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*HS L 179:96a*



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

VN/Secretariat matters 1955

HQ Building

19 Oct.

Letter from Andrew Cordier (Exec. Assist. to the Sec. Gen.)

- to Weyman C. Muckabee (Laymen's Movement for a Chris-  
-tian World, N. York)

19 October 1955

Dear Mr. Huckabee,

It has been reported in the press that during United Nations week specific days will be set aside for each of the great religions to conduct services in the Meditation Room. As I indicated to you in writing last year we cannot approve "services" in the Meditation Room since it has been set aside completely for informal and individual prayer and meditation. I had understood that while individual days might be designated for each of the great religions, this implied only that on such days responsible representatives of each would see to it that members of their faith would be invited to come to the Meditation Room. Even this, however, should not exclude on such days the casual people of any faith who might want to drop in to the room. It may be said that there is a safeguard in the fact that so many of the great religious faiths are represented in the plan that you have proposed. However, the Secretary-General feels, quite rightly, that the initiation of "services" in the room will, in any case, have repercussions and establish precedents which would produce difficulty in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew W. Cordier,  
Executive Assistant to  
the Secretary-General

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