Readers' Letters 20 (Europe)

Editor's Note: The Readers' Letters files consist of correspondence between PB and his students, followers, fellow philosophers, spiritual leaders, friends and family. Most of these letters were sent to PB by readers of his books. They are in no particular order, and there may be letters by the same person in other files as well. Most of the letters in this file were written between 1937 and 1983. There is an index of proper names at the end of this file, although it is not comprehensive for the entire file.

PB had a tendency to make edits, write notes regarding his replies, or insert address information and meeting times on the letters themselves after receipt. We have noted PB's insertions and marginalia, but have not noted edits made by the original author, assuming that they were corrections made at the same time as the rest of the letter. To preserve both readability and the voice of the author, we have corrected spelling errors but have generally left grammar as is.

Less interesting letters have been summarized instead of fully transcribed. Please refer to the scanned PDFs for the full content, or to view all stationary headers, postmarks, unidentified markings, marginalia, etc. Proper names and dates have been written exactly as found in the original for each letter in this file; where we discovered multiple versions of a person's name, we have noted the full name either in the body of the text in {curly brackets} or in a footnote.

In many letters, there are words that are illegible or missing; in such cases we have included either our best guess or the word "illegible" inside {curly brackets}. In rare circumstances, we have added a word or phrase to a letter for readability, which are also noted with {curly brackets}; a footnote was added where we deemed it helpful. – Timothy Smith (TJS), 2020

L20.001

1 - 4 Letter from Alfred Ras Camminghalaan 103 Bunnik (U) Holland April 26th. 1976

Dear P.B.,

First of all I wish you much happiness in your new apartment. I learned from Arthur that more sunny periods occur higher in the mountains and therefore I hope that the problems with your throat shall become less. The hygrometer I sent you must be hung in the living room in such a place that it will not be struck by sunrays nor in the vicinity of a radiator. Therefore the best place in your room is, in my opinion, near the kitchen door.

The best relative humidity is about 70%. As you will remember a too low humidity can be increased by an ordinary plant-sprayer. To prevent the furnishings

from calcium stone, it is advisable to use water from the refrigerator. For instance, put the ice cubes in the plant-sprayer and wait until they are melted.¹

Once per year, in Amsterdam is a meeting called: 'Spiritual revival.' All spiritual and religious groups gather together one day in the well known hotel Kranapolsky. There, several lectures are given. The difference groups attending the revival have their own stand for information and showing and selling books and pamphlets. Such a spiritual revival is very unique, because it makes it possible to be informed about the development of each group at the moment. I have been there and was wondering how many books have been translated into Dutch.

I also me Jean Klein during a meeting in Baarn. He gave a lecture at a group, members of an association called 'Yoga and Vedanta.' He talks about the basic principles of yoga, alternating with short meditations. The interest for his talks was high but the discipline of the audience was lower than for instance the students at the Zen course. On the other hand the students here were not so complicated and have less problems with their thoughts and feelings.

 $As^2 I$ promised you during my last stay I herewith send you the Dutch 'table of food' published under responsibility of the Dutch government. To make some of the words clear for you I translated them. I hope that the contents of this book will be helpful to you.³

Respectfully yours,

Affred Ra

L20.005

5 - 6 Letter typed in German⁴ 23.7.1980

Betr.: {Adressenanderung} fur Zustellung Ihrer Zeitung und Adressenanderung fur Zustellung von Ihnen an mich gerichtete Geschaftspost und Leserbriefe.

Sehr verehrte Damen, Sehr geehrte Herren, das von Ihnen bisher an folgende Adresse: Dr Paul Brunton bei Glass CH 8713 Urikon/Schweiz Poststrasse 12

¹ PB inserted "Are such cubes purified? ask" by hand after this sentence.

² Page 3

³ PB inserted "Ask {rec} and ask {re} some more words" by hand in the right margin.

⁴ Letter needs to be translated.

kostenlos zugestellte Exemplar Ihres Magazines Esotera bitte ich Sie von jetzt an, an folgende Adresse zu senden:

Dr Paul Brunton bei Jarmila Woodtli Bodenacherstr. 14 8121 Benglen/Schweiz Aber etwaige an mich gerichtete Geschaftspost oder Leserbriefe bitte ich Sie an folgende Adresse zu schicken: Dr Paul Brunton c/o Grindlays Ltd. 13 St. James's Square London SWIY 4LF England Mit freundlichen Grussen

L20.007

7 - 8 French letter from Maurice Messegue Undated

*Extract: "J'ai bien recu la lettre que vous m'avez addressee, et je vous remercie de la confiance que vous me temoignez.*⁵"

L20.009

9 - 10 Letter⁶ in German from Paul Brunton⁷ Letter needs translation and is dated 8 November 77⁸

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.011

11 - 12 Letter from {Vera S.A.} to Donald and Martha Flat 7, 7 Cavendish Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, England. 14th June 1983⁹

⁵ Diacritics have been removed from extract and header.

⁶ "Copy" is handwritten at the top of the page.

⁷ Letter is written in another hand.

⁸ Date and "copy" are added at the top by PB himself.

⁹ Halfway down the page a new letter is dated "10th June 1983"

Dearest Donald and Martha,

Just a little line to keep in touch. I enclose copy of my last note to you of the 12th April.

You are perhaps beginning to be able to summarise the upshot of your conferences on "THE WORLD WE CHOOSE"? Of course there will be some more ideas emerging at the Olympia Festival this year.

Unhappily, I do not expect to attend it, as I am trying to write two books at once and am rather immobile at present, anyway. If you could be so kind as to give me the address (and dates)¹⁰ where you will be staying and the phone number, I could try and contact you, because it would be lovely to have a talk. As I told you, I am now staying with Aage in his holiday flatlet at the above address, a few doors down from my former residence.

The World problem increases in intensity very rapidly, and it surely is important for all people who wish to help with constructive thought, to meet if possible.

