

Ferdinand Gunther
117 East 89th Street
New York, 28, N.Y.

New York, Febr. 7. '55

To

Mr. Leo Szilard
Professor
University of Chicago

Dear Mr. Leo Szilard,

the urgency and passion in your letter to The New York Times would seem to be also the necessary qualification of all the members in the "qualified group" you propose. Your proposition points toward the right direction. It does not go far enough. What we need is something like the "Manhattan Project" for the scientific solution of our social and political worldproblems. The "Manhattan Project" organized the scientific minds and means for a definite task. It was urgency and passion, too. The urgency and passion to "solve" the worldconflict through superior destructive power. Our human problems not only are not solvable through the power of superior destruction, the method to "solve" this way has brought us all onto the edge of an abyss. A "Manhattan Project" is possible for any kind of scientific task. The solvation of our social and political worldproblems is of utmost urgency. We can't wait until someone brings the complete solutions on a platter. And like in the project for the task of superior destruction in the new project for the life of Humankind all members, historians, philosophers, economists, scientists of all humanistic fields, etc., must all work toward the same end and follow a qualified and chosen leader. Or leadership. Human conscience and scientific truth here too are the highest authority.

The initiative of an individual genius is indispensable for the formation of this project and its further operation. You have already taken the initiative. I do hope you are going through with this. Why not start from ~~scratch~~, from what you can gather right now? Men and money may be forthcoming when the beginning is made and the will is here, it might even snowball into a scientific avalanche. Men and money could be persuaded. But some selflessness and sacrifice of individual interests must be expected and required. In the face of threat of a global catastrophe petty considerations must be abandoned.

Whatever the outcome or the findings will be we should not prejudge them. So I think that your idea of a "settlement" is an anticipation which might prove impossible. I am rather convinced that this scientific project is a powerproject too. Not for the power of the superior destruction, of course. A permanent military armistice, official or unofficial, probably could be enforced by the unassailable findings and formulations by this project. In short, I propose that science establish itself as power. These findings would have great authority and moral power in the whole world. They might rally the scientific world for a common purpose. And I am sure they would arouse the enthusiasm of all Humankind. I am also convinced that all what we need could be accomplished within a year or two. You limit yourself to the prevention of a catastrophe. That, it seems

to me, doesn't go far enough either. We need an immediate solution of our human worldproblems after we left too long already our human affairs in the hands of political, philosophical and religious demagogues. Science has to step in to lead us out from the crisis of Humankind.

This is possible just as it was possible with the development of the atomic bomb. Science had to search the innermost structure of matter. Also the innermost structure of state, society, civilization, must be discovered to find an answer to our immediate problems. It is possible. Very few realize that the same scientific precision not only may but must be applied to all human matters to find solutions. Otherwise we are mere prattlers. How could we cope, for instance, with the suicidal urge in our civilization when we don't know what causes it? I have myself devoted in the last 34 years to the theoretical solution of our human problems. And I always found there is no solution for our present problems if we are not willing to find the answers to centuries of errings. I am just about to complete a rough draft of some 150 pages which sketches the results of a long intellectual struggle. It is in the nature of almost sensational new discoveries about the mechanism of civilization and the innermost structure of human society. It should come to the attention of other scientists. I am willing to submit this draft to a group of competent scientists and philosophers. It might serve as a stimulating proposition for further search and verification. It is also of immediate interest and importance. If adopted by the government as basis of worldpolicies after it has been verified it may mean an even greater power than the atomic bomb. The unification of the world without physical force and without the imposition of a worldstate becomes clearly visible.

We must not forget that even a permanent military armistice is not yet a solution of our fundamental human problems which brought the crisis. It merely prevents our murder. But it makes solutions possible. The political war, the ideological war, is bound to increase in severity. We must be able to win that war. And only when we have the solutions for winning that war can we expect that the military armistice does us any good. In this political and ideological war scientific truths and solution will prove to be the greatest power.

Hoping that my letter is interesting enough to you to merit a reply I would like to express my appreciation for your stimulating letter in the New York Times.

Yours respectfully

J. Guenther

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mr. Ferdinand Gunther
117 E. 89th St
New York 28, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Gunther:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 7th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

Frederick Karl,
Old Street Road,
Peterborough, N.H.

February 6, 1955.

Prof. Leo Szilard,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir,

Your letter in The New York Sunday Times interested me more than anything else. There speaks great experience and calmness out of it.

Suppose your suggestions would be adapted by all the nation, and selected groups of individuals would search for solving problems and find solutions. Would they not be in the same position, say for instance, of the United Nations, where brilliant meetings and committees strive for solving problems of life? If these selected men came together and discuss problems, and would bring to these meetings their intellectual brilliancy and experience only, the result would be the same as all the other millions of committees had obtained. Intellectual discussions, even the most advanced ones, have lost the power to change life.

If these meetings would be based upon the living experience that thoughts having their foundation in Natural Science can solve mechanical problems, but life problems cry for thoughts of Spiritual Science, there would be some hope in committees. Otherwise, if Spiritual Science remains but a vague sentiment, instead of becoming clear and concise like mathematics, it opens only unhealthy prospects.

