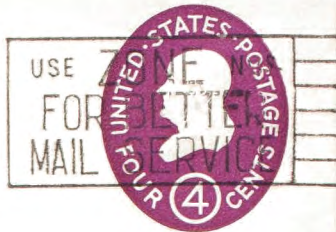


*See note on
other side.*



LEO SZILARD
HOTEL DUPONT PLAZA
1500 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

6-26-61

Dr. Lee Sziland:

Due to an oversight by me - this was not mailed on time.

I am glad to be able to state that I agree with the thoughts expressed in your petition.

Though I am too late - I felt that I should let you know how I reacted to your petition

|||||

Karl Paul Link
Willow Lake
Madison Wisconsin

Favorable
but against
taking action

7

Favorable but
~~Academy of~~
~~criticisms should~~
~~keep out or~~
~~the~~ ~~disapproval~~
~~of action~~
~~is not~~.

Against taking
action

$$11100 : 364 = 30.4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1092 \\ \hline 1800 \\ 80 \end{array}$$

30%

opposed c

movements

5

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

In a rapidly changing world circumstances might conceivably arise where a nation might have to transgress the Charter and the transgression might appear justified in the eyes of the world. But even though it may not be possible to spell out in advance the circumstances in which a nation might be compelled to transgress the Charter, this does not mean that the Charter may be wantonly disregarded.

In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

OPPOSED!

(Signed) P. S. Epstein

Date

(over!)

Although I agree with some of your statements,
I think that the letter greatly oversimplifies a
rather complex situation.

Its usefulness is further reduced by the remarks
in the attached sheets. The relation of some of these
to the petition is not clear. Therefore, they could
be interpreted in all sorts of ways, which intro-
duces elements of considerable danger.

Yours truly

P. S. E.

May 24, 1961.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I am sympathetic with some of your views, but I feel that this petition is based upon a greatly oversimplified view of the role of law and morality in international affairs.
with best regards, Sincerely, H.B. Barka.

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) ~~.....~~

Date May 24, 1961

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Donner B. Lindsay*

Date *May 16, 1961*

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I am sorry, but at this point I cannot agree with you. Insofar as possible I believe in allowing our duly elected representatives and their appointees to handle affairs of state. They certainly must have access to information that I do not have, and might not know how to interpret if I did. I agree that political laymen should have concern for what appears to be going on in the world, and scientists are no exception, but they are still laymen politically.

Opposed - I am in complete agreement with
the views expressed by Professor
R. G. Herb, sent you dated Mar 14
Ferry W. Wilson

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed)

Date

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I respectfully urge you

Opposed

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Leo Goldberg

(Signed)

Date *20 May, 1961*..... *I can see no useful purpose in a petition that admonishes our own government to be 'good' and at the same time makes no mention of the many current and wanton violations of the UN Charter by the Soviet Union and the Castro government.*

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL CENTER
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
School of Medicine

May 16, 1961

DAvenport 1-1200
Cables STANMED


Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Leo:

I would certainly give great force to the moral and political considerations in your petition and memorandum of May 10. If I'm not signing the petition it is not because of a fundamental disagreement with your views. You yourself have stressed the complexity of the problem, and the difficulty that may attach to the invariable pursuit of a consistent policy. For this reason, at least until we have a much clearer picture of what our policy is to be, I fear that there may be more harm than good to making too emphatic a public expression of the critical views that are embodied in these documents. We may expect to find that these indictments are used against us in an unreasonable and unpredictable way by our opponents. I therefore think we might try to wash our dirty linens in a more private fashion as a first tactic. Until the full force of such a policy is evident, I would, therefore ask you not to include my name in any public statement of adherence to your petition. I would also urge you to consider the wisdom and perhaps also the practicality of conducting your presentation of this petition in the same ^{for confidential} fashion. I have every hope that the Kennedy administration will come forward with a constructive program for the future to which we can all adhere in a positive fashion.

With best personal wishes,

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

favourable

Dear Szilard:

I am in full agreement with your stand in regard to Cuba, but feel that the Academy should keep out of political discussions.

