

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ARMED FORCES SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

16795

ADDRESS REPLY TO:  
THE CHIEF, ARMED FORCES  
SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT

SWPEF-3/921

Professor Leo Szilard  
Department of Biophysics  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Professor Szilard:

It would be very much appreciated if three officers of this headquarters could visit you in Chicago for the purpose of obtaining your advice about a problem of great biological importance.

As you no doubt are aware, there are many papers published in the literature which present data on the various biological effects of ionizing radiation, and the data themselves are analyzed, replotted, and sometimes extrapolated by other authors in attempts to draw conclusions pertaining to such long-range effects as decrease in life expectancy resulting from chronic exposures, decrease in functional efficiency of personnel, predisposition to other maladies, etc. These attempts at prediction are all serious efforts designed to furnish working answers to practical and important questions, but some of the extrapolations are made in ways which leave much to be desired.

One of the major obstacles which must be surmounted before meaningful and reliable answers of this kind can be achieved is the correlation between animal and human data. Some of the predictions referred to above, for example, have been based partially on insect data, partially on mouse, partially on dog, partially on burro, and, to a very limited extent, partially on human. In the opinion of a competent mathematical group, could existing data be studied, or could animal experiments be designed, so as to yield a correlation which would enable one to make long-range predictions regarding the human biological effects of ionizing radiation? This is a brief and somewhat crude presentation of the general nature of the matters we should like to discuss with you.

~~200~~  
150  
50  
3  
37 years  
15 years  
9 NOV 1956  
200 - 37 years

SWPEF-3/921

Professor Leo Szilard

It would be appreciated, therefore, if you could write and indicate which date, preferably between 7 and 11 December 1956, would be most convenient for you to see Lt.Col. Sven A. Bach (MC) USA, Lt.Col. Thomas J. White, USAF, and LCDR Charles H. Fugitt, USN.

Sincerely,



GEORGE W. DAVIS  
Captain, AGC  
Acting Adjutant General

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ARMED FORCES SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

17914

ADDRESS REPLY TO:  
THE CHIEF, ARMED FORCES  
SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT

SWPEF-3/921

29 NOV 1956

Dr. Leo Szilard  
Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies  
The University of Chicago  
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Reference is made to your telephone conversation with  
LCDR Charles H. Fugitt of this headquarters on 26 November 1956.

We are therefore sending you, herewith attached, a copy of our  
Technical Staff Study AFSWP-608 "A Survey of Theories and Experiments  
on the Shortening of Life Span by Ionizing Radiation." The authors,  
who wrote this paper while attached to this headquarters, have both  
been separated from military service. Dr. Berlin is now engaged in  
clinical research at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda,  
Maryland, and Dr. DiMaggio is now an Assistant Professor of Civil  
Engineering in Columbia University, New York, New York.

We wish to express our gratitude for your interest in this  
problem, and shall again attempt to arrange for a meeting between  
you and representatives of this headquarters after the first of  
January.

Sincerely,

1 Incl  
AFSWP-608



H. O. BEETH  
Lt Col, AGC  
Adjutant General

McNaughton

John T



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

31 August 1961

Dear Leo:

Please excuse me for postponing the writing of this letter.

As I told you over the 'phone, I have found that there is no legal inhibition to my serving on the Board to which you referred.

Here are names of some people who might be employed to greater advantage if your plan went into effect:

Tom Schelling (in the field of strategy),  
Roger Fisher (at Harvard Law School, probably in the field of development of international law relating to military matters),  
Dan Ellsberg (at RAND, in the field of command and control),  
Fred Ikle (at RAND, probably in a field relating to arms control),  
Andy Marshall (at RAND, probably in an area which integrates arms control and intelligence),  
Art Barber (I believe at Sperry, in the field of arms control),  
Lewis Henkin (at Pennsylvania Law School, in the area of disarmament), and  
Link Bloomfield (at MIT, on the soft side of arms control).

More names come to my mind, but I do not know the people too well.

Among them are:

Lewis Bohn (I believe at Lockheed),



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

29 September 1961

Dear Leo:

You asked for me to reduce my list to three.  
Here are the three:

Tom Schelling (at Harvard Center for  
International Affairs, in the field of  
strategy),  
Roger Fisher (at Harvard Law School,  
probably in the field of development  
of international law relating to  
military matters), and  
Andy Marshall (at RAND, probably in an  
area which integrates arms control and  
intelligence).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John", is written over the typed name "John T. McNaughton".

