

May 17, 1963

Newton Minnow
3312 Rowland Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Minnow:

Because you are leaving the Government, you might perhaps take an interest in what appears to me to be the most important problem in communications which plagues us at the present. You will see what I am talking about if you read the enclosed Memorandum. I have been discussing it with some members of the Senate and some people fairly high up within the Administration.

I would greatly appreciate your telling me whether it makes any sense to you and thereafter perhaps we could get together and see whether the scheme needs to be modified in order to be practical.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 1963

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

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Thank you so much for your note. I read the memorandum most carefully and think it offers some promise. I want to give it some deliberation and then I'll be back in touch with you as quickly as I can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Newton N. Minow".

Newton N. Minow
Chairman

May 28, 1963

Newton N. Minow, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Minow:

Thank you very much for your kind note of May 24th. In the meantime, I have talked with several people within the Administration and I have re-written my memorandum, which in its present form defines the problem but does not propose any concrete solution. Averell Harriman thought that he might ask a few people who appear to be interested in the problem to meet for dinner to see if a consensus can be reached on a concrete proposal on how the task might be best accomplished. Would you want to participate in such a discussion?

Yours very sincerely,

Leo Szilard



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 30, 1963

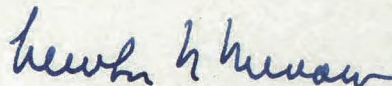
Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
Dupont Circle and New Hampshire Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Thanks for your note. I had already spoken to Arthur Schlesinger about it, too. I think as long as you have Mr. Harriman involved that I could contribute very little -- at least in this stage. I am going to be leaving here in any event on Saturday and believe I could not be useful until I get resettled in the new job later this summer. I will be at the Britannica starting around the middle of July. If at any time you think I could be helpful, please let me know.

I wish you much good luck.

Cordially,


Newton N. Minow
Chairman

June 3, 1963

Newton N. Minow
3312 Rowland Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Minow:

Many thanks for your note of May 30th. I am rather convinced that it is not possible for the Administration to lift itself up by its bootstraps and that it will take an outside anchor to do the job. I was hoping that since you are leaving the Government, you might at some point pick up the ball and run with it. I, myself, do not intend to do that and I would not be able to do a very good job if I did. I take it from your letter that you will not be available between now and the middle of July. If this is the case, then I would propose to let you know, in the middle of July, where we stand and we could see then where to go from there on.

I am enclosing the final version of my statement of the problem. Different people might come up, in the weeks to come, with different ideas of how this problem would be best solved and I shall do my best to communicate these to you around the middle of July.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard