41709 - 53 THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART I WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR RELEASE

In response to hundreds of requests from teachers and students outside New York City, and even New Yorkers who had no opportunity to see the big Picasso exhibition held at the Museum of Modern Art November 15, 1939 through January 7, 1940, the Museum will open on Wednesday, July 16, a special exhibition, Masterpieces of Picasso, composed of thirty-six paintings and drawings by the most celebrated artist of our time. The selection will include the enormous Guernica mural and ten studies for it.

On the same day the Museum will also open an exhibition of Prize-Winning Posters for National Defense, the result of the Museum's Poster Competition which opened April 30, 1941 and closed June 28. In addition to fourteen prize winners the exhibition will include a dozen or more merit awards, which will bring the number of posters in the exhibition up to approximately thirty. Prize winners in the Poster Competition will be announced the day the exhibition opens.

Both the Masterpieces of Picasso and the Prize-Winning Posters for National Defense will be on exhibition through September 7.

The exhibition of Britain At War, which will remain on view at the Museum of Modern Art until the middle of September, will be slightly re-arranged to allow for the installation of the two new exhibitions on the first floor. With two notable exceptions the paintings from the last war will be omitted. The two retained are Eric Kennington's The Conquerors, a large oil which will be hung at the entrance to the second floor; and Dazzle Ships in Drydock at Liverpool by Edward Wadsworth, an oil which will be hung above the stairs at the turn of the landing on the second floor. All the cartoons and posters of the first World War will be hung in galleries to the left of the entrance to the second floor. In this way the entire Britain At War exhibition will be accommodated on one floor. The documentary film programs of Britain At War will continue to be shown until the end of the exhibition on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and 8:30.