

21 June 1963

To: Dr. Szilard

From: Steven Muller

Subject: Biographical Data, and ~~summer availability~~

Born 22 November 1927, Hamburg, Germany

Arrived United States April 1940, naturalized US Citizen February 1949

Education: B.A. (political science) University of California at Los Angeles, 1948
B.Litt. (political economy) Oxford University, 1951 (Rhodes Scholar)
Ph.D. (government) Cornell University, 1958

US Army (Signal Corps) 1954-1955

Present Position: Associate Professor of Government and Director, Center for International Studies, Cornell University

Experience: Assistant Professor of Political Science, Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania, 1956-1958
On Cornell University Faculty since 1958
Summer Visiting Professor of Political Science, UCLA, 1957
Columbia University, 1960

Member, Woods Hole Summer Study on Verification and Response, Summer, 1962 (Run by Institute for Defense Analysis for US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency)

Consultant, Sept. 1962 to present, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (Arms Control)

Member, United States delegation, Third Annual American-German Conference, Bad Godesberg/Berlin, November 1962

Member, Summer Study on Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament in Europe, Summer, 1963 and Consultant, US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

~~Summer Availability: Absolutely unavailable Dates Sept. 14th, Oct. 14th~~

~~Available only with great difficulty~~

~~Aug. 17 - 31~~

CORNELL UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Office of the Director

ITHACA, NEW YORK (14850)
TEL. (607) 275-4262

October 25, 1963

Dr. Leo Szilard
c/o DuPont Plaza Hotel
DuPont Circle
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

This is a short note just to say how very much I enjoyed our conversation on Monday and how much I hope that it will be possible to implement the project you described to me. I look forward to receiving copies of the two essays you are writing for the London Times.

There is one aspect of the project about which I have had second thoughts. It relates to the time to be devoted to the meetings. Considering that all the participants are apt to be busy people, I think that meetings lasting longer than a week are impractical. On the basis of my experience, it seems to me that five or even four days of intensive discussion each time may be sufficient for the purpose.

Accordingly I propose that there should be four meetings, each tentatively scheduled to last no more than five days. It would seem desirable to hold two of these meetings in Germany and two in the United States. If the Cornell University Center for International Studies is the American coordinating agency, I would suggest that at least one of the meetings be held at Cornell University and that the second American meeting might either be held at Cornell University or, through the arrangements of my organization, at a place more readily accessible to Washington, D. C.

I hope to hear from you soon and will speak to Gerald Freund at the Rockefeller Foundation and to some other individuals, particularly Frank Long, as soon as your ideas are clearer in my mind as a result of the London Times pieces.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Muller

Steven Muller

SM:msa

Dictated by SM:
Signed in his absence.

Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington, D.C. 20036
October 28, 1963

Dr. Steven Muller
Office of the Director
Center for International Studies
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Dr. Muller:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of October 25th. On second thoughts it seems to me that it is rather irrelevant for our German project what views I may or may not express in the manuscript which I am preparing for publication in England. The purpose of the German project is to stimulate, first private, and later on public, discussion in Germany on the issue which they face and not to try to sell the Germans on one particular solution of their problem. Even if I take part in the projected meetings, which is by no means certain, I would be only one of several participants and my views should carry no more weight than the views of any other participant.

In these circumstances we need not delay getting the German project on its feet and I have called Phil Stern's office in order to set up an appointment with him. When I see him I shall explain your interest in this matter and shall try to arrange for you to meet him on your next trip to Washington.

If we wanted to broaden the project, however, as perhaps we ought to, and to have the project embrace not only meetings between Americans and Germans, but also similar meetings between Americans and Englishmen, then the views which I may express in the manuscripts I am preparing might be of relevance. In England I may try to do more than just stimulate discussion, I may also try to influence the decision which England may make in the current contingency. Because my views would become relevant if we were to broaden the project, even though they are not relevant if the project remains limited to Germany, it would be well if we could get together and discuss the matter rather soon.

I am leaving for Chicago in the afternoon of November 4th but if you should be in Washington before that time, please call me over the telephone at the Hotel Dupont Plaza before you leave for Washington so that we might set up a date.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

Germany

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January 21, 1964

Dr. Richard Frhr. v. Weizsäcker
Stiegelgasse 48
6507 Ingelheim am Rhein
Germany

Dear Doktor Freiherr von Weizsäcker:

Dr. Leo Szilard has sent to me a copy of your letter to him of January 3, 1964. I am delighted to know that you are interested in furthering discussions between scholars in Germany and in the United States concerning the political and intellectual issues that face Germany.