10th June 1983

Dearest Friends,

I am continuing this to keep the link flowing. It was fascinating to have news of Kenneth Hurst. A very dear friend, Leila Sherman, of U.S.A. asked me before she left London, to keep in touch with Paul Brunton who had just returned from India after writing his first book and changing his name from Raphael Hurst to Paul Brunton. After meditating together, I asked him to suggest a Group for me to know, and he put me in touch with <u>Alice Baily</u>, who as you know, very kindly wrote the preface to my first book; so my memories of Paul Brunton are very dear, and therefore I am thankful to Kenneth Hurst, so please tell him.

I am glad you are guarding your health and I see a good result from the latest photo of you. I am having to take care now at 84, because as a Scorpio I don't know when to stop, and eye-strain is certainly a handicap when one really wants to digest such a valuable book as "EARTH AT OMEGA." Anyway it is close beside me always and I am rereading the Bible at the same time!

It was very intriguing about dear Martha and her sailing epics. I wish she would write and tell me something of her doings. Sailing is Aage's pipe-dream. I am so glad that you talked at Mary Bailey's conference. Hoping so much to see you in July, I will write again soon. All love and blessings, to you and Martha from us both.

Ever

Vera

{*Page* 12¹¹ *is a copy of a Newsletter dated March* 1983 *and noted No.* 134¹² *in which a large portion of the page is circled with red pen.*¹³ *The contents are written about the "outstanding*

¹⁰ "(and dates" is handwritten in the right margin.

¹¹ Please see scan of page 12 for full content.

¹² No. 134 is added by hand.

commercial success" of Vera Stanley Alder's title The Finding of the Third Eye and lists other books written by her as well.}

L20.013

Letter in German from Geschaftsfuhrendes Vorstandsmitglied¹⁴ This is a typed letter from Berlin dated 2. June 1962.

Extract: None.¹⁵ Letter needs to be translated.

L20.015

15 - 16 Translation¹⁶ and short note from Joseph {Vondruska} to Mr Agostini. Dayton June 16, 1962

Berlin, June 2, 1962: Dear Dr Brunton: The announcement of your forthcoming book "Secret Egypt" provided us with an appropriate occasion to request your address from the Rascher Publishing House in Zurich in order to direct this appeal to you. First, may I call your attention to the activities of the Berlin Urania which was founded in the year 1888 and is one of the oldest cultural institutions of our city of West Berlin. It is as the same time the mother organization of all Urania societies the world over. You can see particulars of their cultural work from program material which has been sent to you by the same post. May I therefore ask you whether you would be willing to combine a visit to Europe and Germany with a lecture to the Berlin Urania? The subject would presumably be your particular field of endeavour and could be combined with distinctive slides or films. It would be an extraordinary pleasure for me to be able to count among the guest lecturers to the Berlin Urania. Yours very truly, (signed) Dr Otto Henning, Business Manager of the Executive Board and Program Director.

Dayton, June 16, 1962

Dear Mr Agnostini:

It was, as always, a pleasure to do the above translation for P.B. Please convey my best regards to P.B. and Kenneth.

Sincerely,

¹³ Circled likely by PB himself.

¹⁴ Diacritics have been removed.

¹⁵ The following letter, L20.015, appears to be the translation of this letter.

¹⁶ Translation of L20.013.



L20.017

17 - 30 Letter from Franz E. Hirth¹⁷ Liechtenstein December 10, 1967

Dr Paul Brunton c/o Rascher Verlag Zurich

Dear Mr Brunton:

It has been on my mind for a long time to write to you and now that at last it is possible for me to do so, I should like to begin this letter with an expression of gratitude: not perhaps in the same enthusiastic manner as some of your more youthful readers because I am 54 and life has made me a little suspicious of exaggerated enthusiasm. If I have correctly understood some of your remarks, you had some similar experience. But if not quite so enthusiastic, my gratitude is not less sincere. Your books, and among them most of all "The Wisdom of the Overself," have been a great help to me, have taught me very much, and therefore please allow me to say simply but wholeheartedly: thank you, my dear brother.

One of your books, however, has been a painful experience for me and this is the principal reason for this letter. I am referring to "Discover Yourself" and to the manner in which you speak of "the Jews." Let me state in all fairness that I do not consider myself an objective judge of your words because in this incarnation I was born into Israel and therefore I am not unbiased. On the other hand, after many years of inner development, I have gained the conviction that the teaching of the Christ was the true fulfilment of Israel's spiritual heritage and drawing the consequences for my own person, I have become a Christian of my own free will, without any coercion or persuasion from anybody. This, I feel, gives me a certain moral right to talk about the Jews and Christians and their tragical relationship. Let me add that being a Christian, I am more than ever, according to my own belief, a Jew or as I prefer to put it, a son of Israel.¹⁸ Please excuse my talking so much about myself.

Now reading the chapters "The Gospel according to St. John" and "The Mystery of Jesus" in "Discover Yourself" /I have this particular book in German and therefore I have to re-translate/, I was struck by your entire lack of sympathy for the people who had to prepare the stage and to take part in the drama of the Christ. As a Jew I am of course accustomed to being faced with the distorted image of Israel but coming from

¹⁷ Name appears in the letterhead.

¹⁸ Page 19

you, certain remarks which I would otherwise shrug off as a new proof of the general thoughtlessness of people, caused to me real pain and concern, first of all because of the high esteem in which I hold you and your work, and then also because I could not help feeling afraid of the new karmic damage which may have been caused.

It is a curious fact that many learned people who have a sharp eye for certain shortcomings of our official religions - and among them particularly students of the Eastern thought - are blind as soon as it comes to the prejudices regarding Israel which the Christian churches have been feeding for so many centuries. To cite an example, I have found a similar state of mind in some of Annie Besant's publications. I know that in general Christians are not aware of this situation because they just take certain statement for granted which they repeatedly heard since childhood. I had some friendly discussions with clergymen who were greatly surprised when I pointed out to them some passages in the Gospels which I consider as offensive while such a thought never occurred to them. And yet, as a Christian and as a Jew who lost more than thirty relatives in World War II, I solemnly declare before God that the road to Auschwitz started not with Hitler but with those people who were responsible for the redaction of the New Testament as we know it today.

