

Amznia, New York : 6 October 1965

Dear Father Merton:

Being in the midst of a difficult bit of writing on my new book, I am driven to thank you for your gifts even before I've read them — as I shall eagerly do when the present spate of work is over. In a little while I'll send you a brief abstract of the theme I'm developing: a mere hint of a much more formidable thesis challenging many current notions on man's past and future development. My book was interrupted for 3 months last spring by the Vietnam crisis: but that brief public awakening only caused a verbal



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retreat by our government: one that  
~~could~~ made more bitterly ironic  
the President's recent conversation  
with the Pope.

with warm good wishes for  
your life & work

Faithfully yours  
Lewis Mumford

P.S. How pleasant to find Hammer's  
uncial type in your note heading.  
We've kept each others courage  
alive for twenty years — with  
only two or three 1-and-3  
meetings.