

Ruby A
pws

Columbia University
in the City of New York

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

December 21, 1934

Dr. Leo Szilard
Strand Palace Hotel
Strand, London W.C.2.

Dear Szilard:

I was very glad to hear that you are coming to New York and we are looking forward to seeing you. I turned your letter over to Professor Pegram to answer the questions with regard to the radon supply since I have no direct connection with that work. From what I hear, the situation does not look very favorable for obtaining considerable supplies of radon or of radium.

We have been concentrating on measurements of nuclear spins and moments with molecular beams and I hope we shall have some interesting things to show you when you arrive.

I want to congratulate you on the very ingenious and important experiments which you have made on gamma ray disintegration.

Please let me know when you expect to come and if I can be of help in any way.

Best regards from Mrs. Rabi and myself,

Sincerely yours,

J. J. Rabi

I.I. Rabi

IIR:BM

P. H. A. GWS

c/o Clarendon Laboratory,
Parks Road,
O x f o r d .

19th August, 1938.

Dear Rabi,

I have sent you " The Search " by C.P. Snow. Snow is a physical chemist in Cambridge. Read it if you feel inclined to and pass it on to Urey with my kind regards if you think he will like it.

You will perhaps remember that we decided that Casimir in Leyden would be the best man to suggest to the university (or college) of Maine to be guest professor for a year. I have since met Casimir and found that he and his wife would very much like to go to America for a year. They are both very charming young people, Mrs. Casimir is an experimental physicist. They are adventurous and would like to see America. I do not suppose that anything can be done for this year, since it is rather late from the point of view of Maine, but perhaps you can get them to open the matter now for next year with Casimir, I think he is the best man we can find for this particular opening.

When I last saw you, I was considering taking up an entirely new line of experiments, but was not yet sure of my tentative conclusions. Since then I have changed my views on the subject, but since I made no statements to you, I need not withdraw them. The question of my appointment in Oxford has been postponed to the second half of September and I shall write you about this again. Meanwhile I have started to work in the laboratory, in order to make the best of the situation.

You may have seen a letter in " Nature " signed by Collie, Griffiths and myself which was sent in in May and printed on the 1st of June. If you read it, you will probably have guessed that I knew nothing about it until I saw it in " Nature ". A cable which was to have been sent to me about it to New York in order to get my consent to the publication, had not been despatched.

For the moment I am following your advice " die Wissenschaft überhaupt " and therefore I am not considering whether from the personal point of view it is wise or foolish to stay in Oxford, but shall work there, if a working arrangement can be found, without interruption until about March.

With kind regards to all,

Yours very sincerely,

GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 23, 1956

Dear Sir:

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (Public Law 703 - 83rd Congress) provides the following in Section 157 b(3) "..... The Commission may also, upon the recommendation of the General Advisory Committee, and with the approval of the President, grant an award for any especially meritorious contribution to the development, use, or control of atomic energy."

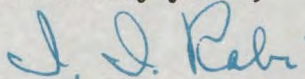
The first award under this Act was made on November 16, 1954, to Enrico Fermi. Recently, the General Advisory Committee recommended to the Atomic Energy Commission that an Enrico Fermi Award be established on an annual basis. The Commission has approved this recommendation, and the General Advisory Committee now has the duty of recommending a candidate for the Enrico Fermi Award for 1956 to the Commission and the President.

In fulfilling our obligation under this Act, we invite you to nominate a candidate who, in your best judgement, has made an especially meritorious scientific or technical contribution to the development, use, or control of atomic energy. The Committee wishes no worthy candidate to be overlooked.

Nominations (10 copies) should be received by the Chairman, General Advisory Committee, Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D.C., not later than March 1, 1956. In making a nomination, please minimize such biographical data as can readily be found in standard reference works and place principal emphasis on a concise statement of the scientific achievement upon which the nomination is based.

Your cooperation in this important enterprise will be very much appreciated by the Committee.

Sincerely yours,



I. I. Rabi
Chairman

Dr. Leo Szilard
Department of Biophysics
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN
TAKEN FROM A FILE OF THE
ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY
AND WAS TURNED OVER TO
DR. LEO SZILARD ON

CONFIDENTIAL

April 25, 1941

Dear Rabi:

I asked Ladenberg, who was about to see Reiche, to find out from Reiche the names of the physicists who moved to Berlin from other places. Reiche does not seem to know very much. R. Becker and Ch. Schaefer seem to visit Berlin regularly - Becker once every month, Schaefer more rarely. Heisenberg comes once a week and he conducts a seminar on cosmic rays in Berlin. Gerlach is in Berlin.

Ladenberg understands that a cyclotron is being constructed at Ardennes laboratory and that Houtermans works at that laboratory.

Ladenberg says he is pretty sure that a large number of German physicists are working intensively on the problem of the uranium bomb under the direction of Heisenberg.

In case you want further information from Reiche, perhaps you could contact him directly. His address is:

F. Reiche
Congress House
46-50 West 68th Street
New York City.

Sincerely yours,

LS:H

(Leo Szilard)

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
December 19, 1950

Dr. I. I. Rabi
Department of Physics
Columbia University
New York, New York

Dear Rabi:

Enclosed you will find a manuscript of a paper which will appear in the December issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. I think I told you something about these results.

I expect to be in New York immediately after the new year and spend there perhaps eight or ten days; and if you think the subject would interest your crowd, I probably could arrange to talk to your physics colloquium. In that case, members of your Zoology Department might perhaps be interested to listen in.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

wv

October 24, 1960

Professor I.I. Rabi
Physics Department
Columbia University
New York, NY.

Dear Rabi,

Bethe and I went carefully yesterday through the paper which I read in Princeton. Bethe objected to the same passages to which you objected also and, faced with such a "majority", I am dropping these passages. I shall probably re-write the whole paper and in the process of doing so I shall probably split the paper into two papers dealing with two different topics.

I am not conceding, however, that the Russians would pick out a passage from a paper which I submit to a closed meeting and quote it out of context in order to show that I agree with their point of view on one issue or another. At previous Pugwash meetings, I have been on several occasions sharply critical of certain US policies or attitudes, and the Russians have never taken any advantage of this. I have no reason to believe that they would start to do such a thing now.

In my experience, whenever I have conceded a point to them, they responded to this as if it were an act of generosity. Their natural impulse is, in such a case, to concede a point to us - but this they are not free to do and thus they do the next best thing, which is to listen attentively and without dissent if I happen to defend certain US policies or attitudes.

This is at least how it has always been in my experience in all the discussions that I had with Russian colleagues at Pugwash meetings.

It is, of course, quite a different matter if an American scientist makes a statement to the Press which gets printed, and is thereafter in the public domain. In such a case, the Russians may be expected to pick up whatever they want and use it in any way they want to use it.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,



LEO SZILARD

Memorial Hospital, Room 812
444 East 68th Street
New York 21, NY