COMMENTS FROM LETTERS REGARDING

"MOTHER AND CHILD"

This book of pictures represents an America that is not measured in terms of Hollywood, of materialism, or of McCarthyism, the three qualities of our country which seem largely to be exploited abroad.

Eugene Exman
Harper Bros.
May 26, 1954

I must have a longer perspective before I talk much about it. At the moment--under this first impact, it leaves me dumb and breathless--like birth and death--I must sit under the sky a bit and try to think.
Your text and the pictures evoke by suggestion what lies deep hidden in the reader's mind--that quality of the masterpieces of art. It is just paint or printer's ink--OR, it is the strong solvent that cuts through the coating of commonplace life to the shy heart beneath.
It is very timely. I should like to put McCarthy in solitary confinement with a copy of this book and refuse him food until he knew it by heart!

Arthur Rushmore
The Golden Hind Press
May 31, 1954

Note by JVND: Mr. Rushmore was for many years the greatly beloved "Head" of Harper and Brothers, the publisher of the American Edition of "Mother and Child" which comes out in September 1954.

This is the loveliest book I have ever seen. It seems like something from another world, half a fairy world and yet so brimming with humanness, a thing of exquisite beauty and pathos. It is all true poetry as I see it and as such--a thing of beauty.
It will never fade into nothingness--but still will keep a bower quiet for us and a sleep full of sweetest dreams and health and quiet beauty. (Or perhaps it is more like some strain of heavenly music that transcends and doesn't need words--so I won't and indeed can't go on trying to add words to words--but I do indeed, indeed thank you for this great privilege of being allowed to see it. Of course you seem to me like someone from another world!--but what world it is and where it is, I cannot at present feel sure--something very primitive, in truth primeval and yet so civilized--?

Lady Bullard
July 5, 1954

These are not photographs, they belong with the great Masterpieces.....But this is Vermeer.....These are to live with, not to look at.

Dr. D'Ailly
Burgomeister of Amsterdam

Technically this is a gem....But there is so much more than technique.

Mr. Keigreiss
Publisher at Stuttgart

But this is not photography, this is painting, This is are--a medium of its own....I must paint these. Do you mind if I paint some of these?

Mr. Edward Dietz
Artist in Paris