

March 12, 1975

Mr. Henry Begemann
Prins van Wiedlaan 38
Wassenar
THE NETHERLANDS

RECEIVED

MAR 29 1975

URANTIA

Dear Mr. Begemann,

Your Loving and Kind letter of the 7th was indeed welcome and I thank you for it and all the glad tidings it contained.

Maybe it will be best to start the answer by a bit of a personal description of my family and I, so you can put some kind of chronology and method into some important whys and wherefors. I am 45, Canadian of Hungarian descent, my wife Christel is Swedish, 29; my daughter Jinjee was born in Hamburg Germany, is nearly 8 years old; and my son James was born in London, England and is 5. We live in a Stockholm suburb 20 minutes from the heart of town by train and we have been ~~students~~ students of Urantia for nearly 2 years. The revelation reached us through an old and trusted friend in Sydney, Australia on April 25th 1973 and both my wife and I have ~~been~~ ardent students and promoters of the teachings ever since, though I come from an atheistic and anti-religious background, I have looked into MOST existing religions, mystic cults, and political -isms ever since I was 18 years old and discarded the lot, quite simply because I was incapable of reconciling them into the life I was living. When our Revelation reached me, I was more than ready for a group of ~~concepts~~ concepts, exactly like the Book gave me, which was intellectually as well as spiritually and materially consistent; without the loopholes I grew accustomed to in every group of thoughts which are secularly available.

You ask, among other things, which part of the Book I like the most. That is an impossible question to answer for I have read the Book in it's entirety 3 times and I was deeply touched, elated and physically and mentally overjoyed at ALL of it each time, with certain things going HOME in my expanding consciousness at each reading, while certain other things just digested themselves into my reflexes, while reading them. My head was popping and my intellect (mind coordinate) was getting put together in an experiential feeling at each sentence. The Book thusly, in it's entirety, became a part of my life, by coordinating every thought I ever thought of. After my first reading (complete) I went back to the "foreword" and read it through about 20-30 times, before I went back to the passages about our beloved "Thought Adjusters", the "History of Religion" on our planet, and the discription of the "Mansion World" in both the papers pertaining to the history of Urantia and the discription of our Local Universe, before proceeding to reread the whole Book for a second time. An equal soul-searching period ensued between the second and third reading, with random study of extensively various papers and passages.

Ever since I have adopted the Book to represent the Living Authority it so obviously does (It did take a while before I was convinced with the help of my beloved Adjuster), I did so wholly and unconditionally about 2 months after I was reading it, though it GREW into my way, as opposed to happening at a certain given point of time; and have been wanting to DO something about bringing it into the mainstream of life, first in Australia, then in New Zealand and then here in Sweden, which I have managed to a certain degree, but the contacts made were ONLY personal contacts with individual friends and relatives who were ready for the Revelation, and I always felt and still feel that something in way of some kind of organisation should go into this, thusly reaching other souls who are and would obviously be ready to receive the contents of the Book, as well as you and I were; and since we're better off for having received the word, so would they be and I think it's rather unfair not having a system other than the one we have. I wrote to the Foundation and the Brotherhood about my ideas and they were almost antagonistically "negative", until my last, almost desperately threatening letter, where I hinted at

possibly starting a Brotherhood of my own, if they continued to refuse help in the manner I was asking for it; got replies from the Presidents of both the Foundation and the Brotherhood, a copy of which Mr. Snider has mailed to you. I didn't want to appear pressing or impatient, though I basically am, for reasons of feeling that SOMETHING MUST happen in this world to correct the effects of the present Status Quo and I feel that what MUST happen is in OUR hands and we're sitting on it like an old institutionalised hen and waiting for it to HATCH by itself, as opposed to going out and trying to get things HOME in the World, where the contents of our Revelation obviously belongs.

