

From: The Earl Russell, O.M., F.R.S.,
PLAS PENRHYN,
PENRHYNDEUDRAETH,
MERIONETH.
TEL PENRHYNDEUDRAETH 242
30th December, 1961.

Miss Lucille Komisar,
224 Locust Street,
Valley stream,
NEW YORK

Dear Miss Komisar,

Thank you for your letter of October 29th. I am sorry that I have been unable to reply to you sooner, but I am sure you will understand that I have been overwhelmed with correspondence ever since my release from prison.

I can give neither you nor your parents any easy answers. I should however like to say this. Sooner or later, unless we do something to prevent it, civilisation and probably the whole human race as well will be destroyed in a nuclear war. In almost every country there are rockets poised on a hair trigger. H-bombers continually patrol the skies. The radar warning systems cannot tell a goose from a missile. More and more the Pentagon, and for all we know, the Kremlin as well, is favouring the idea of war as soon as possible. Every day we run the risk of war through accident or miscalculation or malice, and spread over months and years this risk becomes a certainty.

We are faced with a simple alternative. We must either acquiesce in the drift towards war or we must try to prevent it. If we do not make the attempt, we betray our own humanity. I do not know whether we shall succeed or not, and sometimes I feel that we are bound to fail. It is never easy to challenge accepted myths, and in as conventional a society as the United States, it is extremely unpopular. I am convinced that the apparent disinterest, apathy, and often contempt and hatred that your actions provoke in the great mass of the population are not the result of any lack of concern. People feel powerless to affect events in any way, and they are so frightened by this impotence that they refuse to think about the problems at all, and fall back upon the official dogma. Your action in protesting at the nuclear tests of the Soviet Union has gone some way to dispel this feeling of powerlessness, and thus to remove some of the apathy.

America must be one of the most materialistic societies in history. It is not easy to assert human values, or even to express a

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wish for the survival of humanity. It is always painful when our deepest convictions clash with the views of those dear to us. I should like you to show this letter to your parents, and to assure them that in my view your actions and your attitudes are extremely courageous and right, and are in accord with all that is best in American history and thought.

I am enclosing some speeches of mine, and some documents of the Committee of 100, which I hope you will find valuable.

Yours sincerely,

Bertrand Russell

Bertrand Russell.

KHRUSHCHEV SAYS TESTS WILL GO ON

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earth into a flowering garden. "We are thinking not only of their present but of their future as well. I must say that our scientists are doing everything to reduce the harmful after-effects of the tests to a minimum."

"But we cannot refrain from carrying out those tests," he continued and said that the tests must be carried through to insure the security of the Soviet state because of a Western threat of war in the Berlin dispute.

However, elsewhere in his speech, Mr. Khrushchev asserted that the Soviet Union already "had achieved indisputable superiority in rockets and nuclear arms."

Mr. Khrushchev dwelt at length on what he obviously considered a serious propaganda reverse for the Soviet Union.

The world-wide outcry against Soviet nuclear testing was intensified after last Monday, when the Soviet Union detonated a nuclear bomb with the explosive force equal to 30,000,000 tons or more of TNT. The atmospheric tests produced extensive fall-out.

"It was very regrettable indeed, Mr. Khrushchev said, that "certain fair-minded people abroad" failed to appreciate the Soviet position on testing. He added:

"Imperialist propaganda is taking advantage of the humane sentiments of these people to prevent us through them from improving the necessary means of defense to make it easier for the imperialists to prepare a new war against us."

U. N. Appeal Sent to Soviet

Special to The New York Times.

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 28 — The United Nations Secretariat formally notified

23 Youths in A-Bomb Protest Arrested at Soviet U. N. Mission

By McCANDLISH PHILLIPS

Twenty-three young people were arrested yesterday after they had sat down and begun to sing anti-war songs at the headquarters of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations.

Four had penetrated the mission building and serenaded Soviet clerks at close range. The others sat cross-legged on a rubber mat between two columns supporting the Park Avenue balcony on which Premier Khrushchev had made impromptu appearances last year.

The young people had pledged themselves to keep a vigil until the Soviet Union either canceled plans to test a fifty-megaton nuclear bomb in the atmosphere or went ahead with it. But their demonstration actually lasted a scant twenty minutes.

It followed a two-hour protest by a crowd of 2,000 that had gathered near the mission at Park Avenue and Sixty-eighth Street to register their objection to the Soviet's resumption of bomb tests.

According to friends of the arrested youths, the idea for the sit-down originated during the larger protest demonstration. A group of thirty of those who had marched in tight ranks on Sixty-eighth Street between Park and Fifth Avenues adjourned at 2:10 P. M. to Central Park and laid plans for the second demonstration.

Twenty-three young folks in-

cluding three girls, agreed to sit in or on the doorstep of the Soviet mission until Halloween if necessary. Ten others volunteered to picket in their support.

The group returned to the mission at 3 o'clock. During their brief occupancy of the doormat, three Russians emerged from the building and had a little difficulty finding a path from the vestibule to the sidewalk.

Six patrolmen surveyed them indifferently. At 3:10 police officers arrived in a radio car accompanied by an arrest wagon.

The four youths who had got into the embassy were taken out first. Two patrolmen lifted each one and deposited him on the sidewalk.

The patrolmen then lifted those on the doormat and dropped them on to the sidewalk. The youths quietly sang "We shall not be moved."

Capt. Jame O'Brien then addressed them: "I don't like to do this, but I'm obligated to arrest you. If any of you want to get up and leave you can."

He gave them ten seconds of grace. No one budged.

"Okay, start," the Captain told his men. The patrolmen carried the youths from the sidewalk and put them in the wagon.

The larger demonstration from noon to 2:10 P. M. was arranged by the Greater New York Council for a Sane Nuclear Policy.

the Soviet Union today of the General Assembly's appeal for cancellation of the scheduled fifty-megaton nuclear bomb test.

A cablegram was sent by the Secretariat at the request of the President of the General Assembly, Mongi Slim of Tunisia.