

## **August 22, 1990**

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

## Citation:

"Letter, Director of Public Affairs and Executive Director of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War to Test Ban Congress Participant August 1990", August 22, 1990, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Personal Papers of Matthew Evangelista, Folder: "Alma Ata Congress."

https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/300518

## **Summary:**

A letter explaining recent actions taken by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War to campaign for a nuclear test ban. The letter celebrates the media coverage of the International Citizens Congress for a Nuclear Test Ban generated by congress participants and applauds the Soviet Union for continuing its undeclared moratorium on nuclear testing.

### **Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

# **Original Language:**

English

### **Contents:**

Original Scan



International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Inc.

August 22, 1990



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Tenth World Congress
27 June - 1 July 1991
Stockholm



### Dear Friend:

Thanks to all of you who have written to share your impressions of the Citizens Congress for a Nuclear Test Ban. Judging from the letters we have received, the Congress catalyzed a renewed, more cohesive campaign for a comprehensive test ban.

Many participants sent articles they were able to place in local newspapers reporting on the Congress. The level of coverage generated by congress participants in their communities is encouraging. It mirrors the success of IPPNW's "Citizen-Journalist" program in which our own physicians-turned-journalists report on IPPNW issues and events for their local press. Enclosed are copies of the newspaper clippings we've received about Alma-Ata. We hope they will inspire each of you to reach out to your local media, including radio and television stations. Education on this issue, often neglected by the press, is vital.

Also enclosed is the latest issue of IPPNW's newsletter *Vital Signs*, much of which is devoted to the Alma-Ata Congress. We encourage you to read the article on page 6 about the headway that has been made in our struggle for a CTB. Extra copies of *Vital Signs* are available upon request.

Olzhas Suleimenov, leader of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement, will arrive in the US in late November for a two-week tour. We hope to use his visit to generate publicity, continue the coalition-building that began in Alma-Ata, and to focus attention on the January Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference. Although a final schedule is not yet in place, we expect Olzhas to visit New York, Boston, St. Louis, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. We hope all of you along his route will be able to participate in the activities. We will keep you posted about Olzhas's visit.

The Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement has promised IPPNW the rights to use *Poligon*, the powerful film screened during the Congress. We are currently exploring ways to bring this film to

the US public, including airing all or portions of it on a major television network.

As you know, because of pressure applied by the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement, the Soviet Union continues its undeclared moratorium on testing. The last Soviet nuclear test was on October 14, 1989. The other nuclear powers, however, continue to test. Since the Congress, the US has conducted three nuclear tests, France four, and China two. With the attention of the world now focused on the Middle East, the spectre of nuclear proliferation makes our cause all the more pressing.

Sincerely,

William W. Monning

Executive Director

Peter Zheutlin

Director, Public Affairs