I am certain that you would strongly refute any accusation of disliking the Jews because a man on your level of development can not hold a dislike to anybody, let alone an entire nation or religious community. And yet, Dear Mr Brunton, I must tell you frankly that whenever I read your¹⁹ above mentioned chapters, I feel an icy wind of contempt, injustice, almost of hatred.

Please let me give you an example of what I mean. When I first began reading the New Testament, a very long time ago, I was struck by the unfairness of always referring to the adversaries of Jesus, to what we call today "the establishment, as "the Jews" while those who were in favor of Him are called "the people" or in similar general terms. In your book, you follow this procedure /e.g. p. 338 of the German edition: "in the following chapter you can read how the Jews persecuted Jesus and tried to kill him..." What would you think of an historian writing, for instance: "President Kennedy was killed by the Americans"?

I was even more painfully struck by those passages in which you show "the Jews" to be subject to punishment for having rejected the Christ. Aside of the fact that the law of karma is not punishment, you state yourself in your book /p. 347, always of the German edition/ that "everything has been arranged in advance. Men are mere instruments of a higher destiny."

By condemning the Jews you are following a line of thought which has for many centuries poisoned the relationship between Israel and its Christian brothers and which I can not help considering as some kind of schizophrenia. After all, you can not have it both ways. You can not pray "crucifixus etiam pro nobis" and at the same time punish the "instruments of a higher destiny" who by taking upon themselves a determined karma, have brought about your salvation.

¹⁹ Page 21

My dear brother, please try to think of the adverse effects which your following statement /p. 351/ may have had on the minds of some of your readers: "therefore the Jews were condemned to suffer so much." Can't you see that such words seem to sanction every crime committed against generations of Jews, from the time when the Christian faith first became an official religion up to our terrible century?

There is one particular point which has always been a puzzle to me: how could and did it happen that generations of²⁰ Christians, including a great number of men of integrity and good-will, had such a perverse opinion of Israel's role in the drama of redemption although the truth has been laid down clearly, open for everybody who cared to read it, by an uncontested authority of Christian faith. Whoever takes the trouble to read chapters 9-11 of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, can find there an outline of the spiritual truth underlying the drama of the Christ.

Read Romans IX, 1-5 and see what true love means. The man who was persecuted by his own people for his faith - and I am far from denying this fact - and who in some instances found very harsh words against them, declares his "deep grief and unceasing anguish" for his brethren. Israel's prophets and holy men have frequently been brought up as witnesses against Israel but those who seek to condemn that people are blind for the love which caused the criticisms quoted by them.

St. Paul has put it down for his and all coming generations and nobody can pretend he has not been told: Israel had to reject the Christ so that His message should reach those for whom it was intended. Had Israel accepted Christ at his first coming, instead of a new faith for the world which needed it there would have been only a reformation of Judaism.

"By their lapse salvation has come to the Gentiles"

"There is a secret, brethren, ... that partial blindness has fallen upon Israel..."

"In regard to the gospel they are God's enemies for your sakes...." /Romans XI, 11, 25, 28/

In some primitive communities blind people were considered to be holy and indeed the "partial blindness" which according to St. Paul has fallen upon Israel, is of a holy character because it served the salvation of the world. And yet, generations upon generations of men who called themselves Christians have taken it upon themselves to punish the blinded nation for its blindness. What would any decent person think of people who seeing a blind man, instead of helping him along, would jeer at him, kick him, even kill him?

St.²¹ Paul has warned the "wild olive tree" not to boast against the "natural branches" but this warning has not been heard. Therefore, would it be devious to say that blindness has now in turn fallen upon Christendom?

My dear brother, let me show you the true face of Israel which has been hidden from your spiritual sight by the veil of prejudices. A small community of people drawn towards God by an irresistible yearning since the day when Abraham left Ur on his long journey. The community is made into a nation, a particular nation with a task and

²⁰ Page 23

²¹ Page 25

a mission: "to be unto Me a holy nation, a nation of priests." A grandiose experiment of God: to set aside a small nucleus of the human race, like a testing culture in a laboratory, to develop among them certain properties and ideas, to form a special school class for reincarnation purposes, where specific lessons can be taught and karmic debts can be paid off faster than in other environments, also to serve as a mirror to all mankind.

An experiment which at first sight looks like a failure - most of the individuals born into Israel are not up to the task, time and again they stumble and fall. But fortunately God is patient and forgiving, and by their sufferings and tears and humiliations they begin to learn a lesson and to develop certain essential ideas: the idea of One God who is spirit and not flesh, the idea to rely upon spiritual rather than material power, the idea of the brotherhood and solidarity of mankind, of social justice and a vision of universal salvation and peace, not for Israel alone but for humanity.

You reproach to the Jews that "in their arrogant pride" they kept the teachings of Moses for themselves /p. 374/. A possible reply to the above accusation would be that a great number of people to whom the Christian and Moslem faiths were brought by fire and sword, might perhaps have preferred the Jewish kind of arrogance to the fate to which they were submitted by their zealous missionaries.

There is, however, a more essential argument. The Mosaic religion was from its very beginning conceived as a faith for a small nation, a monotheistic drop in a pagan ocean.²² A small community was to be taught to lead a holy life before the ideas developed within it were to be given to the world, it was on purpose set aside and isolated like a chemical substance in a retort, it I may once more use the laboratory test comparison. But the idea that God the father of all mankind was already alive, you can find it in the psalms and the prophets of Israel.

"Have we not all one father?

Has not one God created us?

"And the Lord shall be kind over all the earth

In that day shall the Lord be One and His name One."

After all, when the appointed time had come, it were men and women of Israel who brought the message of the Christ to the nations although those who today kneel in adoration before their images do not think of them as of Jews. As for the manner in which generations of Jews were rewarded for this service, I prefer not to dwell on this subject. Israel, however, - and whenever referring to Israel I am speaking of it as a spiritual entity - Israel had to stay outside the radiance of the Christ until this second coming. This is Israel's sacrifice, its karma and its glory.