A NEW Science which experiences spiritual laws behind the physical laws will become a necessity for the Western mind.....

Sincerely yours, *Frederick Karl*

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mr. Frederick Karl
Old Street Road
Peterborough, N. H.

Dear Mr. Karl:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 7th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

February 6, 1955

Dear Professor Szilard:

* I'm writing to tell you how much I appreciated your letter in today's New York Times. I've been increasingly frightened by the gap between our legislators' thinking on the subject of war and peace and on the feelings of the majority of Americans. I can't believe that anyone -- except possibly a handful of people -- want to see World War III. I can't believe that the average American wants to fight for Fornosa. But so few people speak up and there are so few forums where they can speak!

Your proposal for citizens' committees seems to me to be just the right thing. But unfortunately in our complex society it is difficult for plain, ordinary citizens to start committees like this. It requires people of your stature who can command attention -- and television time and newspaper space -- to get a project like this rolling.

Won't you, along with other scientists, teachers, lawyers, trade union people, take the leadership in forming a committee such as you suggest? You'll

get support from the rest of us!

I have a 15-year~~x~~ old son. I feel strongly about the subject of peace.

With thanks and best wishes,

Dorothy Sterling
(Mrs. Philip) Dorothy Sterling
Kirby Lane North
Rye, New York

Professor Leo Szilard
University of Chicago.

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mrs. Philip Sterling
Kirby Lane North
Rye, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Sterling:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 6th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

2387 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn 29, N.Y.
February 6, 1955

Professor Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Professor Szilard:

Your letter in the New
York Times of Sunday,
February 6, 1955 is, in
my opinion, a historic
document. You deserve
the highest praise for
your leadership.

Our country is fortunate
in that we have the
right, as private citizens,

to re-evaluate issues
of national policy and
to advise our Govern-
ment to try a new course.

I hope millions of
Americans will join the
committees of which you
write while there is still
time to avert a catastrophe.

I hope you will
continue to exert the
leadership we so
desperately need.

Respectfully
Daniel Deitzman

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mr. Daniel Seitzman
2387 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn 29, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Seitzman:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 6th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Dr. Nathan Epstein
1148 Fifth Avenue
New York 28, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Epstein:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 7th. It might, perhaps, interest you that "the letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

NATHAN EPSTEIN, M. D., PH. D.
1148 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.
LEHIGH 4-2950

Feb 7, 1955

DR. Leo Szilard
Professor of Physics
University of Chicago

Dear DR. Szilard:

Ans
2/12
from [unclear]

Your 'prophetic' letter in
yesterday's Times certainly expresses
concisely the ectotrophy which lies
ahead and implies suggestions potentially
therapeutic: needles to cut J (as well
as many of my friends) are also extremely
disturbed and welcome your thought

concerning a Citizens Committee, -

or for that matter any organized

sponsored group.

Please accept my warm

thanks for your letter, and feel

certain that you have many who

fully agree with you in other sections

of the country

Sincerely,

Marion Epstein MD

300 Riverside Drive
New York 25, N.Y.
Feb. 7, 1955.

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I read with great interest your letter to the
Feb. 6 New York Times. The method you outline to avoid world
war makes eminent sense. The reason I'm writing this letter
is to suggest that perhaps you, or someone of your
prominence, would be the ideal person to initiate this
attempt to effect an organization of scholars + citizens whose
sole purpose will be to seek a reasonable solution to the
conflict between Russia and the United States. Perhaps an
organization of this kind could even invite Russian scholars or
citizens to join them in this task. As for sponsorship, I
feel certain that a number of universities and foundations
would provide support.

Perhaps I'm taking too much liberty here, but what
I'm trying to say is that someone has to begin, and you
seem to be in a better position for this than most people.

Sincerely,
Morris L. Eagle.

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mr. Morris E. Eagle
300 Riverside Drive
New York 25, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Eagle:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 7th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyse some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Dr. Immanuel Lewy
9 Sherman Avenue, Apt 5C
New York 40, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Lewy:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 7th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable, but it is too early to say if there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

DR. IMMANUEL LEWY
9 SHERMAN AVENUE, APT. 5 C
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

Feb.6,1955

Prof.Leo Szilard
University of Chicago

Dear Prof.Szilard :

Your suggestion in the New York Times is very good.We must mobilize the brains of courageous citizens who combine constructive imagination with clear thinking. Kindly allow me to enclose my personal contribution.After all great liberal magazines of this country refused to publish this article ,I published it in The Reconstructionist,a liberal-conservative Jewish paper of which I happen to be a member of the editorial staff. In April the N.Y.Times and other big newspapers brought a summary of my proposal as letter to the Editor.

Yours sincerely

Immanuel Lewy

University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Ill
February 12, 1955

Mrs. P. Cammer
R.F.D. 4
Huntington, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Cammer:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 6th. It might, perhaps, interest you that the "letter to the Editor" will be reprinted by the Denver Post. The initial reactions seem to be quite favorable but it is too early to say whether there will be enough moral support forthcoming to catalyze some concrete course of action.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/nr

R. F. D. 4,
Huntington,
New York.

February 6th, 1955.

