps a new type." That is right, Mr. Speaker, a bomb a little better. To kill more people.

The two bombs that we exploded in Japan, Mr. Speaker, accounted for over 290,000 men, women, and children who died as a result of those nuclear explosions. What madness, what madness, Mr. Speaker. We can say that let us get rid of chemical and biological warfare, but let us continue dropping nuclear bombs.

Mr. Speaker, again, I commend Mr. Rotblat for his life's work and the Nobel Committee for their selection of Mr. Rotblat as a Nobel recipient. By these actions, the Nobel Committee on behalf of the world community has sent a strong message of protest to the French Government and I would hope that Paris would respond by immediately canceling their nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

What arrogance, Mr. Speaker, that President Chirac has the unmitigated gall to do this. For over 30 years they have been exploding nuclear bombs in the South Pacific. The American people do not know the suffering of the some 100,000 or 200,000 people who live in those islands, and, yes, 28 million people who live in that region. We just have not taken a better understanding of the very real serious problem we have there in the Pacific.

While President Chirac is drinking his sweet wine in Paris, some 200,000 people's lives are at stake if that Muroroa atoll should break and leak, and there are already indications of leakages because of the 168 nuclear bombs that have been exploded on that atoll alone.

What arrogance, Mr. Speaker, what arrogance.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H10079

ANTI-BOMB PHYSICIST WINS PEACE PRIZE—
NOBEL "PROTEST" AGAINST ATOMIC TESTS
SHARED WITH ARMS CONTROL GROUP

(By Fred Barbash)

LONDON, October 13.—The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded today to Joseph Rotblat, a British physicist who helped invent atomic weapons in the 1940s, and the organization dedicated to doing away with them that he later formed with Albert Einstein and Bertrand Russell.

This year's prize stands as a "protest" against French and Chinese nuclear testing, the chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Francis Sejersted, said in Oslo as he announced the award to Rotblat and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs.

Rotblat, 86, who walked out of the secret U.S. government laboratory at Los Alamos, N.M., in 1944 after deciding the atomic bomb being developed there was unnecessary, also used the occasion to express his "outrage" at France's two recent nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

Since 1957, the Pugwash Conferences have been assembling select groups of scientists, including many of the brains behind the American, Russian and British nuclear arsenals, for private exchanges on arms control. They have opened up lines of communication among such scientists, serving as forums for both technical and political issues, and as back channels to top-level policymakers. Subsequently the conferences were broadened beyond the scientific community.

Rotblat said today that the organization's goal is, and always has been, to convince governments that "the genie can be put back in the bottle."

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman offered congratulations to Rotblat today, the Reuter news agency reported, but Prime Minister Alain Juppe rejected appeals that France end its nuclear testing program and said the award would have no effect on "policies we have adopted for reasons of national interest."

While no single treaty or agreement can be traced precisely to Pugwash discussions, according to historians of the nuclear era as well as Rotblat, the conferences have addressed complex problems—such as anti-ballistic missile systems, test ban monitoring and the spread of chemical and biological weapons—long before they reached the formal negotiating tables of world leaders. They are considered to have exercised at the very least a subtle influence on virtually every major contemporary arms accord.

More broadly, the organization, which has 10 Nobel laureates among its charter members, was among the first of what are now many such groups designed to encourage scientists to confront—and control—the uses of their science.

The group was cited by the Nobel committee for its efforts to "diminish the part played by nuclear arms in international politics and in the longer run to eliminate such arms." It has made scientists "take responsibility for their inventions," it said.

Unlike with last year's Peace Prize—awarded jointly to Israeli leaders Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat—names of the recipients of this one were not leaked in advance. Indeed, neither Rotblat nor the Pugwash Conferences, of which he is president, was on any of the speculative "short lists" published in the Norwegian press.

The Pugwash Conferences, along with philosopher and antiwar activist Bertrand Russell, were viewed with suspicion by some fervent anti-communists during the 1950s and by ardent Cold Warriors afterward. But the

organization has been respected for years by arms control professionals. Until today, however, it was relatively unknown to the rest of the world, as was Rotblat, a cheerful, intense man who says he still "wakes up in a cold sweat" when he hears about such events as France's nuclear tests.