Dear Mr Brunton, there is much more which I could tell you but I do not wish to trespass on your patience. Please let me only assure you that I am writing to you in a spirit of brotherly love and not of polemics. I am not trying to prove that I am right and you are wrong and I am too acutely aware of my own shortcomings to be capable of any feeling of arrogance. It is true, I am proud of my present incarnation as a son of Israel because it gave me an opportunity to learn certain lessons which I am sure I badly

²² Page 27

needed and because I hope I successfully met at least some of the challenges involved. But I know very well that I am still at the very beginning of the Path and had I been born a Christian, I would in all likelihood have reacted to certain prejudices in the same manner as my brothers in Christo.

I am writing to you because something has been urging me to do so for a long time, because I esteem and love you for your work and because I am certain that your harsh judgment²³ about Israel is only due to a lack of knowledge in this particular instance. When I see my brother risking to go astray, and possibly to lead others astray, should I not send him a warning? Are we not all responsible for each other and should we not try to stop creating new adverse karma?

Therefore I am asking you for a favor: please try to see the true face of Israel in one of your meditations. I have no doubt at all that you will gain a new insight for your benefit and for the benefit of your readers.

Although I do not feel qualified to offer any advice as to how such a meditation should be prepared, please allow me to recommend to you, beside the Old Testament of course, two wonderful books by Sholem Asch: "The Nazarene" and "Mary." Perhaps you could also try to get some information about Hillel who was a teacher in Israel at the time of Jesus. You will see that at least some of the scribes were not so far away from the "kingdom of heaven."

Needless to say, I shall be very happy to receive your reply to this letter but if you are too busy, I shall understand. I should be even more happy if you could make it possible for me to meet you and to talk to you, either during your present stay in Switzerland or at another occasion. However, the purpose of this letter is not to ask anything for myself and in any case, the decision must be yours.

I am sending to you my very best thoughts. May the peace of the Lord be with you - shalom!

Sincerely yours,

P.S. Best wishes for Christmas, for happiness and further progress in 1968.

L20.031

31 - 32 Letter to Mr Hirth Liechtenstein²⁴ July 24, 1968

It may surprise you, dear Mr Hirth,

²³ Page 29

²⁴ PB inserted "of Liechtenstein" above "dear Mr Hirth" by hand.

why your letter of last December has taken so long for an answer. There are several reasons, but I shall mention only the two chief ones. They are first, for some years I have withdrawn from most activities, including correspondence, and gone into retirement; second, I have been seriously ill and for a long time in hospital after nearly dying.

Firstly, I apologise to you very sincerely and deeply for conveying the impression in my book that I dislike the Jews, that I am anti-Semitic and that I have no knowledge of the Israelites.

All three impressions are totally wrong. On the contrary, before my retirement I enjoyed many associations with Israelites; I have defended the Jewish race against slurs; and I was initiated into the holy Kaballah by a Jewish mystic whom I greatly admired.

Had I the slightest notion that my writings could have been used by prejudiced readers to support anti-Semitism I would have withdrawn those chapters, or at least rewritten them to become quite harmless. It never occurred to me that those chapters could have such an effect. I would be very distressed to have given any encouragement to the poison of anti-Semitism. In fact, during the entire thirty years which have passed since the publication of "Discover Yourself" I have never heard from anyone such a misinterpretation of my intent.

However, allow me to apologise again for having wounded your feelings so unwittingly. With every good wish for your...²⁵

L20.033

33 - 34 Letter written in German from George Bosenhart²⁶ A handwritten letter from 89 Augsburg BRD, Bannackerstr. 25, Germany and dated 27 Juni 1969.

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.035

35 - 36 Letter in German from Hans Fraas²⁷ Letter is handwritten sent from Scherlenbach, 3454 Sumiswald Switzerland and dated 22. Mai 1966²⁸

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

²⁵ The rest of this letter is missing because the page is torn.

²⁶ PB inserted "From George Bosenhart", "B" and "TR to (ARCH)" by hand at the top of the page.

²⁷ "2nd Mail" is handwritten at the top of the page.

²⁸ The letterhead and contents of the white page at the top belong to L20.037

37 - 38 Letter in German from Hans Fraas Sent from Scheidegger Hof, Scherlenbach, 3454, Sumiswald Sept. 66

Extract: "From: disciple-secretary of guru Bosenhardt, where ashram is²⁹"

L20.039

39 - 40 German letter from Hans Fraas Handwritten letter from Scherlenbach, 3454 Sumiswald Switzerland dated 12.2.1967

Extract: "I found The booklet in {Rietholz in a SE} July 1967 - PB³⁰"

L20.041

41 - 42 Letter from Hans Fraas Scherlenbach, 3454 Sumiswald Switzerland 20. 7. 1967

Dear Sir:

Since I don't master the English language, I am writing this now with the assistance of a translator.

On the 22nd of May 1966 I wrote to you in German. In answer to my letter to you, Mr Broekhuysen wrote to me from Zurich, inviting the {Erhabenen} and me to the Star Hotel there. I regret not having been able to follow Mr Boekhuysen's invitation to Zurich. Instead of my visit I sent Mr Broekhuysen a letter to the Star Hotel in Zurich, together with a copy of "Der Erhabene spricht," published in 1937 by the Hummel Verlag in Leipzig. It was one of the very few copies which were saved from destruction and it was meant for you. Mr³¹ Broekhuysen never answered this letter. In order to find out, whether you have ever received the copy or not, I wrote you a second short letter on February 12. 1967.

³⁰ This note is added at the top of the page by PB himself.

²⁹ "From: disciple-secretary of guru Bosenhardt" is typed and glued to the top of the page. "Whose ashram is:", and "Bosenhardt (Archive)" are handwritten at the top of the page

³¹ Page 42

It might have been in consequence of this that a Mrs {Grapenthin} came here, together with her niece, giving your regards to me.

The reason I wrote to you at all, is that I feel it my duty to introduce you to the {Erhabenen} and I am afraid, if I don't do so, nobody in this world ever will. There is much more to be said about this and about you in connection with us, but again I'm afraid that words will never suffice to express all - and then I feel that you mayhap know a great deal about it already.

In the sense of my first letter to you.

