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WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

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December the 26th, 1947

Mr. Svetoslav Roerich Kulu, East Punjab, India

Dear Mr. Roerich:

I have just returned from a long lecture trip and in my mail I have found a notice of the death of that great archaeological artist, your father Dr. Nicholas Roerich. I have always had a profound respect and admiration for his work. I was a small teen age younggter when an Uncle of mine introduced me to Professor Roerich in I believe 1924. He was infinitely pa ient and kind and the stamp collection I had at that time had a couple of stamps he gave me which I cherished. I wish to recall this for in this courtesy to a 16 year old boy that was a symbol of his greatness.

Since then I have been in India and have travelled much but I can say that I think knowing of and meeting Dr. Roerich did much to entice me over the frontier of the familiar into the exotic. How can I then refrain from expressing to you and your wife my regret at the sad news of his death, I extend you my sympathy and I regret I do not have the honor of knowing you and Madame Roerich. Perhaps I may one day come again to India and then pay my respects in person. My profession is that of a geographer and news analyst and I lecture on world conditions all the time, You must admit that gives me much of which to talk in these days. I hope out of the agony of rebirth peace may also come to India.

Very sincerely,

Philip H. Cummings