Dr. Leo Szilard,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

The New York Times for February 6th. prints a letter of yours that contains more sense than is usually found in dozens of pages of ordinary newspaper wordage. I only hope that while there is still time all those connected with the N.Y. Times & everyone else calling themselves responsible will do all in their power to help sensible

2.

people such as you & the many others with "ability, devotion & ... courage". The latter virtue, it seems to me, is scarcer than the others; no wonder, when to possess it earns unmerited, vicious treatment.

If only all the stupid, powerful people who do not realize that modern war will benefit no one, including themselves, would come to their senses!

Sincerely,

P. Cammer
(Mr.)

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 23, 1955

Mrs. Alice H. Pollard
2 Hargent Street
Hanover, N. H.

Dear Mrs. Pollard:

I have the very kind letter which you and Mrs. Frey wrote me, and which I read with great interest. I do not feel, however, that I can take any action parallel to yours in my locality since, at present, I am away from Chicago most of the time and could not keep up contact in that region of the country.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

Mrs. Alice H. Pollard
Mrs. Anne S. Frey

2 Sargent St.
Hanover, N.H.
February 7, 1955

Dear Dr. Szilard,

Working along lines suggested by your very fine Letter to the Editor which appeared in the New York Sunday Times, February 6, we are sending telegrams or letters to Senators Cotton, Lehman, Flanders, Humphrey, Wayne Morse, Kefauver, Douglas and others urging public Congressional hearings on the China problem, at which informed laymen will give opinions and testimony. Since to date the military representation has been the most vocal on this problem, we feel that such people as Bernard Baruch, Adlai Stevenson, Mrs. Agnes Meyer, Pearl Buck, Prof. Wing-tsit Chan, Prof. Hadley Cantril, Norman Thomas, Dr. Stanley Cobb, yourself and others should be consulted and their opinions given nation-wide attention, comparable to that given to members of the military staff.

Even though the present crisis simmers down, we feel that a counter measure, whereby intelligent citizens are heard from, should be taken. Otherwise, a precedent has been established by a President and military advisers which could, another time, destroy entire countries before we can realize that the crisis is upon us. Furthermore, the long-range ideas and plans on the Chinese question which you advocate in your letter, could be initiated by such testimonies and form a first step in a program which could be followed up.

We hope to get at least 25 signatures to our letters or telegrams and suggest that if you think it would be wise and useful that you might make a similar move in your region. We are also writing to Pearl Buck and asking her if she would do the same thing in her locality. As perhaps you noted, on Page 77 of the New York Times (February 6) she stressed the importance of intelligent laymen opinion at this time.

We, the undersigned, are housewives who have lived in Hanover, N.H., for more than 25 years. We are impelled to write to you because we feel that if citizens do not now voice their grave doubts about precedents which pave the way to sudden atomic strife, the time may be short indeed for them to speak up.

Thank you for what consideration you may give this suggested plan of action.

Dr. Leo Szilard
The University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Very sincerely yours,
(Mrs.) Alice H. Pollard
(Mrs.) Anne S. Frey

King's Crown Hotel
420 West 116th Street
New York, N. Y.
February 23, 1955

Mr. Paul Frankl
The Institute for Advanced Study
School of Humanistic Studies
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Frankl:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of February 11th.
If you are in New York, why don't you call me up at University
4-2700? I am staying at the King's Crown Hotel, 420 West 116th
Street, whenever I am in New York. I expect to be there most of
the time after March 5th, and if I am in town, but not in, when
you call, please leave a message and I will call you back.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY ^C

SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Febr. 11. 55

Dear Mr Szilard.

Probably millions of people share your Worries and will - in principle - agree with your letter to the Times in the issue of last Sunday.

Your idea to assemble quickly some men of international reputation is good in the present emergency and - although this group will be without legal background and legal power- it would impress many persons and perhaps lead to further, better steps.

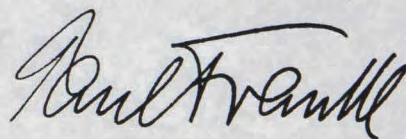
Your letter is giving New York as the place where you wrote it . I would be glad to meet you and to talk things over.

Men and women of many countries should be invited. Yet as their travel scarcely could be subventioned by you or your ^rfriends one might have such meetings separately in U.S. , in France, Germany etc. It were possibly of advantage to invite also outstanding refugees from the Satellite countries, perhaps personalities of the governments in exile. Are you acquainted with the " World Council for the Peoples World Convention " 55, Rue Lacépède, Paris 5e.?

I became a member of this group and am still a member of the United World Federalists, though I am critical about their doings.

In May I shall be in Chicago for a few days.

Sincerely yours



PAUL FRANKL
32 WIGGINS STREET
PRINCETON, N. J.