I am yours respectfully

L20.043

43 - 46 Letter from Arthur Broekhuysen van Montfoortstraat 51, Voorburg, Netherlands 22nd August 1968³²

Dear P.B.

On the Sunday after you left Zurich I went to Sumiswald in search of "der Ehabene." At the address there is was told that Hans Fraas didn't live there any more, but was now in Riggisberg, near Thun, at a barbershop. I drove to Riggisberg, found the shop, nobody was at home. On the next Monday I found Hans Fraas, a young man, and had a talk with him of one hour. He did not allow me to take his photograph. He told me that it was the birthday of der Erhabene and that he was therefore staying with him for a few days to see his Swiss disciples. He made an appointment with me to see der Erhabene in the afternoon.

From 3.45 until 6.15 p.m. I had a long and lively talk with der Erhabene, who is a realised mas as far as I can see and experience such things. I should recommend him for the purposes you mentioned. He is simple, straightforward and very clear in his utterances. I got a spiritually uplifting experience and am glad to have met him.

As a child of 5 already he had spiritual experiences and when he later saw your books he came to the conclusion that they came to him through the Maharishee. He feels a strong tie with Maharishee and also with you. He has had circles of students from an early age and helps them according to their needs with silent meditation or explaining spiritual truths and answering questions. He will welcome people sent to him by you. The idea of a meeting was wholly the responsibility of Hans Fraas, who wrote the letter to you without him even knowing it. Both now think however that a meeting would be fruitful. All correspondence has to go via Hans Fraas, whose address is at the bottom of this letter. I asked for his own address, but didn't succeed in getting

³² PB inserted "decide with A whether to meet George Bosenhart" and "EX" by hand at the top of the page.

it. Besides he seems to be travelling and visiting his circles of students. He lives in Germany and has the German nationality. His name is George Bozenhard.

I said to be surprised that he was not more known, but he said not to be surprised in the least, as he had had much resistance against his work through the years. During the war years several of his students were killed and he was a prisoner.

So³³ he is not at all the retired and disappointed man we thought he was. He looks very healthy, is a vegetarian and further a normal and balanced man. I estimate him between 50 and 60 years of age. We talked about several subjects as yoga, politics, diet, his youth. He says that you would be particularly interested to see Hans Fraas, as Maharshee has left a part of his legacy in him. He always feels Maharshee when he meets Hans Fraas, he says. Anyway, I think "der Erhabene" can be recommended.

Hans Fraas has issued an extended edition of "Der Erhabene spricht" which I shall send you in a few days as printed matter. It contains his youth portrait.

If you have any work to do I shall be glad to be of service,.

With love,

Joshur

P.S. Der Erhbene speaks German and English, Fraas only German. The address of Fraas is: Hans Fraas Vordere Gasse 40 3132 Riggisberg Switzerland.

L20.047

47 - 48 Postcard from Ute Augsburg 28.12.1972

Dear PB!

A happy New Year with blessing and health and fine, warm weather. I thank you whole-heartedly for all your love and help and patience.

Arthur has made very progress in patience and love to other people and me. I hope you are happy therefore. It is very difficulty for him to be in connection with a woman, but he does much to help {and} heal. If you see him again, you will see, he is a more mature person. Always is he very happy, if he can do anything for you.

Herewith any remaining Swiss stamps.

Wholeheartedly with love and thanks



L20.049

49 - 50 Letter in German from {illegible} Letter dated 1969 is written on the back of a book jacket of "Geheimnisvolles Aegypten"³⁴ by Paul Brunton.

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.051

51 - 52 Letter from Michael Levey The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 23rd July 1952

Dr Paul Brunton Mariendalsvej 94 Copenhagen Denmark

Dear Sir,

With regard to your enquiry about our painting by Honthorst, the confusion over the title goes back many years. For instance, Sandart called it <u>Christ before Pilate</u> and with this title it appeared in our 1929 catalogue. It has, however, now been almost certainly established that the scene represents one of Christ's trials before the High Priests, both of which took place at night and the title on the frame has therefore been altered to accord with this.

Yours truly, Yours truly, ichael Michael Levey. Assistant Keeper.

Michael Levey Assistant Keeper

L20.053

53 - 54 Christ before Pilate painting by Honthorst Black and white copy

³⁴ Translates to Mysterious Egypt in German; this is a translation of A Search in Secret Egypt.

*Extract: "Copyright of the National Gallery London not to be reproduced without permission.*³⁵"

L20.055

55 - 56 Christ before Pilate painting by Honthorst Color card of the paining.

*Extract: "National Gallery*³⁶"

L20.057

57 - 58 Letter from Hagen Hasselbalch Strandvej 85, Rungsted Kyst August 23, 1965

Dear P.B.

How are you? Where do you live? Mr Strube, the bookdealer, told me you are in Athens; is that so? Last time you were here you suffered from a liver disease; have you recovered? Is there anything we can do for you? If so, please write. - Otherwise, I expect no answer from you. I just want to let you know (what I am sure you know anyway) that you are never really out of my mind, nor Tata's mind, nor the mind of our daughter Majken who has read all your books. Remember her? You played with her in 1950. She is 20 years old now, a gifted artist, pupil at the Academy of Arts. But her youth has been very difficult. She has suffered from tremendous depressions, has been close to alcoholism and suicide; now it seems that she will gradually overcome her difficulties, or learn to live with them. She is a sweet and dear little creature with a fertile imagination and ideas far ahead of her age. She is enthusiastic about yoga and eagerly looking for somebody to teach her.

We would like to see you again. Do you intend to come to Denmark? If so, please let us know, and come and live with us.

What you have written, and what you have taught me - us - personally, underlies all I - we - think and feel and do. Are we bad pupils? Yes, as far as we do not meditate as much as we wish. Daily life is a bad challenge in³⁷ this cool and over-administrated welfare society; it just swallows one up. We own too much, and are owned by it. But in spite of this, and in spite of many pitfalls, I - we, including Tata who is far ahead of me - try to keep our course. Speaking for myself, I feel the Quest is somehow connected to my work as a film director. I feel it is my duty to express Truth

³⁵ This is the only text and is stamped on the back with "3679" handwritten below.