In our world, since the establishment of mass communications, NOTHING, but NOTHING became a part of main-stream-living, without it's sythematic promotion. ALL our enemies, God's enemies, have plans and modes of procedure and highly articulated programmes for their messages, good bad or indifferent; but they have a schedule by which they work and try to drive their ideas home. We don't. Or at least this is my impression. Should this be happening on Celestial advise, I ~~would~~ would like to know about it, but if it is in OUR hands, then WE MUST come up with a better plan and all the admonitions I receive from the Foundation, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Brotherhood and private Brothers as to "patience", I consider "HOGWASH". I am patient, but we seem to labour under the impression that the semantical interpretation of the word "PATIENCE" must be 'doing NOTHING', or precious little in any case. We must be "ACTIVELY" patient, patient only with the due process of time it takes for anybody to digest the material which we must give them, but to give it to them "WE MUST"; that is our JOB. It is our job because we HAVE been lucky enough to receive the Greatest Truth on Earth since Michael himself walked among us. We have been even possibly "chosen" to receive this, because it was "WE" who MUST do this work, but to do it WE MUST.

The present existing organisation may very well be adequate for America, or the best way to become adequate in America; though I really and truly doubt this, judging by nothing else but the attitudes I have been personally confronted with from the home organisation, who after 1½ years of negativity turned to even minutely giving into my desirous requests by giving me 4 names who can possibly help with my tasks and their putting into practice, you being one of them.

THEY are people who have worked with this revelation since 1924, which is 51 years. They printed 40.000 Books which are not nearly all sold as yet, during which time I have lived in America most of the time and in search for material of this nature have never ran accross anybody who even mentioned that the Greatest Truth on Earth is available. Now I ask you: Is this good enough?. This is my earnest doubt about wheather or not the home organisation in America itself, though they might, are they really doing all that can be done to take this to the people who are ready to receive our magnificent Revelatory Truth;. But as far as Europe, Japan and Australia is concerned, I know for a fact that there is next to nothing being done, and all the help I know of that has been asked of the home Brotherhood and Foundation have been answered in the negative by the selfsame Brotherhood and Foundation.

A non-American's thought pattern is differently conditioned than that of our American brothers. Political and Religio-Philosophical discussions are on a completely different level and prominence in Europe, so much so that in Europe the State and the Church are historically synonymous and therefor Philosophy and Politics are still intertwined and entertangled and in order to do our jobs properly here, we must be given the tools to get into the parlors of the already existing God-seekers as well as the politico-idealologically misguided groups, where I feel we also must plant seeds of our truth. The fact of the matter is that my previous successful attempts at winning souls for "God's will" have come mainly from these groups.

Changing thought-patterns and general improvisation and quick sagacity are not European traits, though they are a way of life in the U.S. and Canada. ALL patterns and designs have a deeper root in Europe and you have to go deeper to get at them. And we MUST get at them. The same goes for the Orient, though Australia and New Zealand have their own cumbersome traits, which I will discuss with you some other time, if you wish. To accomplish this in Europe ~~and~~ definite plan and method of recognition as well as a degree of public knowledge of our Revelation are necessary. We may practically start with displaying a symbol (be it the three blue concentric rings, or whatever), having our students go into various parlors for organized discussions. Let them offer a definite plan. Let the Book itself be made more readily available in Europe from one source or ~~another~~ another, so that a potential Brother and loving soul in the service of God, ~~xxxxxxx~~ shouldn't have to wait 6-10 weeks from the time he orders his Book til he receives it from Chicago by surface mail; by which time he has forgotten or has at least largely attenuated the message he got from you and/or I or whoever, and THEN when the Book arrives, let it concentrate on the message, instead of when opening it finding a page of "American Copyright Mumbo Jumbo", which is, or at least could be, constructive in America, but the European shall invariably associate it with being legally threatened, before he has done anything. To a European a legal threat carries the same weight as a "conviction" does to an American. Here in Europe you are NOT innocent until proven guilty, consequently you stand accused of a Copyright-Breach before you begun to read the Book. I had acute trouble trying to correct the effects of this page of "wisdom" in people who have ordered the Book on my recommendation from Chicago. The Foundation MUST be made aware that we are dealing with an entirely different mentality in Europe and a different set of cultural reflexes and historic roots, which create diverse reactions to things of this nature. "Behold the Man and his Origin" says our beloved Revelation.