PETITION

Sincerely *W. D. Miller*

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed)

Date

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON 5

Institute for Enzyme Research
1702 University Avenue

May 19, 1961

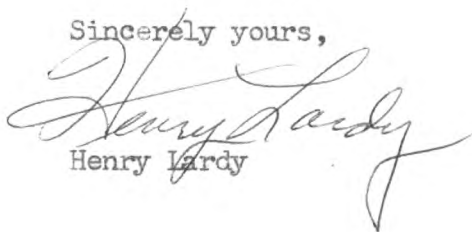
Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel DuPont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Ave., N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

While I am in complete sympathy with the ideas expressed in your letter and in your petition to the President of the United States, I must also agree with the views which Ray Herb has expressed in his recent letter to you.

I must therefore decline signing your petition at the present time.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Lardy

HAL:mjt

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

MADISON 6

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
STERLING HALL

May 16, 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel DuPont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.


Dear Dr. Szilard:

Your proposed letter to the President expresses viewpoints with which I am in complete agreement. It leaves untouched issues so crucial that I believe your letter will be harmful. I believe this letter is particularly untimely from the members of the Academy. Our press overplays the short term view; the game won today or lost today. This the Academy should not do.

The recent unsuccessful invasion of Cuba was not a major defeat for the democracies. In Cuba as in Hungary the tanks and machine guns of a dictatorial power crushed poorly organized uprisings. This can be magnified into a major defeat by stinging recriminations. Restraint then becomes more difficult, and firm restraint we now must have.

Humiliating rebukes have poured forth upon our administration. These I believe must be counteracted. I believe the administration should be commended for the restraint exercised in the Cuban operation. I believe we should urge that these courageous policies be continued, that with foresight, vigor and restraint Castro and Castroism be contained, that with wise and generous cooperative programs we work throughout the world toward economic improvement in freedom.

Sincerely,



R. G. Herb

RGH:jlb

*abstracting from public,
favourable*

3309 Avon Road
Durham, North Carolina
May 21, 1961

Professor Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Szilard:

I am more than sorry that I can not sign your petition. In spite of the fact that I agree with you that our Cuban adventure meant all that you express in your letter, there are three reasons why I refuse to sign your petition. One is that I am certain that Kennedy himself knows that what we did in Cuba was not only an error in judgement, but also a violation of the democratic principles to which we adhere. Two, I am absolutely against it that scientists as a class believe that their scientific reputation is a proof that they are also experts in political reasoning. As citizens, we have just as much right as others to tell our opinions and, if we judge ourselves as a relatively intelligent group, we can also hope our opinions should carry some weight. However, here you ask only scientists who are members of the National Academy to join your appeal. I believe that there are a great number of people, for instance in humanities, who would be at least as competent as we are as a group. You can argue with some right that you do not deny that, but everyone should stir up his own group in times in which basic political decisions seem to go haywire. However, we scientists had in the last years more than enough opportunity and duty to say our opinions about matters directly connected with our science. We endanger our influence in these particular questions if we speak up as a group in matters not directly connected with our profession. Three, right now, I believe that it would be quite necessary that we as scientists ~~not~~ insist on a foolproof mutual control in the discussions with Russia about the bann of atomic tests. All of us know that such a control is not possible, and, if it were, it would ~~mean~~ snooping around which we would dislike just as much as would Russia. Every little earthquake which happens every quarter hour, could be used to send inspectors into that region. Actually, I planned to write a letter to the president about this matter and about the fact that stopping atomic tests is one of the matters in which the Russians and we should have the same interest. If the tests are going on, it will help to spread possession of atomic weapons everywhere. As you know only too well, the lethal consequences are a mathematical certainty. I have not

*Make it
clear that
U.S.A
should*

written this letter after many attempts to do so, because by a chance I know that President Kennedy got a copy of a letter which I wrote to a known lawyer in Philadelphia, when he wanted to hear my opinion. Apparently this reasoning was unknown to him and he wrote me a letter that he had sent a copy to Kennedy. Of course, I had also emphasized in this letter my opinion that I expect that Russia and the United States will in the not too far future be allies by obvious reasons, which you know yourself. I hope I don't make you angry with me, but I cannot sign your petition.

