

March 2, 1990

Letter, Olzhas Suleimenov to Matthew Evangelista

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Summary:

A letter from Olzhas Suleimenov welcoming participants to the upcoming International Citizens Congress for a Nuclear Test Ban. Suleimenov describes the recent successes of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement and explains that forming a united voice with the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War will lead to future victories.

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"НЕВАДА - СЕМИПАЛАТИНСК"

March 2, 1990

This year, from May 24 to May 27, the Republic of Kazakhstan welcomes dear guests -- participants of the International Citizens Congress for a Nuclear Test Ban.

For us, people living in Kazakhstan, whose land has for forty years been used for nuclear tests, this Congress is not only a political and social event but an act of participation in deciding the fate of the world. We remember the time when people hoped to save themselves from nuclear catastrophe in private bomb shelters. But salvation today will require the unification of our mutual efforts of good will and wisdom. Only if we act together can we preserve life on Earth.

We called our movement "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" in the hope that we would hear the voice of the country with whom, until recently, the only means of communication was the language of the Cold War. In our first year of active opposition to nuclear weapons tests we have witnessed significant results -- in 1989, 11 of 18 scheduled underground nuclear tests in our country were cancelled. Since October 19, 1989, there have been no nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk.

Before the tribunal of people's diplomacy, the military-industrial complex has lost its state prerogative. This success has convinced us of our potential which increases ten-fold due to your support. Together we are capable of ceasing the nuclear arms race all over the world.

We, the activists of the anti-nuclear movement "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" and the physicians of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the initiators of this Congress, await you in the land of Kazakhstan. Having united our voices we shall force nuclear test sites to be silent so that the voices of our descendants shall be heard.

Olzhas Suleimenov,
President of anti-nuclear movement
"Nevada-Semipalatinsk"; Deputy of the
USSR Supreme Soviet

To: Mr. Matthew Evangelista

