

# the catholic peace fellowship

An educational service conducted by Catholic members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation

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Sept 20/1967

Dear Tom:

It was good to get your signature this morning for the Peace or Politics statement; the response thus far has been very encouraging. In addition to several departments heads at Catholic University and a number of other distinguished names, the editors of Commonweal all signed.

As it now stands, we look for publication of the statement early in October.

In the meantime, we are thinking about other means of developing concerns.

In talking with Jim O'Gara at Commonweal several minutes ago, it was suggested you do a piece for them on the CRS situation. This despite the fact that they're jammed with things waiting to be published...

The contents of such an article may well not require great quantities of factual material, but to help with reference data, here are things from my file. Some of the quotations and as yet unpublished news are on the startling side, even after the NCR and Times reports.

Jim commented that he was surprised with the small amount of interest and understanding he's found among persons aware of CRS' commitment to the U.S. military. Yet there is such a sea of tragic news these days that it seems to get more difficult to access any particular new addition, to weigh information in terms of Christ's expectations of the Church.

The article should be in the area of 900/1,000 words, and should be sent air special to Commonweal, 232 Madison Ave., NY 10016. Could you send a carbon here at the same time. This is of course assuming you do it.

Let me ask at the same time what thoughts you might have regarding the possibilities of developing a significant concern in this area with the hierarchy or at least some of the bishops. Jim O'Gara thinks there is no chance of getting one to sign, that such an effort would be an exercise in futility. On the other hand, it doesn't seem unlikely that some of them would share our sense of betrayal and complicity. As you once said, In time of war, God is the first to be drafted, yet perhaps there are a few bishops who share my discomfort

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with that.

We'll see. In any event, I have never felt more grateful to Father Dan than now. In addition to sending us his most recent Macmillan royalty check (which will pay about half the ad's cost) he has provided the spark for all this.

I'll save other news for the next letter. I want to get this out in today's mail.

Jim

Enclosed also is a xerox  
copy of a card design Linda  
has done - hope you like. It's  
from her favorite lesson 17 years  
(Bairds)