Now a few personal words. I want to thank you for sending me the book The Voice of the Dolphins. Rereading it and especially also the other two stories, my wife and I did not know whether we should laugh or cry. Your satire and your style are wonderful. The wittiest is the Mark Gable Foundation. If you can, drop me a few lines to tell me why you are in Washington and how you are.

With greetings and all our good wishes.

Yours as ever,

Franck.

James Franck

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES, INC.

UPTON, L. I., N. Y.

TEL. YAPHANK 4-6262

REFER:

May 15, 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Dupont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

After giving serious thought to the matter,
I have decided to abstain from signing the petition.
I agree completely with your viewpoint but I also
feel that the President is doing his best to solve
the difficult problem of resisting communist aggression
without starting World War III.

Yours sincerely,



Donald D. Van Slyke

DDVS:ep

5-25-61

Signed: 45

6-5-61

+

10

56

(incl. 6 = comments

7

~~out of 364 (out of 14 sections)~~

Telefax

WESTERN UNION

Telefax



proper symbol

ADDRESS

W. F. MARSHALL, PRES DEPT

Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PAS40

W NSA283 GOVT PD NS WASHINGTON DC 18 610PME

DR GERTRUD WEISS SZILARD

1960 JAN 18 PM 7 06

THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

68 ST AND YORK AVE NYK

DEAR DR SZILARD:

I WILL BE PLEASED TO CALL AT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
AT 2:30 PM THIS FRIDAY. IN THE MEANTIME I APPRECIATE
VERY MUCH THE MANUSCIP WHICH YOU FORWARDED

R E CUSHMAN JR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE VICE PRESIDENT.

723P

Total mailed

364

Replied unavailable

4

360

Participated

by signing petition 56

" " absolution 16

" " opposition 7

" sending own letter to Pres. 1

80

280

Replied with letter

Favorable 15

Opposed to petition 4

Disapproval of action 3

Vague and unclear 5

27

253

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed)

Date

Opposed

Quach. H. H. H. H. H.

I am also opposed to the attitude which requires assent (or rejection) to such statements by all fellow members of the Academy.

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *R. V. Brown*

Date *May 14, 1961*

PETITION

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(Signed) 

Date 

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(Signed) *L. Stann*

Date *May 16, 1961*

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(Signed) *R. A. Brink*.....

Date *May 15, 1961*.....

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(Signed) *M. A. Zachariasen*

Date *May 15, 1961*

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I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Charles Kitter*

Date *16 May 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

In a rapidly changing world circumstances might conceivably arise where a nation might have to transgress the Charter and the transgression might appear justified in the eyes of the world. But even though it may not be possible to spell out in advance the circumstances in which a nation might be compelled to transgress the Charter, this does not mean that the Charter may be wantonly disregarded.

In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Robley C. Williams*.....

Date *May 16, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Froy W. Barthelme*

Date *May 16, 1961*

Missoula, Montana

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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I respectfully urge you

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Maria Greenfield May*

Date *May 16, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) 

Date *May 18, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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I respectfully urge you

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) ...*T. M. Sorin*.....

Date ...*May 16, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Maurice B. Visser*.....

Date *May 15, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) F. W. Went

Date May 16, 1961

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) Alfred S. Tompkins

Date 4/16/61

Boston

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *SE Lucia*

Date *5/16/1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Richard F. Weisskopf*

Date ... *May 15 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Hermann J. Muller*

Date *May 15, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Ernest C. Hilgard*

Date *May 16, 1961*

PALO ALTO

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Lyman Spitzer, Jr.*

Date ... *May 19, 1961*

(Lyman Spitzer, Jr.)

