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Arthur Miller

INTERNATIONAL  
SERVISA A SUS AMIGOS



Arthur Miller

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Dear Jorge;

First, thanks for all you did for us. I have knocked together a report of our impressions and experiences in Chile, read it before a PEN gathering where it was recorded and broadcast on National Public Radio, which goes across the country. There've also been a number of references to our trip in the US press, I gather. I can only hope it made some small difference to you people.

I found your book fascinating, especially the picture of Fidel. I must confess that the very idea of one man being the sole or overwhelming authority for everything seems so outdated, so slightly laughable in its presumptuousness that I felt I was reading some ancient text at times. And that the self-proclaimed architects of the future should support such a nonsense is really awesome at this date. And I guess it makes me angrier than when the Fascists do the same because it is done in the name of humane values, the future, science, etc.. It is a bit like when the Jews act badly, they who are supposed to be carrying the most ancient of the flames...

It's hard to understand why your book found no US publisher, although by this time I suppose it must be too late. I hope it wasn't due to reverence for F among the editors here.

In China not long after Mao died I asked many of the Comrades who were lamenting the ravages of the past decade's Cultural 'Revolution' what they proposed to do to prevent a recurrence. "Oh, we know now that it must not happen again," was the reply! When I suggested they might do better with a legal opposition able to point out incipient catastrophes before they devoured everyone, they nearly shook with conflict. Then again, when was the world not in a state of ideological paralysis? I must say that whatever his ultimate fate and that of his program, Gorbachov deserves much praise for his attempt to break through to the facts, those irritating things that lie in wait for every dogma to pass innocently by.

I shall send you a copy of my autobiography, Timebends published last Fall here and soon after in England, France, Germany and thirteen other languages. Also "The Archbishop's Ceiling," a play about the life of writers under a bugged ceiling in an Eastern country. Amazingly, it is to open in the Fall in Budapest. It last played in London last year in a Royal Shakespeare Company production.

Again, thanks, and all good things to you and Chile.

Sincerely



