

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 28, 1955

Dear Colonel Faymonville:

I had always regretted that our paths did not cross. Once, when I was out on the West Coast, Professor Louis Wirth of the University of Chicago was to arrange for us to meet, but I had to leave before he actually talked to you.

Today, I am writing you for a specific purpose. Since I do not know your address, I am sending this letter to General Hugh B. Hester, who will forward it to you with a letter of his own.

Enclosed you will find a Letter to the Editor which appeared in the New York Times on February 6, and which was reprinted in the Denver Post as a Guest Editorial.

This letter proved to be somewhat of a boomerang. Having appealed to others to do something, it seems that people now expect me to do something. I may have no choice now but to try to get something useful under way, until I can prove that it cannot be done or at least that I, myself, cannot do it.

Therefore, a Memorandum has been prepared, which you will find enclosed, and which sets forth my tentative thoughts on the subject of what we ought to try to do. I am sending this Memorandum to some of the Foundations who might be interested in order to determine whether financial support would be forthcoming for such an enterprise from some of them. There ought to be no difficulty in finding some university, or some tax-exempt research organization, to accept the administration of the funds if the right people can be found.

I should very much appreciate getting your general reaction to all this and, in particular, I should be grateful if you would let me know whether you would consider participating in this work, assuming that the set-up meets with

your approval. Would you be able to free yourself for a period of seven months from whatever you are now doing? I need not say that if anything should come of this and if we actually could get to work, I should consider it a great privilege to have your collaboration.

Please let me know what thoughts come to your mind, and I shall try to keep you informed on what is happening.

After March 6th, I expect to be in New York, where I shall be staying at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th Street, telephone University 42700. That is, at present, the best address at which you can reach me fast. Letters addressed to the University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois, will reach me with some delay.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours

Leo Szilard

Enclosures



The Olympic Club

SAN FRANCISCO

ORGANIZED 1860

15 Mar 55

Dear General Hester,

Thanks for sending on to me the letter from Leo Agilard about the steps he has in mind for the improvement of our international relations. I am as interested as ever in this subject but have no plans to participate in any organizational work.

We are busy here in San Francisco on our plans for welcoming the United Nations in June for its 10-yr Anniversary session. Hope you are enjoying your present work. All good wishes!

Sincerely,
Philip R. Fajnowicz



The Olympic Club

SAN FRANCISCO

ORGANIZED 1860

21 March 55

Dear Dr. Szilard,

Your letter of 28 Feb has just been forwarded to me by General Auster. You honor me greatly in extending your invitation to join the distinguished group of men whom you name, and I much appreciate your courtesy.

However, I shall not be able to participate in the work you outline and must decline your very kind proposal.

Your objective is one which I warmly endorse, and I wish you the utmost success in your efforts.

With kind regards

Sincerely yours,
Philip H. Faymonville