John T. McNaughton  
Special Assistant for Disarmament

Mr. Leo Szilard  
Dupont Plaza Hotel  
Dupont Circle  
Washington, D. C.



GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

3 December 1962

Dear Leo:

I read the accounts on Sunday of the great event 20 years ago in Chicago. I know what an important part you played in that event.

I also know what an important part -- and what an original part -- you have played in the attempt to introduce order into the world that that great 1942 event created.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. McNaughton", is written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

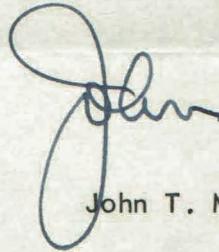
John T. McNaughton

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

A physicist named Klakstein (at MIT),  
Klaus Knorr (at Johns Hopkins), and  
Leon Lipson (at Yale Law School).

By the way, I wonder (as you did) what purpose your sessions  
in Vermont will have!

Sincerely,



John T. McNaughton

Mr. Leo Szilard  
Dupont Plaza Hotel  
Dupont Circle  
Washington, D. C.

I understand that the  
Russians are canceling  
out! J.

Aug. 31, 1961

First page  
in V-110

(National Society  
of Fellows).

Kw 6/6/72



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

29 September 1961

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Thank you for sending me your draft memorandum on the proposed National Society of Fellows. I am sending on the extra copy to Clark Clifford, and making one additional copy here to go to Lloyd Cutler.

The memorandum makes good sense to me. I have several specific comments:

1. I still feel it is not necessary to require fellowship holders to establish residence in Washington. This requirement might eliminate some of the most valuable people from the group.

2. I would not make past or present service as a government consultant a condition of the fellowship. I'm sure there are people who contribute to the dialogue without having ever partaken of the government's bread.

3. I believe your figure for the fellowships is on the high side, both for the maximum and for the average. Even with the kind of consulting arrangements available today, I can't believe that very many of the top people earn more than \$30,000 to \$35,000 a year, and I would suppose an average stipend of \$25,000 would be more appropriate and also less likely to be subject to public criticism and examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

4. I think the Society's charter should provide that the subjects on which its fellows work are not limited to those in which the administration has a current interest, but include also subjects in which the governing board feels that the administration ought to have a present interest, and presumably will develop an interest at a future time.

5. I believe it should be an explicit condition of the fellowships that the fellows do not take on additional income-producing assignments.

6. I would favor an advisory committee of people in government service, but I would have the Board of Directors composed of persons in private life.

That's all I have to offer at the moment. I shall be glad to discuss the matter with you further, and will report the reactions of Messrs Clifford and Cutler.

Sincerely,

*Adam Yarmolinsky*  
ay

Adam Yarmolinsky

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

cc: Clark M. Clifford, Esq.  
Lloyd N. Cutler, Esq.



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF  
DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING

NOV 7 1961

Dear Pat:

You will recall that when I talked to you in your office a few months ago you indicated you would contact Dr. Verne Mason and ask him in turn that he contact Dr. Szilard in writing concerning the possible support of the Hughes Foundation of certain biological programs that Dr. Szilard considers of great importance.

I had lunch with Dr. Szilard a couple of weeks ago and he had not heard from Dr. Mason. I am sure it is not necessary to remind you who Dr. Szilard is or that his interest in soliciting support for long term biological studies and experimentation in certain fields is stimulated entirely by his interest in world affairs and his concern for the future of mankind. He is not seeking any kind of support for projects he would work on himself.

I have just come back from a two-week trip in Europe which was both fruitful and enjoyable.

I hope you are well and that I will see you soon.

Sincerely,

SIGNED - JOHN

JOHN H. RUBEL

Mr. L.A. Highland  
General Manager  
Hughes Aircraft Company  
Florence and Teale Streets  
Culver City, California

cc: Dr. Leo Szilard





OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

26 January 1962

Dear Sir:

I am sending copies of our arms control bibliography to persons who participated in the Strategy for Peace Conference last October at Airlie. I hope you will find it a stimulus and an encouragement for further research in this field.

I should appreciate it if you would let me know of any omissions that you feel should be picked up in any on-going documents of this sort. I should also deeply appreciate being advised of any conferences or symposia that you are planning to organize in the field of arms control.

If you find this document worthwhile for your purposes and would like to receive any further studies or documents of this sort, it would be helpful to me if you would let me know.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Franklin P. Huddle".

Franklin P. Huddle  
Arms Control Specialist

Encl.  
a/s

Dr. Leo Szilard  
Dupont Plaza Hotel  
Dupont Plaza NW  
Washington 9, D. C.

P.S. If you are in the Pentagon, Room 3D1085, Tel: Oxford 76933,  
I should like very much to make your acquaintance sometime.

*F. P. Huddle*

June 18, 1963

The Hon. Robert S. McNamara  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I understand from Bob Livingston that he transmitted to you some material which I had prepared. I am enclosing this material, together with a covering letter which I wrote to Bob Livingston, for your convenience. If you should find time to read through it, I would appreciate an opportunity to see you this week in order to get your reaction to various questions which have arisen.

I think I shall recommend to those who may be in charge of organizing this project to approach the President only after the group has had two meetings. There would be different "guests" on each of these occasions and the prepared papers of the "guests", the observations emanating from members of the group and the answers of the "guests" could then be used to indicate to the President the kind of material that this project would be expected to produce.

Your secretary can reach me during office hours at HUDson 3-6000, ext. 740, and outside of office hours at HUDson 3-6000, ext. 745.

Yours very sincerely,

Leo Szilard

June 6, 1963

Dr. Robert B. Livingston  
9201 Burning Tree Road  
Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Bob:

I should very much appreciate your transmitting the attached memorandum to Secretary McNamara. The typewritten text of the specific proposal, which I have been currently discussing with a number of individuals within the Administration and some Members of the Senate, is clipped to the memorandum. Among those who responded favorably are Governor Harriman, who offered to arrange for a little dinner at which those who recognize the importance of the problem could discuss with each other what the best solution might be, and Senator George McGovern, who called me up a few days ago to say that he has re-read the memorandum and that he wondered if there was anything that he could do to move matters forward. My present inclination is to complete my present exploration as soon as possible and then perhaps hand over the ball to Senator George McGovern and let him carry it.

Sooner or later it will be necessary to decide who should present the proposition to the President. This ought to be somebody who is deeply concerned, and who feels that we are headed for trouble and that time is running out.

If Secretary McNamara is in agreement with the memorandum, I would appreciate an opportunity to talk with him during the week of June 17th. After that I shall be in Europe; for how long will depend on how much I could accomplish if I were to return to Washington in July.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard



RECEIVED JUL 17 1963

*file*

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

July 15, 1963

Dear Miss Shannon:

This is in response to your letter of June 26 requesting that the name of the Council for a Livable World be placed on our mailing list of press releases. We regret to inform you that we are unable to extend this service to anyone other than news media.

All of our press releases are available here at the Pentagon, Room 2D762; at the U. S. Chamber of Commerce Building, 1615 "H" Street, N.W., Washington; and after 6:30 PM Monday through Friday at the National Press Club, 14th and F Streets, N.W., Washington. Perhaps someone in your office could pick up the releases for you at one of these locations.

If we may be of further assistance please let us know.

Sincerely,

*William E. Odom*

William E. Odom  
Director of News Services

Miss Kay M. Shannon  
Council for a Livable World  
1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

February 10, 1964

Honorable Robert S. McNamara  
The Secretary of Defense  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am enclosing a paper which will be printed in late February in the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists. I wrote it for the purpose of focusing attention on the only really meaningful step of arms control which could be negotiated with the Russians, in the absence of a general political settlement. A Summary of the paper is attached to this letter.

If you should find time to read the paper, I should appreciate an opportunity to discuss with you any questions the paper might evoke in your mind. I am leaving for the West on February 20, to settle there "permanently."

I do not think that you will find anything in my paper which is new to you. Most of the things I say you have said in your speeches also, yet the image conveyed to the general public by your speeches, is diametrically opposed to the image which I am trying to convey in my paper.

I fear that our currently employed methods of negotiating with the Russians are not likely to lead to a meeting of the minds even in the areas where their interest and our interest coincide.

As you may remember, I have tried to bring about conversations with the Russians, on a semi private-semi governmental level, and when I first proposed them, the Russians accepted my proposal. My proposal was, however, based on the assumptions that employees of the U.S. Government who were knowledgeable and influential, but in a junior position rather than a decision-making position, would be permitted to participate in these discussions.

I found our Government divided on these issues and after protracted discussions, it was decided that no employee of the U.S. Government may participate. When I informed the Russians of this decision, they turned down the project.

Subsequent attempts to bring about a useful discussion with the Russians through the Soviet Academy of Scientists, undertaken by some of my colleagues, have so far failed. I myself shall make no further attempts to engage the Russians in "private discussions" on the subject of arms control.

Up to February 20 I can be reached at the Hotel Dupont Plaza.

Yours sincerely,

Leo Szilard