

the catholic peace fellowship

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

5 BEEKMAN STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10038

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May 2, 1967

Dear Tom:

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Just left Dan Berrigan. He has been encountering quite a bit of flak from the SJs on his proposed trip to Hanoi, to deliver a parcel of medical supplies, since State & Treasury Departments forbid us to send what we have with a license. Some of them think it will augur the end of the Order on the U.S. I wish I could be that sanguine (not about the dissolution of the Order) but about the penetrability of the public consciousness -- that it would make that much difference during this "speechlessness of slaughter." Dan seems troubled, about them, the Jebbs, not about the value of the project. They might actually can him, if not now, when the heat cools. My instinct tells me that it will smooth over, but Dan needs help, prayers.

To the point of this letter. We do not have explicit permission from you placed in the Macmillan Comapany files for publication of the Camus piece you did for the CW, do we? Betty Bartelme at Macmillan indicates not. If there are no plans for the piece which would preclude publication in Jim's and my anthology, could you send a note giving the ok? Then we can go ahead. Publication date is Feb. '68.

It was great to read of Dan Walsh. I met him in the gift shop down there. We spoke for just a few minutes, but I remember it clearly. Especially in these days I admire more and more the older men and women who have fought it through, in one way or another, who "never went sour and never sold out." "Never trust a man over thirty" is a slogan of the new left. Sometimes I wonder if the opposite might not be more apt.

On the road much of the time recently. The bread is rising. The best groups I have been with recently were at Boston College and John Carroll in Cleveland. They don't know how marvellous they are, these really turned-on kids, full of spirit and ready for the Good News. It's in the most unlikely places that the best things are happening. Tonight I am going with our Long Island chapter to the chancery in Rockville Center for a second meeting with the mugwumps there to discuss peace education in regard to the institutions of the diocese. I want to get into the schools, on armed forces career day, an annual event in almost every school, public or private, and have federal legislation as it regards c.o.'s explained from the same platform at the same time as the Army, the Navy, Marines, Air Force & Coast Guard do their recruiting. Why not?

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At the same time that all these good things are happening, the invasion of the North seems closer and closer. The stage is being set, meticulously.

Jim has been on the road, Calif.,. Juarez, Minneapolis, due back tomorrow. Berliner is poised to set in motion the campaign for growth he has very professionally devised, with us and a guy who does ad work for the NCR. This time of year is very hard on us. Jim and I see very little of each other. As the school year draws towards exams we get inundated. And there are stacks of mail, to pick at between airports.

Hope the health continues on the up-swing. OK in this corner. New baby swells Monica's stomach, due in early August. Long hot summer. Dorothy is well. Had supper with Monica last Friday, spaghetti with white clam sauce and home made tortoni. I'm making an Italian cook out of my Slovenian wife. Dorothy loved it. Sorry I couldn't have been there. I was up with the "Blue Army" (rosaries for the conversion of Russia) near Buffalo.

So pray, man! We need you and love you, ever in our thoughts.

Tom