

[Letter from Woody Guthrie to Duncan Emrich, March 29, 1946]

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3520 MERMAID AVENUE BROOKLYN 24 NEW YORK MARCH 29th, 1946

DUNCAN EMRICH CHIEF OF THE ARCHIVES AMERICAN FOLK SONGS MUSIC DIVISION LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REFERENCE DEPARTMENT MUSIC DIVISION LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WASHINGTON D.C.

DEAR DUNCAN: I JUST GOT YOUR LETTER TELLING ME HOW TO GET AT OR INTO THE CHECK LIST OF RECORDED SONGS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN FOLK SONGS TO JULY 1940. I want to thank you for getting all of that figured out and wrote down on paper.

y Y ou are right about my daughter asking another why. She asks why everything. I wish that I could ask as many whys as she does and gets away with. I could could do anything with the Congress that I wanted to do if I had as good a head on me as this daughter Cathy has got on her. I only hope that I don't do too much to block these whys that are in her as they commence to grow up.

You ask me if there is any likelihood if I will be in Washingtown during the spring? Well, I could be. Usually am. You say that you would like to add my new songs to my collection there? WOULD THIS BE ON RECORDINGS? IN THE MIRCROFILMS OR BOTH? I WILL MAKE A DATE TO COME THERE AND SPEND WHATEVER TIME IS NEEDED TO DO ALL OF THIS AND TO DO A GOOD JOB OF IT. I never have learned what it is about that place around there that I like but I know that I do. I like it like I like radio station WNYC, or the post office, or something. I was up there a while back with a delegation of union folks and they made me leave my guitar and case checked with the lieutenant of the police

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because I had a sign on the guitar that said, "This Machine Kills Fascists". On the outside it said, "SUPPORT THE GM STRIKERS".

Do you suppose that they felt like I was controlling the thoughts of the American Citizen a little too much?

I will be happy and awful glad to work with you to make my collection there more complete and up to date and whatever you can think of while we are there. Washington if it wasn't for some of the rattiest slums I've seen is the prettiest place I ever did see in the spring.

Would like for Cathy and the wife to see it.

Woody Guthrie

Love WOODY GUTHRIE