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 22, 1955

Mr. Herbert Harvey
127 Hudson Street
Hackensack, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Harvey:

It was very kind of you to write me about my letter to the New York Times, and I was also very much interested in the enclosure which you sent me. I believe as you do, that the Russian-American conflict is primarily a power conflict and that the Russian doctrine of Communism is a comparatively unimportant facet of the problem, and I agree with you that many people in American believe the contrary. I think they are wrong, but the only way to find out for sure is to see what kind of an over-all settlement Russia will find acceptable.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

Herbert Harvey
Teaneck 6-0672

Real Estate

127 Hudson Street
Hackensack, N. J.

February 10, 1955

Prof. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Prof. Szilard:

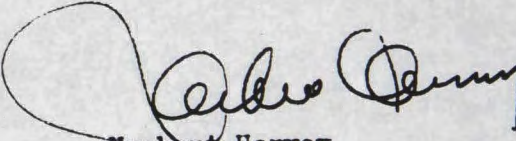
The enclosure is a copy of a letter I wrote several years ago to the editor of the New York Times. It was not published.

It is perhaps a small part of the sort of thing you had in mind in your letter recently published in the Times. I am, however, not the sort of person whose views command a premium.

In discussing your letter with one or two other people whom I consider to be well informed, I was startled to discover that there is a much wider diversity of opinion on what constitutes the fundamental difficulties in the world power situation - that is, after abstracting from the conventionalized attitudes - than I had previously suspected. For example, I had always supposed (and the enclosed letter shows it) that Russian doctrinary Communism would be generally considered as less threatening than that country's acquisitive expansionism. Yet it turns out there is a considerable fraction of American opinion which believes the contrary.

I hope and expect that your letter in the Times will turn out to be provocative.

Very truly yours,


Herbert Harvey

May 8, 1951

Editor
The New York Times
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

If I were making American foreign policy, an offer would be made to Russia. In exchange for universal total disarmament for a period of 100 years, with unlimited inspection, an international court and a world police force responsive not only to the court but to us and other signatory states as the means of assuring that the disarmament remained total, we would offer Russia a set of warm-water ports under her sovereignty with access by such corridors, grants of territory, waterways, natural or constructed and other means as the nations lying between would approve, together with full American support for an agreed program creating such ports and such access. We would offer to share costs of necessary constructions, including building new ports if necessary. There would, of course, be provision for supervised non-interference in internal political affairs all around, with a reciprocal agreement on propoganda (none either way, or complete freedom both ways, as Russia preferred.) Trade would be invited. We could afford this and more for real disarmament.

If Russia accepted the offer - and she might come out as well this way as she could any other - we should have peace. If she refused, doubts concerning her real intentions, which no longer remain here, but do exist in the minds of millions of people elsewhere, would be dispelled. Refusal by Russia would narrow interpretation of her possible aims down to one - world conquest.

Very sincerely yours,

Herbert Harvey

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 22, 1955

Mr. Emmett A. Shrigley
R.D. #1
Kirkwood, New York

Dear Mr. Shrigley:

It was very kind of you to write to me and I read your letter with much interest.

The response to the publication in the New York Times is quite heartening, but I do not know yet whether any concrete course of action will materialize as a result of the moral support which seems to be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

W. G.

Point 4

R.D.#1
Kirkwood, New York
February 15, 1955

Prof. Leo Szalard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Professor:

I would like to offer you my comments on your letter published in the New York Times on Feb. 6, 1955.

The basic idea of this proposal is that if most of the people in this world could be convinced that the world can and should be a very practical "Utopia" for all the people, the idea of waging war would be abhorrent to anyone. "Utopia" is no longer visionary. We are told that with modern methods and machinery the earth and sea can be made to yield abundant food for all the people now living. We know that science has wiped out all but a few diseases and that medical men with modern drugs can eliminate or alleviate pain except in relatively few instances. The mass production methods used in our country which will in the next few years be further increased and expanded by the use of practically limitless power from the atom, automatic machinery and new materials, foretell the possibility of an abundance of materials and goods for all. (In fact, our high power production will make it essential that we seek wide distribution).

These facts are truisms. The problem is how to translate the concept from an ideal to an idea that men will urgently seek and demand.

My thought is that the government of this country should officially proclaim to the world a statement or prospectus of the possibilities of kind of life which should be within the reach of each person in the world. This statement would be issued under the "sponsorship of universities, research foundations and, above all, committees of citizens set up for the purpose" (as per your letter). Further, it should declare its intention to take every means practical to bring about this desired result and to pledge itself to this end until it is consummated. I believe such a document would be considered by future generations as of equal importance with the Emancipation Proclamation.

This thought is not advanced as being original or new - it follows the thinking of the Marshall Plan, Point 4 Plan, and countless articles and sermons. It is, however, believed that it integrates the best current thinking on the problem.