³⁶ Printed on back of card.

³⁷ Page 58

by the means of film. That is what I am aiming at. There have been some sporadical cases of satisfaction in that respect, mostly TV films. But I believe future will grant me the favour of making films and TV programmes of real importance. I remember I told you about this hope in 1947, first time I wrote to you; since then, I have learned a little more, but I have not given up hope. I know the job better now and how difficult it is to sell Truth on the market; I feel I can now, and I believe the market is prepared.

Life here is money-making, tax-paying and piling up comfort gadgets and status symbols. Deafening materialism. Cars passing by all the time beside our house. Silence? Yes, from 3 to 5 a.m. - But we have no reason to complain. We are healthy and happy all the five of us, Tata, Majken, Iben (girl, 16), Jon (boy, 11), and myself. - Anyway, we would love to see you, or hear from you, and if we do not see you or hear from you, we will remain happy in the hope that you have received this letter and know how important you and your thoughts and writings have been, and still are, to us.

Yours sincerely,

L20.059

59 - 60 Letter in French from Maurice Messegue³⁸ Typed on senders professional³⁹ letterhead from Fleurance dated 12 Juillet 1974.

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.061

61 – 62 Business card for Jean – Jacques Descamps There is a map presumably of the location on back of the card.⁴⁰

Extract: "Phytotherapeute Maladies Chroniques"

L20.063

63 - 64 Letter in German from Gaulthier

³⁸ Name appears in the letterhead.

³⁹ A doctor of some type.

⁴⁰ May be related to L20.059.

Handwritten short letter from Zurich and dated 8 Juni 1974.

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.065

65 - 66 Schedule or Programme in German Undated typed page with some of the left margin cut off.

Extract: None. Page needs to be translated.

L20.067

67 - 68 German letter Typed undated from Zurich referencing Students International Meditation Society

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.069

69 - 70 Letter from Arthur Broekhuysen Van Montfoortstraat 51, Voorburg Pays Bas⁴¹ 26th July 1972

Dear P.B.,

Enclosed are the following documents:⁴²

1. an excerpt from the letter of Prof. Walter Meier, Austria

2. some notes on J.D. Bierens de Haan

3. two notes from you and their typed text

The letters you sent me have all been answered. So far only the two Swiss gentlemen have written and have been answered again.

The notes from the discs have all been typed now. A few words which I don't understand will have to be filled in in Montreux.

Erna King wrote that she cannot visit Europe at the moment owing to lack of money. She is decorating Kenneth's new home up a mountain.

⁴¹ "{Redu}" is handwritten over the address.

⁴² "discard" is handwritten over "documents."

I made the acquaintance⁴³ of two readers of your books. One came through the bookshop Synthese, the other one was found through an advertisement in which he asked for books.

There are suddenly four titles⁴⁴ of Dutch translations on sale in a shop dealing in publisher's remainders / A search in secret India, A search in secret Egypt, The secret path and The hidden teaching beyond yoga.⁴⁵

We had one week of warm summer weather, but now there are clouds again.

With love,

Anthin

L20.071

71 - 72 German letter Short typed letter from Zurich dated 7.1.75

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated.

L20.073

73 - 76 Letter from Ras Bunnik 18 September 1972

Dear P.B.

Under separate cover I send you

- 1. a flexible metal tube
- 2. a number of plastic bags

1. The flexible metal tube is meant for the tap of your kitchen to improve the way in which the water flows out of it. In order to be able to fasten it to the tap....

The tap end of it contains three rubber rings. By loosening the screw you can take them out one by one to adapt the width of the tube to your tap.

After the correct width has been found the tube should be put on the tap as far as possible and then the screw should be firmly fastened so that it can not fall off when the tap is turned open and the water flows through the tube.

The aim of this tube is to let the water flow out more evenly and regularly.

⁴³ "Tell Riders" is handwritten above "acquaintance."

⁴⁴ "in 1972" is handwritten above "four titles."

⁴⁵ "See Riders Royalty Statements if they include this" is handwritten in the left margin with an arrow to this paragraph.

[&]quot;{illegible} printed by DE SLEGTE AMSTERDAM" is handwritten in the right margin.

2. The plastic bags are meant to be fastened in the ring inside the door where your refuse bucket is kept. These bags were longer, but part of them has been cut off so that they fin in the small space available.

A number of fasteners has been added with which you can close the bags. They are paper strips containing a flexible wire. They have to be torn off one at a time. The strips can be twisted around the top of the bag in the way shown by the example enclosed.

Note:⁴⁶ The plastic bags in their original length are her used for refuse backets. If you want to use them in that way in stead of in the ring then I can send you a number at their original length.

With kind regards,

L20.077

77 - 78 Note from Unknown Undated

example original bag. It is possible to get a larger bad. that means longer about 20 cm and width about 15 cm.

L20.079

79 - 80 German letter Handwritten letter in German with illegible date.⁴⁷

Extract: None. Letter needs to be translated

L20.081

81 - 82 Letter from Silvia Csaszar⁴⁸ 22B Shire Oak Road, Leeds LS6 2DD, Yorkshire

⁴⁶ Page 75

⁴⁷ "Appt. @ hotel 10:15 or later if train is later Sunday 26th" is handwritten in the upper left corner.

⁴⁸ "C" is handwritten in the top right corner.

Dear Sirs

INFORMATION ABOUT DR PAUL BRUNTON

I have read several books by Paul Brunton and I am really fascinated by his ideas.

As the author says in his works that, because of his advanced age, he cannot reply to any correspondence I wonder whether you could help me and send me some information about him and his life.

I should be grateful for your assistance and look forward to your early reply. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

John Mondal

Silvia Csaszar (Miss)

L20.083

83 - 84 Incomplete letter⁴⁹ from {Unknown}⁵⁰ Science of Living International 12. Holland Park Avenue London, W.11. England⁵¹ January 12, 1936

My dear Paul Brunton:

How glad I am that you have had a dream of your heart fulfilled in your wonderful contacts in India. I, too, have similar dreams which will all work out at the right moment.