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) .. *Raymond T. Burge*

Date *May 16, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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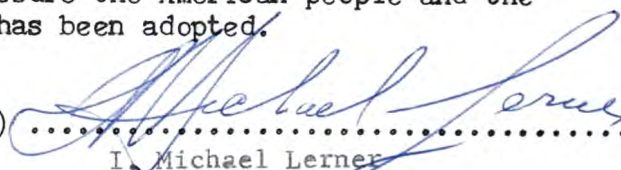
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(Signed)



Michael Lerner
Berkeley, California

Date May 17, 1961

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Felix Bloch*

Date ... *May 19 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Johannes Holtpeter*.....

Date *May 22, 1961*.....

ROCHESTER

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed)*Oskar Winstaniner*.....

Date*May 23rd 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Eric S. Ball*

Date *May 24 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Clive C. Wilson*

Date *May 21, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

In a rapidly changing world circumstances might conceivably arise where a nation might have to transgress the Charter and the transgression might appear justified in the eyes of the world. But even though it may not be possible to spell out in advance the circumstances in which a nation might be compelled to transgress the Charter, this does not mean that the Charter may be wantonly disregarded.

In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Robert R. Brode*.....

Date *May 31 1961*.....

MAY 16 1961

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Bruno Rom*

Date *June 2, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed)*Martin Schwarzschild*.....

Date*May 29, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Herac W. Babcock*.....

Date *May 21, 1961*.....

PALOMAR

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) ... *B. F. Sherman*

Date ... *May 31 1961*

*CH 14 B - LG F
MRS.*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Arthur Schlesinger*

Date *May 22 - 61*

RYE N.Y.

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *K. H. Meyer*

Date *May 24th 1961*

(San Francisco)

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Michael Heidelberger*

Date *May 28, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Wilson S. Stoner*

Date *May 17, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed)*Edwin C. Kemble*.....

Date*May 16, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *E. B. Astwood*

Date *May 17 '61*

PETITION

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(Signed) *Max DeLoach*

Date *May 16, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *Ell Condon*

Date *May 15 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *B. H. Wilkin*

Date *May 18, 1961*

Ball Simone

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *A. N. Richards*

Date *May 13, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *William F. Steis*

Date *May 15, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *William F. Meggers*.....

Date *13 May 1961*.....

PETITION

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(Signed) *Oscar Riddle*.....

Date *May 16, 1961*.....

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) 

Date May 16, 1961

St. Louis, Mo.

THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE

NEW YORK 21, NEW YORK

May 31, 1961

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I am enclosing my reply to your communication of May 10th.

Your memorandum has not been sent to members of all sections of The Academy, not to the sections of Mathematics, Geology, Chemistry or Anthropology. It is difficult for me to see the justification of this selection. In my opinion this procedure detracts from the significance of the petition.

I am glad that your letter to the President of May 10 is entirely different from the petition, for there is much in it that I simply do not understand. Even the tone of it is not what I would desire.

When you count the answers received I would like to be informed of the result.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. E. Mirsky

Alfred E. Mirsky

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

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) ... *Alfred E. Muskrum*

Date *May 31, 1961*

In my opinion it is a grave error not to have sent this petition to members of all sections of The Academy.

A. E. Muskrum

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

In a rapidly changing world circumstances might conceivably arise where a nation might have to transgress the Charter and the transgression might appear justified in the eyes of the world. But even though it may not be possible to spell out in advance the circumstances in which a nation might be compelled to transgress the Charter, this does not mean that the Charter may be wantonly disregarded.

In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Harlow Shapley*

Date *May 14, 1961*

I wish you would compose a stronger statement of our shame in regard to the Cuban exploit.
HS

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed)

George Wald

Date

May 15/61

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
16 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

May 15/61

Dear Leo,

Thanks for
this opportunity
to sign your state-
ment. I hope
there may be also
some chance to
see you. Perhaps
at Woods Hole
this summer—we'll

be in Brook's house
on Pezance after
June 15.

My own pastoral
activity this past
year has been a new
introductory course
in biology that goes
from protous to
Hamlet.

