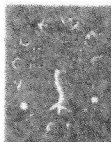


JUL 19 1957



AUSABLE FORKS
NEW YORK

July 14, 1957

Mr. Cyrus Eaton
Pugwash, Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Eaton:

The meeting now in progress at your home in Nova Scotia, the matters under discussion and the conclusions reached, as these have come to us through the press, are undoubtedly having a great effect on the more serious element of the American people and that effect should be reflected in at least a modification of our hell-bent national and international policy.

I have just received a communication from the distinguished Mexican artist, Diego Rivera, and knowing that it will be of interest to you as an expression of the hope that appears to have activated your conference I send you a copy of it.

Of course this letter should be widely publicized and might well be circulated as an appeal for the endorsement of the "men of culture" to whom it is addressed. I have wired Rivera to learn from him what his intentions are and whether or not he has in mind that I should undertake its publication and circularization. Diego Rivera's name commands the greatest respect in America, and his appeal could be made to reach a far larger public than Linus Pauling's.

If the appeal is to be launched, I would be deeply appreciative of your counsel. A friend of mine, Corliss Lamont, is vacationing in Nova Scotia at the moment. I will try to reach him, sending him a copy of Rivera's letter and a copy of this letter of mine to you and suggest to him that he get in touch with you and ask for an interview.

I am, Sir, with great respect,

Faithfully yours,

RK/sj
enc:

Rockwell Kent

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C O P Y

DIEGO RIVERA
Palmas y Alta Vista 191
San Angel Inn, D. F. Mexico

25 de Junio de 1957

To Mr. Rockwell Kent
and all artists and men of culture in the world.

My dear Sir:

I address myself to you to ask that your voice and the authority of your position reinforce the demand, in the name of everything in the world that signifies culture, beauty, joy and peace, for the immediate suspension of the thermonuclear and atomic bomb tests, since their continuation only can result in a general atomic war with the consequent destruction of humanity.

No sooner had his superior knowledge given to man the possibility of penetrating the nuclear structure of matter, and the power of liberating and managing its immense energy, than the discovery was applied to prepare instruments of mass destruction.

The continuing threats and counter-threats have caused such powerful fear and mass hysteria in the world as evidently can bring about the destruction of order; can produce a rapidly increasing degeneracy of moral and esthetic values. All art, culture, and life itself is in imminent danger and we must defend it.

It seems that the intelligence of man is not yet great enough for him to comprehend that from every side he is preparing his own destruction. Let us raise our voices, then, let us use our awareness and our love of mankind to awaken his intelligence from its lethargy!

Two thousand Northamerican scientists have demanded the suspension of the tests as a step toward the prohibition of atomic arms. But certain scientists of my country--a neighbor of the United States--have stated publicly that humanity has nothing to fear from the tests --that "only their use in a war would be terrible".

Are the test bombs, then, made of different material than the bombs that they would drop in a war? The whole world can ask the Japanese sailors and fishermen, victims of the atomic rain that fell from a Northamerican test bomb in the Pacific; it can ask those who were poisoned by eating contaminated fish.

Possibly the scientists who do not look upon the atomic bomb as a menace to humanity feel that the Japanese people do not form a part of humanity. Whatever their opinion, this experience shows that in a nuclear war between the great powers, the people of the small nations, who have as much right to live as those of the big nations, would be the defenceless victims.

If men of science by thousands have raised their voice against the enormous atrocity, until now it seems that they are unheard, since others are found to mute the alarm.