In my conversations with Dr. Szilard we had talked about the possibility of getting a relatively small group of people together for three or four discussions during the course of a year, each discussion lasting four or five days. Some of the meetings would occur in Germany and the others in the United States. The first discussion ought probably to take place in Germany. Dr. Szilard and I had talked of no more than perhaps fifteen participants, half of whom would be Germans and the rest Americans.

The two major initial problems confronting this project are the choice of participants and the obtaining of financial support. Dr. Szilard expressed the hope that you might be willing to bring together the German participants and that I might be useful in suggesting a list of Americans. Concerning financial support, the biggest sum involved is of course that necessary to make it possible for the participants to travel to the meetings. Dr. Szilard was encouraged to think that the Volkswagenstiftung in Hannover might be willing to underwrite travel support for the German participants to come to the United States and also to make a small grant to pay for the expenses of such meetings as take place in Germany.

On the basis of your welcome and positive letter, I am now making efforts to obtain funds in the United States to pay the cost of Americans traveling to Germany. If the first American meeting might be held at Cornell University, my own organization may be able to underwrite the expenses of the meeting itself in Ithaca.

January 21, 1964

Please let me know how you respond to these suggestions for implementing Dr. Szilard's initial idea. I hope very much that it may be possible for us to collaborate on this project, and that we might perhaps have our first discussion in Germany sometime during this coming summer. If you can give me some further idea concerning German participants whom you would like to nominate, I shall in the meantime talk again with Dr. Szilard concerning the identity of the participating Americans. I look forward very much to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Muller

SM:msa

P.S. I was born in Hamburg and I write and speak German fluently. Please forgive me, however, for writing to you in English-- among other things it is very much easier for my office staff.

cc: Dr. Leo Szilard

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Office of the Director

ITHACA, NEW YORK (14850)
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January 22, 1964

Mr. Philip Stern
2301 S Street, N. W.
Washington 8, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stern:

It was a pleasure to meet you recently in connection with the Institute for Policy Studies. I hope you will be interested in the enclosed correspondence concerning the possibility of private conversations between Germans and Americans which Dr. Leo Szilard has discussed with you.

As you can see, Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker has responded affirmatively to Dr. Szilard's original suggestion, and I have now begun direct correspondence with him concerning practical next steps.

The financial support which this project will require would appear to be substantial but not excessive. If the Volkswagen Foundation in Germany will pay for trans-Atlantic travel by German participants and for the expenses of meeting in Germany, the principal need consists of travel funds for the American participants. If one assumes a maximum average of \$1,000 round trip for a maximum of ten American participants and if one assumes that two meetings will be held in Germany, then \$20,000 should be enough to permit a total of four meetings. As I indicated in my letter to Dr. von Weizsäcker, it might be possible for Cornell University to underwrite the expenses of the first American meeting if it can be held in Ithaca. On the basis of two successful meetings it should be possible to raise a small amount of additional funds to pay for the expenses of a possible fourth meeting, probably in Washington, D. C., and to pay for the travel of American participants to go to Washington for that purpose.

I wonder whether it might be possible to interest the Stern Foundation in assisting this project. An initial grant of \$10,000, presumably matched by an equivalent grant from the Volkswagen Foundation in Germany, would make it possible to proceed immediately toward staging the first two German-American conversations.

Mr. Philip Stern

-2-

January 22, 1964

I am writing to you in some haste because I am about to leave for Latin America on January 26. If you find it possible to give me a brief indication of your interest in this matter, I would like very much to discuss it with you in Washington as soon as possible after my return from Latin America on February 11.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Muller

SM:msa
Enclosures

cc: Dr. Leo Szilard

File Forming

March 2, 1964

Professor Steven Muller
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Dr. Muller:

Attached is a letter which I received from C.F.Frhr.v.Weizsacker in Hamburg. The passage marked on the margin raises a problem which at the moment I do not know how to solve. Since there is another important matter which I want to discuss with you, I might call you over the telephone at your home, person-to-person, shortly after 6 p.m. Pacific time, which is shortly after 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. If I do please do not accept the call but ask that the call be left in. Immediately thereafter, place a call to the number the operator leaves as a new call and reverse charges. This way I can talk to you at length because I pay only what you would have paid had you placed the call, viz: \$1.00 for each three minutes.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

LS:jm

Enclosure