All regards & good
wishes,

As ever,

George W.

DR. C. B. VAN NIEL
HOPKINS MARINE STATION
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA

May 16, 1961.

My dear Dr. Szilard,

In the first place I wish to add my warm congratulations to those you will have received on your - much belated! - election to membership in the Nat'l Acad. Sci.

Secondly, I want to express my deep appreciation for your activities on behalf of a U.S. policy in keeping with our international obligations and an ethically satisfying position.

It has been a privilege to sign the copy of the petition you were good enough to send me.

With best personal regards and wishes,

Sincerely yours,

C. B. Van Niel.

PETITION

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(Signed)



C. B. VAN NIEL.

Date May 16, 1961.....



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
T U C S O N

LUNAR AND PLANETARY LABORATORY OF
THE INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS

21 May 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel DuPont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Your memorandum of May 10 to members of the National Academy of Sciences has been received. I want to thank you for your initiative; I am in full accord with your analysis and conclusions. I have signed the enclosed petition, which I am enclosing herewith, sealed, as you requested. I am assuming that you will not make public the individual names of the signers of the petition; if you had thought of releasing the names, please do not include mine, since I do not wish to get involved in local policy debates.

On May 8 I had written to the President a fairly lengthy letter, of which I am enclosing a copy. Please note that this letter is confidential, and I must request that you treat it as such.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Gerard P. Kuiper

GPK:llo
Enclosure (2)

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed) *Gerard P. Kuiper*

Date *May 20, 1961*

KUIPER

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

May 23, 1961

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

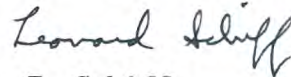
Dear Dr. Szilard:

Thank you for your memorandum of May 10 and the enclosures. I appreciate the opportunity to sign your petition, and a signed copy is enclosed.

In addition to this petition, I hope that you will be able to think of some more positive approach that can be recommended to the President. While the petition is good and I am in favor of it, I think it does have a slightly negative quality to it, that is, it seems to say what we should not do in the future rather than what we should do. I had hoped that when the President was inaugurated he would try to make some conciliatory gesture toward the present regime in Cuba. Perhaps I should have made a specific suggestion to this effect at that time, although of course it would not have had any effect on his actions. Now I am in a position of not being able to think of any sensible policy that I would care to recommend and that would have a more positive character than your petition. If you are able to think of any further constructive action, I would be grateful if you would let me know.

I was relieved to learn, when I was in Washington just recently, of the improvement in your health. I do hope it continues.

Sincerely yours,



L. I. Schiff

LIS:alb
Enc.

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed) *L. L. Schiff*

Date .. May 23, 1961

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(Signed) *Karl Sax*

Approved by [unclear] ?

Date *May 25, 1961*

Ans. The least that could be done would be to ask for a vote by the Cubans, supervised by U.N.. If they vote for the present regime, we may regret it, but can not take military action, direct or indirect.

PETITION

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(Signed) *Karl F. Herzfeld*

Date *June 4, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *H. E. Carter*

Date *May 22, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *Sewall Wright*

Date *May 15, 1961*

obtained

5 comments

6

MAY 15 1961

RECEIVED

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) *H. H. Mayall*

Date *May 15, 1961*

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Date

Chicago

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(Signed)

Date

PASADENA

Abstain

PETITION

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(Signed) *M. B. Wood*

Date *May 21, 61*

Abstain

(Baltimore)

I abstain

Mr. Koblenz

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed)

Date May 1961

N. Bloembergen

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

June 5, 1961
Air Mail

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel DuPont Plaza
1500 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Doctor Szilard:

I regret very much that I have not returned the proposed petition to you before now. I am in complete agreement with many viewpoints which are expressed in this petition, but I am not at all certain that it would have the effect upon the President which you anticipate. I am, therefore, regretfully abstaining from making any commitment regarding the advisability of forwarding this petition to the President.

