

The Quadrangle Club

1155 EAST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET

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HYDE PARK 8601

Dr Szilard

Address

Institute of Agricultural Economics
Parks Road, Oxford, England

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With many thanks

Colin Clark

sent by parcel
on Dec. 26, 1952

L. Telezhi

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

February 28, 1955

Colin Clark, Esq.
Oxford University
Oxford, England

Dear Dr. Clark:

It has been quite some time since our conversation in the Quadrangle Club, and I have always regretted that our paths didn't cross again. Today I am writing to you for a specific purpose.

Enclosed you will find a Letter to the Editor which appeared in the New York Times on February 6, and which was reprinted in the Denver Post as a Guest Editorial.

This letter proved to be somewhat of a boomerang. Having appealed to others to do something, it seems that people now expect me to do something. I may have no choice now but to try to get something useful under way, until I can prove that it cannot be done or at least that I, myself, cannot do it. Therefore, a Memorandum has been prepared, which you will find enclosed, and which sets forth my tentative thoughts on the subject of what we ought to try to do. I am sending this Memorandum to some of the Foundations who might be interested in order to determine whether financial support would be forthcoming for such an enterprise from some of them. There ought to be no difficulty in finding some university, or some tax-exempt research organization, to accept the administration of the funds if the right people can be found.

It would be my hope that General Hugh B. Hester will agree to function as Secretary of the Commission described in the Memorandum.

I should very much appreciate getting your general reaction to all this and, in particular, I should be grateful if you would let me know whether you

would consider participating in this work, assuming that the set-up meets with your approval. Would you be able to free yourself for a period of seven months from whatever you are now doing? I need not say that if anything should come of this and if we actually could get to work, I should consider it a great privilege to have your collaboration.

Please let me know what thoughts come to your mind, and I shall try to keep you informed on what is happening.

After March 6th, I expect to be in New York, where I shall be staying at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th Street, telephone University 42700. That is, at present, the best address at which you can reach me fast. Letters addressed to the University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois, will reach me with some delay.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Enclosures

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Parks Road,
Oxford.

5th March, 1955

Dear Szilard,

It was a great pleasure to hear from you again. I shall always remember with particular gratitude your mailing my surplus paper on to me from Chicago to get my weight down for the air journey.

I should like to join your Committee, if established, but I fear that my presence might hinder rather than help your purpose. I am known as an aggressively anti-Marxist economist, and that would not please the Russian participants. However it's no use starting it unless we know in advance that Russia & China are prepared to discuss our results.

I am due in Chicago about 22 May (or in New York a day earlier) and certainly hope to see you.

My friend Wentworth, an Australian Member of Parliament, is in Washington at present and I have asked him to get in touch with you. I think you and he will have a great deal to say to each other.

Yours truly,

Colin Clark

Mr. Leo Szilard,
King's Crown Hotel,
420 West 116th Street,
New York.

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BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER

AÉROGRAMME



Mr. C. Clark,
Empire Crown Hotel,
100 St. Mark Street,
New York,
U.S.A.

→ See this fold here →

Sender's name and address : C. Clark Esq.,
Agricultural Economics Research Inst
Parks Road, Oxford.

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN AN
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

King's Crown Hotel
420 West 116th Street
New York, New York

March 14, 1955

Colin Clark, Esq.
University of Oxford
Agricultural Economics Research Institute
Parks Road
Oxford, England

Dear Clark:

Dear Sir

Many thanks for your very kind letter of March 5th. It would be my hope that we would have access to individual members of the Russian Government through the help of Marshall MacDuffie, who saw Khrushchev twice in the last 12 months and who had known him when he was in charge of the UNNRA Control Commission in the Ukraine when Khrushchev was a member of the Ukraine Government. I have had a favorable response from General Hugh B. Hester, and I am enclosing copies of letters which I have received from Marshall MacDuffie and Father Cavanaugh. I have not yet heard from Colonel Faymonville and Stringfellow Barr, nor do I as yet know where the funds will come from and whether we shall be in fact successful in obtaining them. I figure that one-hundred thousand to one-hundred and fifty-thousand dollars might be needed to do a good job.

When you get to New York, please contact me at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th Street, where you shall most probably find me, or else they will know my forwarding address. In Chicago, Mrs. Telegdi, secretary to Dr. Zirkle in the Research Institute at the University, will know if I am in town, in which case I stay at the Quadrangle Club - or else where you might contact me. I certainly look forward with pleasure to seeing you, and by that time we should

know whether this project will get off the ground. Mr. Wentworth wrote to my New York address, and I shall contact him towards the end of the week when I get back to New York.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Clark, Esq.
University of Oxford
Agricultural Economics Research Institute
Parks Road
Oxford, England

Leo Szilard

Dear Clark:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of March 25th. It would be my hope that we would have access to individual members of the Russian Government through the help of Marshall MacDuffie, who saw Khrushchev twice in the last 12 months and who had known him when he was in charge of the UNRRA Control Commission in the Ukraine when Khrushchev was a member of the Ukrainian Government. I have had a favorable response from General Hugh B. Hester, and I am enclosing copies of letters which I have received from Marshall MacDuffie and Father Cavanaugh. I have not yet heard from Colonel Raymond and Springfield Barr, nor do I as yet know where the funds will come from and whether we shall be in fact successful in obtaining them. I figure that one-hundred thousand to one-hundred and fifty-thousand dollars might be needed to do a good job.

When you get to New York, please contact me at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th Street, where you shall most probably find me, or else they will know my forwarding address. In Chicago, Mrs. Telecki, secretary to Dr. Sirkle in the Research Institute at the University, will know if I am in town, in which case I stay at the Quadrangle Club - or else where you might contact me. I certainly look forward with pleasure to seeing you, and by that time we should

Enclosures

LS:ab