



International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Inc.

"We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive" ALBERT EINSTEIN

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*Circ. to family
1/14/86*

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Dear Henry:

I very much appreciated your kind words of congratulations. The physicians' movement as well as everyone working against the nuclear threat are buoyed and charged with a new vigor. The Nobel Award honors all physicians who have labored to rid the world of the scourge of nuclearism.

We cannot, however, rest on our laurels. The nuclear threat which haunts our age is increasing. Every day 10 nuclear missiles are added to arsenals, swollen with a megatonnage equivalent to 6000 World War II's. Unless millions of people join our ranks soon, none of us will see the year 2000, a mere 14 years away. Every historic period has had its Cassandras. Our era is the first in which prophecies of doom stem from objective scientific analyses.

Three weeks ago while in Moscow I had the privilege of spending nearly three hours with General Secretary Gorbachev. He expressed great anxiety about the threat confronting humankind. I was deeply impressed with his profound comprehension of the prevailing danger and with his eagerness to begin to dismantle the nuclear arsenals. I believe that with the new atmosphere for accommodation now evident in the USSR, we have a unique opportunity to reach significant historic agreements.

May the year 1986 prove a turning point in human affairs and mark a beginning in ridding the world of the instruments of genocide.

With good wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Lown
Bernard Lown, M.D.
Co-President

BL/VI