I do not know what your actual function is on behalf of the Foundation or the Brotherhood in Europe, but I am reasonably sure that you can see my points and that you must have thought of these things yourself before. Now I have not been to Chicago since becoming a Urantian student and I don't think I will be there in this life. Consequently I have to do my contacting of the Foundation and the Brotherhood by mail. But I know that there is a lot of important work to be done here in Europe, where I shall probably be living for the rest of my life ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ in the flesh. I have an old motto, whatever there is to be done, do it "NOW". Later you might not have the time or the opportunity and you'll be doing something else in any case. I live by this and most things that I undertake, I get DONE. So, please don't admonish me to be moderate in my expectations. I am sure YOU are not. You expect perfection to be your ultimate estate and so do I. The time to start working for it is NOW, as the Book admonishes us to "ACTION", "CREATIVITY", "ZEAL" and "ZEST" and not to tardiness and moderate expectations, though I know that some of the results to be achieved will at first be moderate. ALL who are true disciples will give their time and effort in the service of God in the exact proportion they are willing to give it and DO this they consequently shall. So will I and quite positively so. I am a patient man, have been patient before and will be so again, but not with what I KNOW to have to be necessarily done, and done now, though I even know that yesterday would be too late. There are some things that YOU AND I personally have to get done quickly, maybe we shall have some help from others, maybe we won't. I have so far done everything with no help whatsoever from any earthly agency and I could carry on doing so, but I would prefer our efforts to be coordinated and planned. There are few people in this world who are busier than I am. I am active from the minute I get up until I go to sleep. I am active in my business and I have a family where we ardently love eachother and togetherness is our way of life and we CARE for eachother and that is timeconsuming as well, yet I find time to discuss Urantia at every turn and do so and go ANYWHERE and ANYTIME, to see anybody who wants to talk to me about it. And I keep in touch by mail with my Urantian friends friends and their friends, who depend on me for their clarifications and seem to want to discuss things with me rather than the Foundation or with the Brotherhood, where they have met with the same loving apathy I have met with in the past.

Jesus never admonished anybody to sit down and wait until a fried chicken flies into his mouth. Nor do I see doing "nothing" and waiting for things to get done by themselves as a part of the Urantia Book's Revelation. On the contrary, we are admonished to "ACT" wise, sagaciously and dutifully, though we are admonished to treat our bretheren with a patient attitude, this same patience is by no means synonymous with "indolance". I may be wrong, the real Brotherhood maybe emerging, our lives are perhaps changing, maybe we ARE making progress, but that be the case I am very unaware of it except in my own immediate milieu, and consequently it is this same immediate milieu I would like to further and give AS MANY of my BROTHERS the same chance to consciouse in the same way I have been fortunate enough to. I don't think this is impatient, I think this to be positive and directly inkeeping with what I feel I HAVE to do, by the admonitions of the same voice from the same source, to the same end and purpose that you and all the rest of our bretheren in our fold factually or potentially. But we SHALL have to do better in our efforts if we are to have the message implanted within our generations in the places it belongs in. 40.000 Books in 20 years of publication, after a further 20 years in existance after a further 10-20 years of assemblage is indeed a record that in my humble opinion our Father would be indeed not too satisfied with for the Greatest Truth on our Planet. The only way I could be convinced that I'm wrong is if it was proven to me that the rhythm of distribution is happening by proxy of a Celestial timetable, which I really doubt. Just look at the world around.

It is not "a" study group I would like to organise, though that is part of what I'm doing, although my efforts at the moment are mostly with individual disciples and not so much the discussion of the Book, but the correction of misconceptions arising from lingual misunderstandings;; these efforts shall also have to be streamlined, because disciples are getting to be more and more as time goes on, but this I can handle myself, with your good help and advise even better. What I would really like to organise is how the students can further go on giving the message more coordinately and effectively to their Bretheren and how they could be the easier recognise and be recognised in return, in order to do so. This WILL take growth and perseverance, but I am a bit sceptical the way the "patience" part is being interpreted.

I undoubtedly hope and trust and even know that we shall meet shortly. I might have to go to Hamburg in late April, at which time I could extend my trip to Wassenaar, but the trip is not definite as yet and might further be postponed. At any rate, if not before, you might be going to Finland during the summer, at which time I certainly hope that you will honour us, by spending a few days with us, we do have room for you if your demands are not too high and you ARE WELCOME. Do consider this a standing invitation and feel free to use it absolutely anytime you wish. I hope we shall be in touch to work out the details of our potential meeting and I do look forward to it. Until then mail is the best substitute, I would like to have your reactions to the foregoing as soon as possible.

Kindest personal regards



Steven Garrick
(Sandy to my friends)