Your loyal friend, Mrs. Beach and I have spent many hours together - and I've read your books so I feel no stranger to you. The last page on this pink folder may sound strange coming from a deeply spiritual source, but it is not for those {...}⁵²

L20.085

85 - 86 Postcard in German from Max {Rander} Zurich 28 XII 1954⁵³

Herrn

 $^{^{49}}$ This letter has been crossed out with an "X" across the page.

 $^{^{\}rm 50}$ "M" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁵¹ Address appears in the letterhead.

⁵² The rest of this letter is missing.

⁵³ Postmarked date and location

Dr Paul Brunton Box 34 Cooper Station New York 3, N.Y.

Mit den besten Wunschen fur ein gluckliches und erfolgreiches 1955

Rascher & Cie. A.G.

nax Dank

L20.087

87 - 88 Poem from Peter Y. Chou Vevey 9/1/79

Dear PB -

Glorious Setting Sun

Me thinks there are no times more glorious Than that of this evening's seeing sun When golden clouds greet the azure sky Above the misty mountains harbouring Over the calm crystalline Swiss lake Where snow white swans glide serenely by And seagulls soar into the twilight's gleam Such moments bring joyful tears to the soul Whose flight has lingered for starlight years To find an illumined beacon of hope From a compassionate Mind of the World Which abides in a sage sincere in heart Guiding students to their eternal home. O the face of Truth is unveiled at last Not hidden behind some circle of gold But within the mind and heart of man Shine the Real in its radiant formless Form That spirit which is far and close at hand Cannot be known but with the wisdom eye Which sees beauty and justice in all things And the Knowledge which neither comes not goes Leads us to goodness and graceful bliss O dear soul remember this setting sun O dear sun remember this striving soul.

--Peter Y. Chou With fond memories,



L20.089

89 - 90 Letter from {Sigrid} Moller⁵⁴ Aarhus 2nd July 1955

Dear Dr Paul Brunton,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 25th inst. from which I see that I completely misunderstood what you wrote in your first letter about the Martinus affair. I thought you were referring to the newspaper article on Martinus I translated for you last year and could not understand that you had got such an impression, but after having read the paper enclosed in your last letter and which I have not seen or heard anything about until now, I must say that I understand you very well. You are perfectly right as you will see from the translation which I guarantee to be absolutely exact. I have no doubt that Gerner Larson is grossly exaggerating, but anyone who has read only one of your later books will find the idea that you should have been "converted" by Martinus, however much you may appreciate him, quite preposterous and ridiculous, for he will have understood that your views are based on first-hand experience, on inner illumination, and are consequently not subject to alteration.

Anyhow, the letter is a semi-private one which has only been sent to the followers of Martinus and at foot of it it is expressly stated that all rights are reserved. But it made me think of two paragraphs I read in "To Verdener" in 1952 and of which the first at least seems to have been inspired by the Martinus paper. You will find them translated in the enclosures. As I said, I never heard anything about it and I really cannot believe that your readers and friends in Denmark would take such an assertion seriously, should they happen to hear anything about it. You may rest assured that I shall not tell anyone.

As you will see, the last three fourths of the article by Mrs Rechnitzer are entirely quotations from "The Secret Path," which I consequently copied. Only a few words have been altered.

I thank you for the supplementary corrections for the Danish "Spiritual Crisis" edition and shall make the corresponding changes in the translation.

There is a sentence in your letter of the 15th June which seems to indicate that you think that <u>I</u> asked Dr Poul Goos to write the introduction to the translation of the "Crisis." This is an error. I do not know Poul Goos, but Strube does and I suppose that <u>he</u> aked Goos to write it. I knew nothing about it, until I found the introduction in a parcel of proof sheets. I found it excellent and I am glad you liked it, too.

⁵⁴ "M" and "archive {p} paper Martinus" are handwritten at the top of the page.

I also enclose the translation of part of an article which your friend Jorgen Fander wrote in the May issue, 1955, of the monthly magazine "Psykish Forum," which is in reality a "reincarnation" of "To Verdener" which died of money worries in February 1953. He writes so beautifully and reverently about you, like a true friend, that I think you will be glad to read his words. The paragraphs translated are the last ones of the article.

Well, I think I have now told you all the news I know of. If there are other things you want to have translated or there is anything else I can do for you, just let me know. I shall only be too glad to help you.

With all good wishes

Yours very sincerely, Signil Maller

L20.091

91 - 92 Translation of Letter from the Correspondence Department of the Martinus Institute, Copenhagen⁵⁵ Klint 31st May 1952

Dear reader,

In one of my former letters I told you that it was the intention of the famous English author Paul Brunton to pay us a visit this summer. The last letter we received from him was from Mexico and he wrote that he should be very glad to meet Martinus again and stay with him for a short time. Last week we suddenly received a cable from him stating that he and his wife were on the way; they would take a plane from London and pay us a little visit. After this it was their intention to continue their journey to India. However, this plan was postponed indefinitely. Mr and Mrs Brunton are now living at the Institute and are busily engaged in making themselves acquainted with Martinus' world picture for the purpose of informing the English-speaking world of it. "I have wasted two precious years," says Mr Brunton who is at present an ocean of questions which Martinus answers through an interpreter. Well, "Wasted" is a strong word, but Mr Brunton does not conceal that he has now somehow attained the goal of his like: to find the truth that satisfies both brain and heart.

This stay is a great inspiration to us. Through a great number of years all that is now nearing its fulfilment has been accomplished. In a few years Martinus will finish "Livets Bog" (The Book of Life) and will thus have fulfilled the first and most important part of the mission that was entrusted to him, when he experienced "the great birth" in

⁵⁵ PB inserted "mimeographed fortnightly", "Sent to 1000 or more subscribers" and "Because of this {lying} false publicity {seeking} statement made by Gerner Larson, I must cut all contact with Martinus to avoid misunderstanding" by hand at the top of the page.