There are many details which need not be covered here. For example, the United States should seek the cooperation of any nation or organization which would assist in any part of the plan. The aid probably would only be given upon request of the foreign government. The method of aid would vary under different conditions, thus, in the elimination of hunger, it will be

February 15, 1955

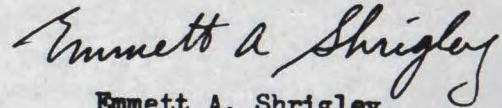
necessary to make gifts of food to relieve immediate need. In other cases, it will be more practical to furnish tractors, etc. to enable more backward nations to grow a more plentiful supply of food ...and, to pursue the thought further, the best assistance will be to help the other nations to build their own factories, tractors, etc.

To dramatize the plan to the people of the world, this country could announce a reduction (say 10%) of the amount it has been spending on armament and call on other nations including Russia and our allies, to contribute a proportionate amount to advance the welfare of the underprivileged people of the world - either in conjunction with our activities or under their own plans. It could further state that it is the hope and expectation that additional reductions would be made in defense expenditures and the funds diverted to world betterment as the world conditions warrant.

It is believed that if this plan were put into effect and it was understood by people of other nations, no government in the world would have the support of any appreciable number of its own people or any other people in a war against the United States. The hope of the world to see the fulfillment of the announced aims would be the strongest force in the world.

Your letter calls for agreement by like-minded men on basic premises that offer something constructive that will catch the imagination of the public, Congress and the Administration. I offer the ideas and ideals in this letter in reply to your thought-provoking plea.

Very truly yours,



Emmett A. Shrigley

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 23, 1955

Miss Frances Fenner
Afton
New York

Dear Miss Fenner:

It was very kind of you to write to me and I read your letter with much interest.

The response to the publication in the New York Times is quite heartening, but I do not know yet whether any concrete course of action will materialize as a result of the moral support which seems to be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

Afton, New York
February 12, 1955

Dr. Leo Szilard
Kings Crown Hotel
420 West 116th Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Szilard,

Your letter to the New York Times of February 2, appearing in the February 6, 1955 edition strikes a sympathetic note with more than one reader.

At least two widely diverse among our associates called the letter to our attention by sending us clippings. Though thinned in ranks, there are still those who refuse to be intimidated by "what happened to Oppie". If this is to be the land of the free, we must make it the home of the brave.

Those of us who deplored the Korean adventure as a booby trap designed to squander our physical and moral resources must not now allow the Formosan crisis to paralyze our intellectual and emotional resources, with a shabby begging of the question, World government: How? by shifting from "too soon" to "too late".

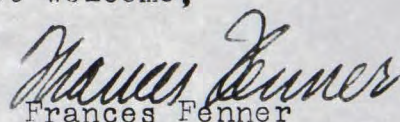
History teaches the inexorable march of events, the stimulus of grinding necessities. We also enjoy the record of experience and precedent in the formation of our own federation, "unity with diversity", "liberty and Union", as a direct result of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, under the philosophy of the 1776 Declaration that "to secure these ends/governments are /rights instituted among men . . . and it is the right of the people to . . . institute new government".

On this basis some of us are advocating that the United Nations Review Conference should become a world constitutional convention. The drafting and ratification of fundamental law would provide the alternative to war, the demand for "imagination and resourcefulness" you suggest is necessary to break the present suicidal stalemate.

Some of us go further and suggest that representatives to such an assemblage should be elected, representing people as constituents, rather than regimes in temporary control of nations.

Your reactions and comments will be most welcome,

Cordially,


Frances Fenner

Newsletters:
Vol. III-1:IV-1,2

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 23, 1955

Mrs. Frank W. Goetsch
14220 Strathmore Road, Suite 1
Cleveland 12, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Goetsch:

It was very kind of you to write to me and I read your letter with much interest.

The response to the publication in the New York Times is quite heartening, but I do not know yet whether any concrete course of action will materialize as a result of the moral support which seems to be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

State bird of Ohio.



14220 Strathmore Road, Suite 1
Cleveland 12, Ohio
February 11, 1955

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Dear Dr. Szilard:

We read your letter in the N Y Times (Sun. Feb. 6/55) with great interest and agreement. I cannot resist writing you a few lines to tell you so. I would also like to urge you to pursue and press your idea further, in regard to finding a truly responsible group of honest-to-goodness patriots who would attack the matter of preventing war, with all their might and strength, and stay with it until some decisions are reached. Of course it goes without saying that you ought to be in the group. May I be so bold as to suggest the names of two people who would be eminently fitted for serving on such a group? The one is our elderly and great statesman, ex-President Herbert Hoover, and the second one—a younger man—is none other than Dr. Walter H. Judd, (M.D.), now a Congressman from the 5th District, Minnesota. He spent a considerable number of years as a medical missionary in China. If you have ever met Dr. Judd, or heard him speak, you will understand my choice.

If we could only all be of the same mind as the Swiss are when it comes to the matter of war! Maybe a Swiss ought to be one of the group to plan a world without war, even though we are compelled to put up with a bunch of gangsters in Moscow, such as the world has never seen before. And these same devils were helped on their feet by none other than the then president of the USA, namely FDR Roosevelt, at a time when most of us knew exactly what a terrible lot the communists really are. And then the revolting business of having been "allies" with them to boot! It looks to me as if Christ's teachings contain the ingredients for peaceful existence in the world. Even though Christ may be rejected as the son of God, yet his teachings stand at the top for decent living.