Very truly yours,



M. R. Irwin

MRI:sc

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed)

Date

M. R. IRVIN

Abstain
PETITION

*Text is certainly
to the point
but petition should have been
forwarded to other persons
(National Academy of Sciences,
Am. Academy of Arts & Sciences,
for instance to
Labor Union, Plumbers' Union,
(vide Einstein.)*

To the President of the United States

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(Signed)

Date

*which incl
Artists
& Humani
& Savages
a law to
Union
like for
instance
the
Plumbers'
Union
(vide Einstein.)
Abraham Kalder*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

In a rapidly changing world circumstances might conceivably arise where a nation might have to transgress the Charter and the transgression might appear justified in the eyes of the world. But even though it may not be possible to spell out in advance the circumstances in which a nation might be compelled to transgress the Charter, this does not mean that the Charter may be wantonly disregarded.

In deciding whether to use force, our Government must give due regard to the Charter and it must not adopt a double standard of morality; it must not apply one yardstick to the actions of the Soviet Union, England or France and another one to the actions of the United States.

I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *W. H. R. ...*

Date *6/22/61*

O. H. ROBERTSON, M. D.
9150 LOS GATOS HIGHWAY
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

May 22^d 1961

Dear Dr. Szilard

I agree entirely with your views concerning the unfortunate and deeply regrettable Cuban episode but I do not wish to transmit the enclosed letter to the President. — as indicated.

I feel that your spending time and energy in an attempt bringing some sort of solution to the atomic bomb problem — constitutes a real service to mankind — I don't know of any one better qualified to advise our government in this matter which is of the greatest urgency.

With very best wishes

Most Sincerely
O. H. Robertson

A. Epstein

*Allen Sorenson
I have full confidence in the present administration's policies.*

PETITION

Mistakes have happened and will happen again, but it does not mean we agree with the principles made in your letter.

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

0770
STAVE

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(Signed)

Date

PETITION

DEPT. TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM
REC'D MAY 15 1961

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed)

Date

May 22/1961

[Handwritten signature]

This is a political matter not a scientific or technical one. The Academy is not particularly qualified to advise (also the situation depends on other factors)

abstain (over)

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed)

Date

I think it is the duty of individual scientists, as citizens, to make known their views on public policy. But I think it is wrong to take a vote of a body of scientists on public policy. The obvious hope is that the vote will carry weight. But it has been my observation that scientific bodies are generally poorly informed on public policy, and I have no confidence in the results of such polls.

H. M. Clemence

I abstain largely because you (and Friedman) are, I think, extrapolating too much from the special case of Cuba where we have been robbed & insulted & our friends exiled to an intolerable degree. That in this case we should have elected to help the liberals unseat the Communist government does not mean we are planning to reinstate "spheres of influence" or to set up a new doctrine. Besides I do not think the President should be further harassed at this difficult time.

PETITION

K. V. Thurman

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) K. V. Thurman

Date May 15 '61

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) *Eugene M. Lardis*

Date *May 16, 1961*

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed)

Date

I do not have sufficient information to advise the President on these matters.

Lester R Dragstedt

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

ABSTAIN

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

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(Signed) David Bodian

Date May 24, 1961

I have the impression that such a policy has been adopted.

906 Rolandone Ave,
Ruxton 4, Maryland

Dear Professor Szilard:

I enclose the petition to the President, but have decided to abstain. I fully endorse your point of view, about this and other matters of international policy. It seems to me that the President does so too, and must have learned the obvious lessons of the Cuban adventure.

Your contributions to current thinking about the parlous state of international relations, including the TV debate and the wonderful "Voice of the Dolphins" (which I find I can re-read with profit and pleasure), have already earned you my personal Peace Prize, so I feel slightly unhappy about not supporting the petition. It is not that I disagree with Szilard, but that I feel more confident about Kennedy than perhaps you do.

With warm best wishes,
David Bodian

opposed.

5 comment.