1921. A life story of dimensions which no living man is able to survey is now nearing its last stage. All those of us who have been watching its various phases at short distance and with the profoundest admiration seen Martinus follow the path that he alone knew will heartily rejoice in seeing how people from many quarters are now reaching out for him. His life has not been spent on a bed of roses, though it has not been calling which, if only you understand a little of his mission, he himself must have found overwhelming. But we have seen him proceeding on his way towards his distant goal, unshaken by doubts and unaffected by all the various attempts at influencing him. This deep inner conviction that his life was in all respects "for the glory of God" gave him the strength to accomplish his task which was in reality almost inconceivably great.

During the years I have had the good fortune to be on intimate terms with Martinus hundreds of people have declared that they would not have been able to cope with life, if they had not had the support they found in the analyses of Livets Bog." It must be a great joy for these people to learn that it is now only a question of months, until the first of Martinus' books will find its way to a public comprising almost the From the moment "{illegible}⁵⁶ neskeheden og Verdensbilledet" whole world. (Mankind and the World Picture), which is {the} {illegible} first book the world will get from Martinus' hand, provided with an {inspiring} foreword by Paul Brunton, appears, a contact rich in possibilities will {illegible} established with the world outside Denmark. Nobody in the centre, not {illegible} {Martinus} himself, is expecting any "sensation," but only an extension of our {illegible} field, so that the hitherto so narrow bounds are burst and other people {illegible} acquainted with the glorious wealth of ideal of Martinus' world picture {illegible} Mr and Mrs Brunton are going to India almost at the same time as {Martinus} {illegible} going to Iceland. As already stated the plans have not yet been fixed. {illegible} thing is certain: in the coming autumn Martinus' work will enter a new {illegible} which will at any rate mean considerably increased growth!

Up here at Klint we are now making the last preparations {for} {illegible} holiday season. As soon as it begins the lectures will be {continuing} {illegible} this year they will be distributed in the way that Martinus will speak {illegible} day evenings, I shall speak on Wednesday evenings and Mogens Moller on {illegible} evenings. Possibly I shall alter my own plan with regard to the {Wedneday} {illegible}, since I want, as an experiment, to reserve hours for question, but {illegible} revert to this matter later on. Though we have very great material {illegible}

L20.093

93 - 96 Incomplete translation by Unknown Undated

⁵⁶ One or more words is missing because the page is torn. The rest of the illegibles in this letter are due to a torn page.

Translations.⁵⁷

From {how} I understood (she {bids} herself indeed a valuable Tender mother care for your health and feeling well), and had some of the M-people, had {illegible} your expressed wish to meet M. once more - with the commentary that it was because you needed his help.{...}⁵⁸

{illegible}⁵⁹ {illegible} thanks {illegible} brother P.B. for Xmas present he enjoys his {illegible} so much and shall use one of them next Xmas for St Claus.

More seriously I am so glad to have them as they go in as requisite for a special purpose, that can be very important for me $\{...\}^{60}$

The⁶¹ last Martinus sayings.

Must admit through a good deal "missing links." I have been told that Evangeline now was all the time to learn Danish to translate all(!!!) M works to English.

Have contacted Edith Pyssel regarding Queen {illegible} wealth. She gave your Rome Adr. and will manage regarding $\{...\}^{62}$

<u>as⁶³ dwelling place for {illegible} Brother {illegible.</u>} As far as I can see from other sources too {there} must be something in it.

I feel very tired and {illegible} at present ad hurry to send this. I have a hard inner fight at present and am rather hard pressed. But I promise to conquer and feel that I can.

In deep devotions {...}⁶⁴

L20.097

97 - 98 Incomplete letter from Erik Gerner Larsson Undated

{...}⁶⁵ solve⁶⁶ up here, this does not alter the purpose of the holiday town. It is a spiritual centre and nobody shall be more pleased than I, when the day comes when we shall be able to devote ourselves entirely to our spiritual work. But until then we are all

⁶¹ Page 95

⁶⁶ Page 97

⁵⁷ Page 93

⁵⁸ Following lines are missing because the page is torn.

⁵⁹ Page 94, this page has been crossed out by hand.

⁶⁰ Following lines are missing because the page is torn.

⁶² Following lines are missing because the page is torn.

⁶³ Page 96, this page has been crossed out by hand. PB inserted "{illegible} is my Piazza Minerva church where {Sr Catenna} lived" by hand in the left margin.

⁶⁴ Following lines are missing because the page is torn.

⁶⁵ "2" is typed at the top of the page; previous page is missing.

glad to solve the material problems which have been entrusted to us and you may be sure that now that the roses are in bloom and everything is beginning to shine with whitewash and new paint the holiday town is almost a dream!

With kindest regards from Martinus and all his collaborators,

Yours sincerely, (sign.) Erik Gerner Larson

Letter No. 11

<u>Translation of paragraph from "To Verdener," Sept 1952</u> <u>Brunton at Martinus'</u>

The wellknown occult writer Paul Brunton and Martinus have become great friends. During an earlier visit Brunton had become highly interested in Martinus' cosmic analyses and now he has been staying at Martinus' Institute for some time together with his wife. Brunton himself think that he has wasted precious years, because he did not meet Martinus at an earlier date. Now Paul Brunton intends to introduce Martinus to the English-speaking world and this will certainly be the great turning-point in Martinus' career. Martinus' books will now be translated into English one by one and Brunton will write the preface to the first volume.

Translation of paragraph from "To Verdener," December 1952 Afraid of Martinus?

The author Kristmann Gudmundsson interviewed Martinus in the greatest Icelandic newspaper "Morgenbladet" and wrote among other things: "Martinus receives journalists very kindly, though he knows that in Denmark they have always pretended to know nothing of his existence." - In this connection it may be mentioned that when Paul Brunton was interviewed by all the important newspapers in Copenhagen before his departure, he was highly astonished that, in spite of his earnest request, none of these newspapers mentioned the thing that meant the most to him: that he had spent 3 months in Denmark to study Martinus. He frankly asked the interviewers, if they did not know Martinus, to which they replied that they did! Are they afraid of him? Has the clergy still too much power in this country? We are surprised at this unification in a so-called democratic press. If these people think that the truth can be smothered up in the long run, the {mercenaries}⁶⁷ of naivety will later on get the opportunity of a quick conversation!

⁶⁷ Part of this word is missing because the page is torn.