

June 6, 1990

**Letter, Director of Public Affairs and Executive
Director of the International Physicians for the
Prevention of Nuclear War to Test Ban Congress
Participant June 1990**

Citation:

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Summary:

A letter expressing gratitude for the participants of the International Citizens Congress for a Nuclear Test Ban. The letter expresses hope that participants will continue to build international coalitions in the future and mentions an upcoming January 1991 meeting of the Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference.

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International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Inc.



June 6, 1990

To: Participants in the International Citizens Congress
for a Nuclear Test Ban

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Dear Friend:

We trust you have found your way back home by now. IPPNW is grateful for your participation in the congress and we hope your experience in Kazakhstan will lead to renewed and intensified efforts in the international campaign for a test ban.

We were inspired by the strength and humanity of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement and believe that this community-based movement has much to offer the international CTB movement.

Enclosed is a list of the names and addresses of the foreign participants. Many of you specifically requested such a list. Our hope is that you will use this list to help build the local, regional and international coalitions that will be needed in the months and years ahead. A first target date is January 1991 when the Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference will convene. We expect the United States and the U.K. to exercise their veto power under the Limited Test Ban Treaty to block an attempt to make the treaty comprehensive. Nevertheless, the conference is a vital way-station on the way to a CTB: it is an opportunity to focus world attention on those nations standing in the way.

We have also enclosed 7 congress related documents. They are: (i) and (ii) appeals to Presidents Bush and Gorbachev issued by IPPNW and the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement at a Moscow press conference just prior to the convening of the congress; (iii) an appeal to the heads of state of the nuclear testing countries; (iv) an appeal to representatives to the Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference; (v) an call, ratified at the closing plenary, for increased internationalization of the CTB movement and (vi) and (vii) reports of two of the working groups that relate directly to on-going organizing efforts around the CTB.

You will recall that during the closing plenary session, Olzhas Suleimenov announced that the United States had conducted a nuclear test in Nevada on May 25 or 26. This announcement in turn spurred our demonstration at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. It is with some

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consternation that we report to you that we have been unable to confirm this test and, indeed, a Department of Energy spokesman denied the report of a U.S. test to the Las Vegas Review-Journal. What may have contributed to the confusion was a Chinese nuclear test on May 26, their first in some two years. Nevertheless, we believe the demonstration at the U.S. Embassy was an appropriate expression of disagreement with U.S. nuclear testing policy. We apologize for the error and are seeking to determine the source of Mr. Suleimenov's report of a U.S. test on May 25 or 26.

The Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement is interested in identifying doctors and other health care professionals interested in donating time, or organizing assistance, for the children of Kazakhstan who have been afflicted by nuclear tests. Some of you may have seen the solicitation to this effect in the lobby of the Hotel Kazakhstan. Unfortunately, the names of those who signed the solicitation were lost in the hotel. We therefore repeat the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement's appeal for the names of doctors and health care professionals who would be interested in pursuing some form of assistance to the people of the region. Please send your names to IPPNW. We will turn them over to the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement.

As you saw first hand, the expenses of mounting the test ban congress were formidable. From the enormous staff time and communications costs to hotels and air transportation, the costs of the congress far surpassed the income generated by the modest registration fee which was heavily subsidized by the convening organizations. We knew this would be the case. But we hope you will now consider the value you received for the registration fee and consider making a donation to help us defray some of the costs of producing the congress.

We believe the spirit of community fostered among the congress participants will help propel the CTB movement in the months ahead. We want to hear from you. Please share your ideas, your successes and failures, your press clippings and your energy. Together we will overcome!

Sincerely,



William Monning
Executive Director



Peter Zheutlin
Director, Public Affairs

P.S. For U.S. participants we have included some materials from the U.S. CTB Coalition. We urge your support in building the U.S. and international coalition campaigns.