2

PETITION

To the President of the United States

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(Signed) Philip Bard

Date May 17, 1961

PETITION

Oppen

To the President of the United States

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Oppen

I respectfully urge you

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(Signed) *C. Dringheim*

Date *May 25, 61*

(CHICAGO)

Abigail

Comments

10

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO 37 • ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

May 19

Dear Leo:

First, let me say that we are all tremendously pleased that you have made what I understand is a dramatic recovery from your illness.

Second, about your petition: I am sympathetic with the view expressed but I prefer as a matter of general policy not to sign petitions. I'm sorry.

Best regards,
George

abstain from politics.

42 BRINGTON ROAD
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

May 13, '61

Dear Dr. Szilard: -

I never sign petitions to our Government. This is a matter of principle with me. I have at times been very close to the Government as when I was a member of the Science Committee of the National Resources Planning Board and I am presently on the staff (part time) of the Office of Naval Research.

Yours sincerely

Edwin B. Wilson

Uniclear

5

Ferrable
already written
themselves

4

Disapproval of
my taking action
3

opposed to
petition

4

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed) *David M. J. Bonner*

Date *June 1, 1961*

May 16th 1961

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Dear Leo,

Instead of sending you a signed petition to Kennedy, I am sending this letter of good will. Being politically conditioned in Soviet Russia, ~~and~~ I developed an intensive allergy against any petitions, be it on high political matters or just ~~the~~ on the garbage collection in my community.

I did not sign a dozen or so petitions which Linus P. sent to me, and I am not going to sign yours. Nevertheless I think that your point is well taken.

I am very glad that you have conquered the DNA revolt, and am looking to discuss with you more biological problems when our world-lines will ~~meet~~^{cross} again.

Yours as ever Geo.

P.S. I am organizing a petition (addressed to you) with the request that you write and publish a sequel volume to Dolphines.

PALMER PHYSICAL LABORATORY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

26 May '61

Approved

Dear Sigilard. Thanks for offering me the opportunity to sign the petition on Cuba which you got up. I appreciate your feeling on this point, but don't agree. At any rate, Eugene & I and others have been stimulated by your comments to write something of our own, in which the key sentence is

Those who would have us adhere, without exception, to a unilateral policy of non-intervention condemn us to a steady erosion of the free world.

It was good to see you again in Washington.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Jim Wheeler

5-25-61

Not available.

4

LABORATORY OF THE
INSTITUTE FOR MUSCLE RESEARCH
AT THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS
TELEPHONE FALMOUTH, KIMBALL 8-0630

ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI, M. D., PH. D.
TEL: FALMOUTH, KIMBALL 8-2233

18 May, 1961.

Amice,

I thank you for your book which is both interesting and amusing. I thank you also for the petition and the privilege of joining it. I will not return it to you with either of the remarks you suggest, because it would mean that I am against it, completely accept it or am indifferent. Neither of the three would meet the case. Why, I could explain only in a letter the length of which would make it unreadable. So without your expressed wish I will not annoy my paper with it.

Instead, I would like to touch upon a problem which, probably, interests you the least : your own person. To be brief about it, I am working on a cancer therapy (more exactly I seem to have dropped on one innocently). I do not know how your health is and whether your improvement was irreversible. In any case, at the moment, I would have the difficulty with you that you are not a mouse (I can cure mice) and how long it will take me to bridge the gap, I do not know. But, it may be, that I will make progress. So I would like to be informed if you really need help. I would be incredibly proud if you would be the first human patient benefited by my work.

With best wishes and warm regards, yours



Professor Robert S. Woodworth
is 91 years of age. We do not
expect him to go deeply into this
Sorry.

Enrica Tunnell Sectry to RSW.
5/13/61

Mr Dodge (B.O.) passed away
August 1960.

J. P. Dodge

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO 37 • ILLINOIS

THE ENRICO FERMI INSTITUTE
FOR NUCLEAR STUDIES

May 10, 1961

President John F. Kennedy
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am convinced that the next phase of the so-called atomic stalemate, which is now rapidly approaching, will be inherently unstable and may explode in our face the first time we get into a conflict with Russia in which major national interests are involved. Therefore, I believe it is imperative that we reach a meeting of the minds with the Russians on either how to live with the bomb or else how to get rid of the bomb. So far we have not been doing either.

