

17-8-66

Dear Nell,

Forgive my so long waiting for answering your kind letter. As I wrote you before I am engaged in editing and publishing a review (in Dutch) dealing with Peace and World-Federalism: a trying task for an old man. Fortunately I have found at last a capable young man willing to take up the stiff job of Editing Secretary. It will, of course, take some time for him to learn the job, but now I can at least look forward to calmer days.

I hope with all my heart your beloved Chris has come back safe and sound. Waiting for him must have been for your sensitive heart a trial beyond imagination - how many other mothers and grandmothers in America and Vietnam suffer similar pains swinging between fear and hopes, days and days, months and months. When shall this criminal war come to an end? All over the world courageous men and women work and strive, offering most of their time to make those who are responsible for the squall of insanity raging over the earth, come back to reason and humanity, to listen to the cry of the children and mothers flaming as torches!

May God give that your other two grandsons be spared!



Meanwhile I guess your Belgian guest will have sailed back to Belgium. I would have been able to have a talk with her before she went to you; but at that time I had very much to do as president of the selection-jury of the European Photographic Competition for the youth. So, I missed the opportunity.

The appreciation of your old friend Grace Hayes gave me great pleasure. The book had a very good press everywhere and is selling well although it is rather expensive. If I was sure it would be of any use to you, I would be glad to send you a copy... or to bring it to you! But that will remain a dream.

I thought I am often with you - sitting by the fireside, reading poems with you and listening to Bach's B minor Mass.

Be sure, dear Nell, the remembrance of the few hours spent with you will only die with me.

Das gibt's nur einmal!

Many good wishes, also from Paula and Margaret,

Herman