"Who would expect that a little man like myself and a little-known movement, unknown to the general public," would get the Nobel Peace Prize, Rotblat said today as he walked briskly from the organization's grungy office near London's Russell Square to a news conference. "Who is he?" bystanders asked reporters as they followed him.

Rotblat, a native of Poland, was working on a one-year atom bomb project at the University of Liverpool in 1939 when the British team of which he was a part joined U.S. scientists working on the Manhattan Project to develop an atomic bomb at Los Alamos.

"I started to work in 1939 on the atom bomb," he said in an interview today. "I was afraid that German scientists would build the weapon and use it to rule the world. I thought that the only way this could be prevented was if we built it too and threatened to retaliate—the classical concept of nuclear deterrence."

Two new pieces of information gained at Los Alamos persuaded him to leave. First, he said, he learned that a major purpose for the bomb was to threaten the Soviet Union, which was then a World War II ally.

Then, he said, "at the end of 1944 I learned that the Germans had abandoned their project; the purpose of my being on the project was gone." When he informed his superiors at Los Alamos that he was leaving, he said they "accused me of being a spy" who was planning to turn over atomic secrets to the Russians. After refuting the accusation, and agreeing for security reasons to a fabricated story about why he was leaving, he was allowed to return to Britain, where he switched from nuclear physics to nuclear medicine.

When he heard that the United States had dropped the bomb on Hiroshima, he said, he was "devastated. . . . I did not expect it would be used as soon as it was made. I felt angry, worried and fearful about the future of our civilization."

"The world didn't know it, but we knew that scientists were capable of making a bomb a thousand times more powerful—a hydrogen bomb."

In 1955, he and Russell decided to seek the help of Einstein in warning the world of the danger they foresaw. From that collaboration came the "Russell-Einstein Manifesto," which declared that "such weapons threaten the continued existence of mankind." Among the signers were 10 men who were or would become Nobel laureates, including Max Born, Percy W. Bridgman, Einstein, Frederic Joliot-Curie, Hermann J. Muller, Linus Pauling, Cecil F. Powell and Rotblat.

From the manifesto emerged the Pugwash Conferences, so named because the first one was financed by American industrialist Cyrus Eaton and held at his retreat in the village of Pugwash, Nova Scotia.

The meetings, which were by invitation only, tended to be small—groups of 25—and moved from country to country.

While participants often read from prepared papers, they could be and were challenged in open give-and-take sessions, according to accounts of meetings by historians.

Invitees have included not only scientists committed to arms control—such as Rotblat—but top-level government scientists guiding the rapid Cold War nuclear arms buildup. Soviet physicists Andrei Sakharov and Igor Tamm and Princeton scientist Frank von Hippel were among the participants.

Rotblat said today he has never been able to say with any precision how much the Pugwash discussions influenced the Soviet position on arms limitations.

At the very least, he said, they opened channels of communication among scientists on both sides of the arms race.

He said he is certain that Pugwash discussions influenced Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's thinking on nuclear issues through the participation of Yevgeny Velikhov, one of the former Soviet leader's key science advisers, who helped persuade Gorbachev not to try to match President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

Experts said today that the Pugwash meetings also have contributed significantly to the nuclear testing moratorium observed by the United States and the Soviet Union; to resolving complex issues involving testing verification and monitoring; to the intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty of 1987; and to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968, designed to stop the spread of nuclear weapons to countries that do not already possess them.

Indeed, the idea for the treaty was first discussed at a Pugwash meeting in 1958, according to the organization's official history.

The peace prize, which will be formally awarded in Oslo in December, carries an award of \$1 million. Asked what would be done with the money, Rotblat gestured toward his cramped and cluttered office.

"I haven't really thought about it," he said. "But look around you."

ROTLAT, FIRST NUCLEAR PROTESTER, WINS
PEACE PRIZE

LONDON, October 13.—Polish-born Joseph Rotblat may have been the world's first protester against nuclear weapons, quitting the Manhattan project to build America's atom bomb in 1945 because of his convictions.