On October 5th of last year I had an extended conversation with Chairman Khrushchev in New York from which I had gained an insight into the kind of approach to which the Russians might respond with respect to either of these two issues. I thought that what I had learned was important enough to ask you to see me in November before you took office, and it was with deep regret that I learned that this was not possible.

Private conversations which I had in Moscow last December lead me to doubt that the Russians would be very receptive at the present time to any discussions on controlled arms limitations. I believe that the attitude of the Russians in this regard might change but only if we were first to examine jointly with them the issues involved in general disarmament and would then jointly reach the conclusion either that general disarmament is not desirable, or else that it is desirable but not feasible.

Most Americans do not know at all whether they would want to have general disarmament, even if it were feasible. I personally am convinced that we shall make no progress towards general disarmament unless we first reach a meeting of the minds with the Russians on how one would secure the peace in a disarmed world.

Recently I moved to Washington in order to discover if I might be of some use in connection with the problem that the bomb poses to the world. Because I found nobody who appeared to know how the peace may be secured in a disarmed world, I decided to concentrate on this issue.

I was in the process of preparing a memorandum which analyzes what may and what may not be possible in this regard when I was stopped in my tracks by the invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles.

I am deeply disturbed by what appears to be the present attitude of your Administration towards our obligations under the United Nations Charter. How many of my colleagues share my misgivings I do not know, but I am writing individually to other members of the National Academy of Sciences, and I shall take the liberty to transmit to you the responses which reach me by June 5th. A copy of the memorandum which I am mailing to my colleagues is attached.

Yours very truly,

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

Favorable
but don't sign

4

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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I respectfully urge you

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(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Philip E. Smith*

Date *June 12, 1961*

WILLIAM AND DIANE KONIGSBERG
11 EAST 78TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

May 18, 1961

Dear Dr. Szilard,

I recently read a copy of the memorandum and petition which you are sending to members of the National Academy of Sciences. I was very impressed by the intelligence and foresight of your point of view, and would like to say that, had I been sent a petition, I would gladly have signed it.

May I inquire why you are restricting your petitions to members of the National Academy of Sciences? If at any time in the future you should decide to send them to other

private citizens, I would be glad to assist your efforts to obtain signatures in any way that I can.

In the meantime, may I request you to send me a copy of your Memorandum for my private use and to show to friends? Thank you.

Yours truly,
Deane Königberg,
(Mrs. Wm.)

YALE UNIVERSITY
OSBORN ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORY
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

June 24

Dear Dr. Szilard

I much regret that
I was out of the country
when the request to sign
your memorandum arrived
sincerely

J. R. Hulsebosch

YALE

PETITION

To the President of the United States

Sir:

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(Signed) *Robert M. Math*.....

Date *June 5 - 61*.....

Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

PETITION

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I respectfully urge you

(a) to adopt a policy with respect to our obligations under the United Nations Charter which is in conformity with the moral and legal standards of behavior that we are demanding from others;

(b) by one means or another to assure the American people and the people of the world that such a policy has been adopted.

(Signed) *Ralph W. Wetmore*
.....

Date *June 4, 1961*
.....

Dear Mr. Szilard,

As a civil servant I am not supposed to engage in what may be termed political causes.

PETITION

Sincerely
Walter R Miles

To the President of the United States

Sir:

The unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the statements which were subsequently made by spokesmen of your Administration have created the impression that henceforth the United States may intervene with her own troops in civil wars in order to prevent the establishment, or stabilization, of governments which look to the Soviet Union or China, rather than to America, for economic assistance and military protection. At present we lack assurance that the United States would in such a case abide by the restraints which are imposed by the United Nations Charter on all member nations.

When she ratified the Charter the United States renounced the right to resort to force in defense of her national interest except in circumstances which are set forth by the Charter.

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Date

R. S. Mulliken
Chicago