

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
October 31, 1950

Dr. E. L. Tatum
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Dr. Tatum:

The enclosed manuscripts might interest you, particularly since I mentioned to you our intention of building such a gadget. It seems to be quite a powerful tool for investigating a number of different phenomena which are not easily accessible by any other methods.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

WV

note: current

Washington, D.C.
21 March 1962

Dr. E.L. Tatum
Rockefeller Institute
66th Street and York Avenue
New York 21, New York

Dear Dr. Tatum:

Fox tells me that he transmitted to you some documents and that you might turn out to be interested in what I am trying to do. I am writing to ask you whether you would be willing to be listed as an Associate. There would be no need for you to make extra trips to Washington but if the organization gets going it might want to arrange for you to see some people within the Administration or some key people in Congress when you happen to be in Washington anyway and if you have some free time left.

If you are willing to serve as an Associate, would you please indicate whether you would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors would have to be formally elected by the Fellows who would also do all the "electing" after the organization is a going concern.

Perhaps you could also advise me whether you would have any preference in serving or not serving as a Fellow in 1962.

If you are willing to join you will probably have a number of questions and it may also be necessary for me to bring you up to date. In this case it would be simplest for me to call you over the telephone, as soon as I have your answer to this letter -- if you accept.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D.C.

THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE

A Graduate University and Research Center

NEW YORK 21, NEW YORK

March 23, 1962

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Maurey Fox has let me see the material you sent him recently, including the memo, "The Next Step", and as you requested him to do, has asked me to consider active participation.

I certainly agree that real progress towards assurance of peace has been disappointingly slow, and feel that a new approach, involving the introduction of realistic, objective reason into the determination of national policy, is needed. Your proposals for action certainly provide this new approach, and I most sincerely hope that they can be brought to fruition. In principle, then, I heartily endorse your efforts, and those of your colleagues in this enterprise.

I feel, however, that I should not take an active part in the proposed organization. As long as I am in an advisory and policy-making capacity serving several agencies of our government, as is now the case, it seems inadvisable to hold active membership in an organization designed to influence governmental policy. To do so might well make the objectivity of any position or opinion, which I might take or express, subject to question.

With my thanks for getting the material to me, and my very best wishes for success in your endeavors.

Sincerely,



E. L. Tatum

ELT:jps

1 cc to Dr. Maurice Fox