The physicist, who was awarded the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, went on to become one of the world's most vocal and effective opponents of the nuclear arms race.

The 86-year-old, who lost his wife in the Holocaust, won the Prize jointly with the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, of which he was a founder member and is now chairman.

He is also a founding member of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), a leading "think-tank" on security and disarmament issues.

Rotblat lives in London where he was professor of physics at the University of London. He has been a British subject since 1946.

He was a refugee from Hitler's Europe who was working at Liverpool University in northern England when World War Two broke out.

He began research on the potential of atomic power in Britain in 1940.

He became a member of a group of British-based scientists who worked on the secret Manhattan Project. But he left the project as Germany headed for defeat, making him possibly the world's first anti-nuclear arms protester.

Rotblat was the only scientist to leave the Manhattan project base at Los Alamos, New Mexico, where the atomic bomb was developed that later devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

His departure was officially said to have been because he wanted to return to Europe to search for his wife.

After the end of World War Two, he founded the Atomic Scientists Association, the forerunner to the Pugwash organization. He later became president of the organization, which was dedicated to arms control.

Although Rotblat had always been conscious of the disastrous consequences that

the development of nuclear weapons could entail, he had felt compelled to work on the Manhattan project to develop the atomic bomb before Germany could do so.

When it became clear that Germany had given up working on the atomic bomb, he pulled out of the project and did not know the bomb had been completed until it was dropped on Hiroshima.

He was said to have been "devastated" by the consequences of its use on Japan in the dying days of the Pacific war and dedicated his life to campaigning against the nuclear arms race, urging other scientists to do so.

FRANCE UNEASILY CONGRATULATES ROTBLAT ON NOBEL

(By Alistair Doyle)

PARIS, October 13.—France uneasily congratulated ban-the-bomb scientist Joseph Rotblat on winning the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, dodging the laureate's condemnation of French nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

"We congratulate the Nobel Peace Prize laureate," Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt told reporters. "France wants disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, in security."

"Security will permit disarmament," he told the ministry's regular daily press briefing, adding: "French policy aims to establish security."

Despite Paris's official congratulations, the award to the veteran nuclear physicist-turned-peace campaigner seemed set to make the French government squirm.

Pierre Lellouche, a member of parliament and former strategic affairs adviser to President Jacques Chirac, said he was "perfectly scandalised" and accused the group Rotblat heads of being a former tool of Soviet propaganda.

Both Rotblat and the Norwegian Nobel Committee wasted no time in urging France to cancel nuclear tests. Paris broke a three-year moratorium last month by detonating an underground nuclear device in French Polynesia.

Rotblat, 86, said he hoped the prize "is a message not only to the French but to the Chinese as well." China and France are the only official nuclear powers still testing.

Rotblat wrote to President Jacques Chirac last month protesting against the French tests. "I think it's very bad," he told Reuters in London on Friday.

"There is no reason at all in my opinion for President Chirac to resume tests. I can't see any tactical reason at all. I can only see this as an attempt maybe to make their bomb a little better, or develop perhaps a new type."

Nobel Committee chairman Francis Sejersted told Reuters Television: "The specific message to the French is a protest against the nuclear tests, as it is a protest against nuclear tests in general and nuclear armaments in general."

France has staged two tests since early September despite howls of outrage abroad. Chirac says tests are vital to check France's nuclear arsenal and plans as many as six more before banning testing for ever.

France's La Chaine Info television commented that the impact of the Nobel decision on French diplomacy would hardly have been worse had environmental group Greenpeace won.

Rotblat, who helped develop the first atom bomb in the United States in hopes it would never be used, shared the million-dollar prize with the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs which he chairs.

Lellouche said: "I am personally—and as a specialist in these matters—perfectly scandalised by the fact that an organisation which one knows was openly manipulated by

the Soviets should be honoured in this way at a time when everyone knows the controversy about the French tests."

The Pugwash conferences played a back-room role in the Cold War, bringing together scientists, scholars and public figures from East and West to discuss nuclear and other security issues.