Here I paused to call the Main Public Library for a bit of information about you. I see that I am writing you on your birthday! Congratulations, and good wishes for many more, all happy ones too.

Our eldest daughter, Miriam, is married to a "Budapestian." His name is Rudolph Samuels Koronçai. He is a consulting engineer. His father was a graduate of an engineering school, as were his mother's 4 brothers. These were "upper crust" (shall we say??) families in Hungary. But as Rudy says, in America all are leveled into one strata. But this was a bitter pill to swallow for his mother! Rudy is a graduate of Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio.

As for myself, my two sets of grandparents came from Switzerland. My mother was born there, but my father was born in Ohio in 1849. He suffered the hardships common to the pioneers' sons, when they came from the comforts, schools and churches in their native land, and began life in log houses in the dense forests, where a living was most difficult to wrest at first. My father determined to study music, and walked 13 muddly miles for weekly study with a German "Professor" in Lima, Ohio. My father became a church organist, and also owned the only piano far and wide, which stood in a corner of the old log house—built when they bought forestland in western Ohio.

My husband was Prussian-born, but a mere babe when his parents emigrated to Wisconsin. When I married him he had been ordained a clergyman. He graduated from a Reformed church seminary, and also from McCormick Seminary in Chicago. We had 4 children, the youngest daughter is 26. She and I live together. My husband was an invalid for some years, until a merciful God released him. But enough of personal matters.

This is not a "fan-mail" letter, for I am not one who writes letters to strangers, generally speaking. This letter was prompted because of the great concern in my own mind about conditions in the world today. Your letter offers something so sensible, that I had to say what I had to tell. Whose business is it then, to start such a group as you suggest? I shall look for more information in "Letters to the Times," column.

Every good wish to you for the prompt success in setting up this group of patriots, whoever they may be!

Sincerely,
(Mrs. Frank W.) Bertha Louise Goetsch
(Mrs. Frank W.) Bertha Louise Goetsch

11

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 23, 1955

Mr. Harry L. Kohlberg
211 West 106 Street
New York 25, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Kohlberg:

It was very kind of you to write to me and I read your letter with much interest.

The response to the publication in the New York Times is quite heartening, but I do not know yet whether any concrete course of action will materialize as a result of the moral support which seems to be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:hw

U.S.
Harry L. Kohlberg
211 West 106 Street
New York 25, N.Y.

February 11, 1955

Professor Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Szilard:

I read your letter to the Times Editor published Sunday, Febr. 6, with the greatest interest and excitement. I believe you are absolutely right and hope you will succeed in attracting that kind of leadership through private initiative that can find the right principles on which the nation's policy can be based for the good of the world as a whole.

On the present situation I can offer no thought, because the things that I have been thinking have been overtaken by the events. But approximately 13 years ago I believed I had a principle on which we could have stood at the time and under the conditions of the world as it then existed. You will remember that was about the period of the Japanese's greatest military expansion, having conquered the Dutch East Indies, French Indochina, Siam, Malaya and we feared they might enter India any moment. Years previous to that time I had read some articles entitled "World Affairs" which appeared in 1933 in an English periodical called "New Britain" I am herewith repeating part of the quotations from these articles which I copied down in February 1942:

"The decisive act of world-planning and human guidance is both by intention of Providence and by the facts of Destiny, an act functionally devolving upon Britain and Western Europe. The guidance, the actual initiative, and the spiritual sovereignty and responsibility, senatorship, is still with Albion and with Europe. Other orientations and distributions of world-senatorships, of primary initiative, are possible and would become necessary and unavoidable if Britain and Europe would fail in senatorship of the world-confidence.

The sceptre of initiative and creative world-caring could pass - and sooner than it should be in the nature of world's structure and in the interest of the human whole - to other guidance-centers. For there are other centers of the total world-guidance, and Europe cannot be unchangeably what she still is. The modern Far-East and the whole block of the Pacific world-power will have to inherit the dignity of the total world-caring not far away hence, and in its own providential and fated time. But it is vital for the future of the human realm and for the dignity and the greatness of the future individual that the central and wonderful Europe of today, tragic and sublime in her wickedness and insanity,

ugliness and prostration - it is vital, it is divine, it is sacred, for it is Christian and human, that Europe and Britain do not fail.

Britain, indeed, can fail, and Europe can fail more fatally, more probably still. Repentance, coming to one's senses, re-orientation is necessary. Nothing can save Europe and Britain unless their common decision to live and accomplish themselves for the sake of the Universal Humanity.

Infinite would have to be the grace of God and infinite the Providence to our race if the whole of our Kingdom would have to be delivered to the care and guidance of the vast East. Japan should not be allowed to be the western judge and executioner."

With this in mind, I reasoned in February 1942 as follows:(I quote from a letter of mine):"Just before these Japanese conquests Britain and the West were in actual, physical control of 500 Million of men, who will never submit to Western overlordship again.

