

August 22, 1957

Mr. Tom Slick
Southwest Foundation for
Research and Education
8500 Culebra Road
San Antonio 6, Texas

Dear Mr. Slick:

Enclosed I am sending you an inquiry which is self-explanatory. It is primarily addressed to the scientists whose names you will find listed on the sheet attached to the memorandum. I felt that I ought to inform you about what I am trying to do, and any comment which you might care to make would be greatly appreciated.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

m
Encl.

5 copies

TOM SLICK

BENNETT BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO 5, TEXAS

OIL PROPERTIES
RANCHING
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

December 9, 1957

Dr. Morton Grodzins & Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
1126 East 59th St.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Drs. Grodzins and Szilard:

I am in receipt of communications from both of you regarding the Pugwash meeting and your ideas on possible follow-up meetings. I think that there is very much constructive thinking in the material that you sent me. However, I would like to comment a few random thoughts.

On the statement that scientists' minds are more open than other minds, from long and deep association with scientists, unfortunately I'm not convinced that this is true. I find scientists very open minded on new developments one step ahead of the present beliefs, but further ahead than that I find them about as closed minded as any other group. This is unfortunate, but at least has been my experience, so I think that this should be held in mind in any evaluation of using scientists.

Also, because a man is a specialist in one field, science, does not mean that he is particularly good in other fields. For example, the classic case of unfortunate results in such a "cross over" was the rather sad case of Henry Ford, Sr., a great mass production industrialist trying to get into politics and international diplomacy.

However, in the new world picture, and particularly of the importance of the scientific technological aspects of these times, I do think that the opinion of the scientific group is one important component to have in any general planning. However, I think that to have such gatherings and opinions from scientists would be only a supplementary feature to, and would not take the place of, more general meetings of more composite make-up, which I think should be established in a Presidential Peace Planning Commission, or something of that nature, to study the basic overall problems of peace. The scientific group could be one important element whose opinion should be ascertained and blended into the composite opinion, and for this your proposed meetings could be very useful.

One other important thing that I didn't gather from the descriptions is that I think any outlook also has to be "overall", and has to consider conventional weapon balance with nuclear weapon balance, and, in fact, must consider all of the varied elements of a "peace plan" rather than just disarmament or any one feature of such a "peace plan" since all of the elements

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are interrelated.

I think that you are to be congratulated for this work and I'm sorry to be so late in writing, which doesn't show any lack of interest but reflects the fact that I have been out of the city so much recently. I'm sorry to have only these few disjointed comments. However, I'll be interested to hear more about your project.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,


Tom Slick

dictated but not read-jw

cb

TOM SLICK

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE BLDG.

SAN ANTONIO 5, TEXAS

OIL PRODUCTION
RANCHING
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
PHILANTHROPY

August 14, 1961

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

Dear Mr. Szilard:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your book, THE VOICE OF THE DOLPHINS, which has been received in Mr. Slick's absence from the city. It is being held for personal attention upon his return to San Antonio, and I know he will find its content of great interest.

On Mr. Slick's behalf, many thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending it.

Very truly yours,



(Mrs) Frances Hemby
Executive Secretary

flh