AUSTRALIA LAUDS PRIZE FOR ANTI-NUCLEAR CAMPAIGNER

SYDNEY, October 14.—Australia, a fierce opponent of French nuclear testing in the South Pacific, welcomed on Saturday the award of the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize to anti-nuclear campaigner Joseph Rotblat.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Australia applauded Rotblat's remark that he hoped the prize would send "a message not only to the French but to the Chinese as well."

"We certainly welcome those remarks from someone as eminent as a Nobel Peace Prize winner and it reinforces the wide range of interests against the nuclear testing programmes," the spokesman told Reuters.

"It basically reinforces the need for a comprehensive test ban treaty, which Australia has been consistently working towards over so many years."

Rotblat, a nuclear physicist who devoted his life to trying to ban the bomb he helped create, won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday and seized the opportunity to spread his anti-nuclear message.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee, which awarded the prize to the 86-year-old peace campaigner and the Pugwash organisation he founded, also made clear it was intended as a protest against French nuclear tests.

France, which is carrying out a series of tests in the South Pacific, and China are the only nuclear powers still carrying out tests.

Australia has said French and Chinese nuclear tests threaten to undermine negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty due for completion next year by encouraging more non-nuclear powers to develop atomic weapons.

Canberra is especially critical of French testing, arguing Paris should, like Beijing, test on their home soil. Having failed to prevent the resumption of tests in French Polynesia, Australia is now trying to embarrass France in world forums.

Australia will seek condemnation of nuclear testing at next month's Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in New Zealand.

It is also lobbying with Japan and New Zealand for an anti-testing resolution within the United Nations.

OAS HITS FRENCH TESTS

French nuclear tests are detrimental to peace and international security, the Mexican ambassador to the OAS said as she assumed the rotating presidency of the organization's permanent council.

Ambassador Carmen Moreno de Del Cueto restated the Organization of American States' call for France to end its tests in the South Pacific.

"I deeply regret that the French government has ignored [our] call . . . to suspend the nuclear tests," she said. "I reiterate our call . . . and urge the French government to finally suspend their nuclear tests, which do not contribute to either peace or international security."

Mrs. Moreno de Del Cueto thanked the OAS for its gradual reforms.

"Little by little the OAS has moved forward in pluralism and tolerance and has begun to eliminate the radical bad habits of the Cold War," she said last week.

DO NOT USE SCARE TACTICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. WHITFIELD] is recognized during morning business for 3 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I have in my hands today an article taken from yesterday's Wall Street Journal entitled "Clinton Recruits Campaign Team of Nasty Boys." I would like to just read the first paragraph:

Gearing up for 1996, President Clinton is fielding a motley crew of reelection strategists with reputations for shrewdness and ruthless tactics. A mainstay on his team, New Yorker Henry Sheikoph, readily boasts, "I subscribe to terror." Last year, in speaking to a convention of political consultants, Mr. Sheikoph told a gathering that terror works in political campaigns because it is so easy to make people hate.

What a sad commentary that is on the political system in America that political strategists would deliberately be trying to terrorize and scare people in America, and the efforts to terrorize have already started in the area of Medicare.

As you know Medicare will be bankrupt by the year 2002, according to the President's own board of trustees, and we are committed to preserving that plan, to make it a better plan than it is today. Under the Republican plan, we are going to be spending \$355 billion more over the next 6 years, 7 years, on Medicare than were spent in the past 7 years.

But more important than that, if you work in a major corporation today or if you work in the Federal Government today, or if you are in the U.S. Congress today, you have options to choose your health care from five or six different plans. But if you are a senior citizen in America today, you have one option, a fee-for-service option.

Some suburban areas and urban areas, you have an HMO that you can participate in. But we are going to provide senior citizens with additional options. If they want to keep the system they have today, they can do so. If they want to go to an HMO, they can do so. If they want to go to provider service networks, they can do so. If they want to be into a medical savings account, paid for by the Government, they can do so.

So I would urge the President, I would urge those Members of the Democratic Party who are trying to use this issue to scare the American people, to come forward and be honest and say, "Yes, this is going to be a better system."

We do not need nasty boys, so to speak, running political campaigns in America.

MEDICARE FRAUD AND ABUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.