I believe it is imperative that the West should not relinquish its duty for the guidance of the planetary whole of humanity. For even after the West has won the war, the West may have lost the guidance of the human whole.

We, in the United States, are the inheritors of the explicit proclamation of human equality before the Creator and of certain human, inalienable rights. These ideas are also implicit in the way of the life of Britain and of the North and West of the European continent. But they are explicit in our Declaration of Independence and in the Bill of Rights. These ideas are deeply treasured by Americans, in spite of the fact that daily life too often reduces our adherence to them to mere lip-service. They are our spiritual dynamite. With them we can not only win this war but redeem humanity. We can now turn them to world-conquest for humanity. In this war, and through this war. This becomes not only America's right but America's duty.

The right to equality by all the colored races is already forced upon us by the events which have taken place. I tremble to think what the world may be like if it is explicitly forced upon us by their greater physical power."

I believed therefore that it would be necessary to accomplish the continuance of the West's guidance of the whole of mankind. That the peoples of Asia should voluntarily turn to the West, realizing, that with the West lies the experience in modern government and modern technology, and allow the West to carry on leadership after the political overlordship of the West had gone by the board.

I wrote therefore in 1942 as follows: "I feel that it is imperative at this time for the Western nations and particularly for the United States, to make a proclamation which could be called an Emancipation Proclamation to the World on the basis of the human equality as stated in our Declaration of Independence.

(I thought that such a declaration would mean that the peoples of the earth could freely concede to the western culture further guidance of the whole of mankind.) I would therefore ask to consider whether it might not be high time indeed that a proclamation to such an effect be issued by the Chief Executive of the United States and that it would be very much worth our while to think over a formulation which would convey the meaning thereof and be at the same time rallying all those, both in the United States and outside of it, who have the love of humanity and the liberty of the individual at heart."

The above, while meant for 1942, still has some basic value in 1955.

Until a few months ago I believed that the tension in the world could be eased by admitting Red China to the United Nations into the General Assembly and demoting Formosa also to a seat in the General Assembly only. I should then have advocated to give India the vacant seat in the Security Council, so that the Security Council would have consisted of the United States and Russia as the two antagonists with India holding the balance between them and with Britain and France on the side lines. In such a Security Council a Veto should be abolished and a 4 : 1 decision should be law.

I must say that at no time were my proposals possible in view of national feelings, but it is exactly the excess of national feelings that has to be curbed. I further believe that for the purposes of the communists, war is entirely unnecessary. I believe that the time will come when they can drive the individual firms and corporations of the capitalist nations off the world's markets. Western Europe can only save itself by forming one economic whole. The mergers going on in the U.S. right now might make our industry capable of competing, but only at the cost of those very freedoms for which we have been fighting right along. To maintain these freedoms we may have to sacrifice part of our productive efficiency and turn towards a total decentralisation of production. It may be wise to base our production on home or, anyhow, small industries, based on true individual initiative of individual men and therefore on true private enterprise.

I do not know whether my remarks are of any use to you in your quest, but I want to thank you for the letter which you sent to the Times. It has prodded me to dig out these ideas, and I hope that you will get many much better ones from other minds who have read your letter.

Yours very truly,

Harry L. Kohlberg

Harry L. Kohlberg

February 25, 1955

Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I was very interested to read your recent letter in the *New York Times* which was a real contribution to the clarification of the issues which confront the modern world and the particular responsibility of the intellectual.

Because you and we do have in common so many views respecting the world in the era of the atom, I venture to make this request of you.

Would you serve as co-chairman of a small committee sponsoring the celebration of the 90th anniversary of *The Nation*?

This is to be devoted entirely to a projection of a future world of peace and prosperity conceivable if the potential of the atom were fully applied to its peacetime development.

What we are planning is a threefold operation:

- 1) A dinner forum on June 19 devoted to a projection of the creative and constructive possibilities of atomic development.
- 2) An anniversary issue timed for the same date on the same subject.
- 3) The establishment of an endowment fund to insure *The Nation's* future, initiated by a sum we hope may reach \$100,000, to be solicited before the dinner forum. There is to be no fund raising at the forum.

May I say that we have as co-chairmen now: Dr. Frank P. Graham, former President of the University of North Carolina, now head of the United Nations mediating staff; Van Wyck Brooks, the distinguished author and Ernest Gruening, former Governor of Alaska, who in an earlier time served as one of the editors of *The Nation*. It is in their behalf as well as my own that I extend this invitation to you.

What would be your function as a co-chairman? As limited or as large as you would want to make it in terms of advice. The work, of course, would be carried on by our office.

Page 2...

The committee would decide on speakers for the dinner forum, extend the invitations to them and permit their names to be used in soliciting the anniversary fund. The fund is a way of getting working capital, desperately needed to increase circulation and to meet rising production costs.

From you we would in particular desire guidance on the special issue of The Nation.

I am enclosing a confidential memorandum which represents in principle what we would strive to achieve.

We believe that these undertakings could be a major contribution to the efforts to establish a peaceful modus vivendi.

