

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.

almost

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 deny our own humanity. I do not know whether we shall succeed or not, and sometimes I feel that we are

betray