

44, Saint Clement's Road  
Harrogate  
North Yorkshire  
HG2 8LX

Captain Robert Duplease,  
Chaplain, United States Air Force (Europe)  
Menwith Hill Station Chapel  
RAF Menwith Hill  
Harrogate HG3 2RF

26<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Dear Captain Duplease,

### Quaker Meetings for Worship at Menwith Hill

Last year York Area Quaker Meeting tried to establish links between those Quakers who regularly attend a Meeting for Worship outside Menwith Hill, and the community working inside the base. Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) have been held regularly at Menwith Hill for almost 20 years. You may be aware that a small group of Quakers assembles outside the main gate on the first Saturday of alternate months. We sit for an hour – rain or shine.

The bedrock of the Quaker way is the silent meeting for worship. We seek a communal gathered stillness, where we can be open to inspiration from the Spirit of God and find peace of mind, a renewed sense of purpose for living, and joy to wonder at God's creation. Quakers have long had an attitude of openness towards members of other churches, and indeed other faiths. Our desire is to greet that which is of God in everything. We are now writing to invite you, or any of your colleagues or congregation, to join us in worship. Our next two meetings will be at 2pm on February 7<sup>th</sup> 2009 and at 2pm on April 4<sup>th</sup> 2009.

There have been strong links, dating back to 1656, between Quakers in Britain and in North America. Quakers such as William Penn were prominent in colonial days as religious and political leaders. Later, Quakers were among those who signed the Declaration of Independence. Roughly one third of Quakers worldwide are citizens of the USA and it may be that there are Quakers among your staff who would welcome the chance to attend our Meeting. However, you do not have to be a Quaker to attend Quaker meetings: all are made welcome.

I hope you will consider our invitation favourably and pass it on to other staff at Menwith Hill.

In Friendship,

Robin Wilson,  
Co-clerk of York Area Quaker Meeting.