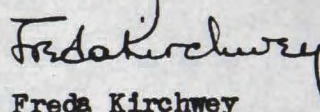
We should so much like your help in the way suggested or in any other way that seems more pleasing to you.

Do you still come to New York? Could we not meet very soon?

I shall await your word.

With best regards,

Cordially,



Freda Kirchwey

P.S. You may remember how in 1945 our conference on the bomb, with your help assisted in placing control of atomic energy in civilian hands. And also that our 1950 conference was the first full scale projection of the peacetime potential of the atom.

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
February 23, 1955

Miss Miriam Stern
2451 Webb Avenue
New York 68, N. Y.

Dear Miss Stern:

It was very kind of you to write to me and I read your letter with much interest.

The response to the publication in the New York Times is quite heartening, but I do not know yet whether any concrete course of action will materialize as a result of the moral support which seems to be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Ian Sziland

LS:hw

2451 Webb Avenue
New York 68, N. Y.
February 12, 1955

W.S.
Prof. Leo Szliard
Chicago University
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

In your letter to the "New York Times" dated February 2nd, you pose the question: "But will there be men willing to assume responsibility when nobody in particular has assigned them such responsibility?"

In that question lies a challenge to our society. For if men of independent minds are restrained from exercising their natural feelings of assuming responsibility, something is wrong somewhere. That "something" is evident in the way our government treats men of imagination and independent minds. A recent case was the one of scientist, Oppenheimer. To make the picture more complete, a great many teachers, scholars, and independent thinkers have been discharged from their places of employment for the reason that their thoughts and expressions did not conform to the accepted standard set up by those who have the power to delegate responsibility to others.

I have enclosed several papers to make my point even clearer - that responsibility is something every man must assume when the "Morality" that distinguishes us from the lower animals is threatened in our world to a point of extinction. Without "Morality" man is a shell; with it he has the "Divine Spark" that does not wait for a "go-ahead" signal on exercising his responsibility. Such is the way I have always interpreted religion to myself, and in 1937 Lee B. Wood, of the then "World-Telegram" published a piece I authored on "Man's Declaration Against War."

The ~~real~~ reason I mention this beginning activity against war on my part is to illustrate to you that my accumulation of experience and knowledge in this field has convinced me that the "string-pullers" who goad men of responsible position on to war, are the same ones who will scoff at the proposal in your ~~letter~~ aforementioned letter. For today they have goaded the peace-loving Eisenhower to agree to the continuation of Chiang Kai-shek's corrupt reign of power. They are performing in the same manner that the racists of South Africa are performing; in evacuating natives of the Tachen Islands, but in this case the "apartheid" believers are uprooting the native population from Johannesburg to their choice of a "gilded ghetto." (Clipping from the Feb. 11th edition of the "New York Times" "Exodus from Johannesburg" enclosed).

The above example is made more emphatic in the copy of a letter I wrote to Mr. Lee B. Wood, of the "World-Telegram and Sun", after MacArthur delivered his great speech to promote peace. (enclosed). The same string-pullers who ~~cast~~ aside such eloquent pleas for a peaceful world, are the ones who feel a blood relationship to the Chiang Kai-shek who has stashed away eighty million dollars in banks. They have levied exorbitant taxes on the little people of America to make more secure the rule of Chiang Kai-shek, who was "kicked out" by his own people; and they will stop at nothing to continue his bloody regime, even if they have to pull the whole world down to cover their guilt.

William Stern

D U P L I C A T E

2451 Webb Avenue
New York 68, N. Y.
January 29, 1955

Mr. Lee B. Wood
World-Telegram & Sun
125 Barclay Street
New York 15, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Before General Douglas MacArthur delivered his great speech at Los Angeles on January 26th, many visionaries attempted to bring peace to our world, but failed. In our time if we do not heed the great truths uttered in the General's speech, we have the alternative of being annihilated. The few who will survive the last upheaval of ignorant humanity, will revert to the animal tendencies of prehistoric man.

With such a pleasant picture before us, we could grope our way to the Divine Purpose in human affairs, which the Good Book promises us. That way would rule out the "fixated tendencies of men with dependent minds and habits - the constricted human beings who are disastrously shut up within themselves." Men like MacArthur who now see the Light, and have the imagination to turn into a path of achieving instead of standing still or going backward, are those humanity must follow in our time. The men who run our newspapers have already relegated his great speech to the trash heap, while writing tiny editorials such as: "The Miracle We All Seek," in praise of it. But ordinary human beings must quickly retrieve this speech from the trash basket, and wave it aloft as a banner behind which we must march if we are to survive.

You will notice that MacArthur has learned enough to discard the Frankenstein conjured up by Hitler and McCarthy - the imaginary menace of "Communism" which has succeeded in bringing our world to its last upheaval before total destruction. As a man engaged in the business of war, MacArthur has realized that Hitler's attempt to wipe out "Communism" failed miserably, and that his ardent supporters were sentenced as criminals at the trials at Nuremberg. He is attempting to save the "sick" men today who are following in Hitler's footsteps, by pointing out to them that we have a choice of living "our way of life" and that we must give the Communists the same right to live "Their way of life." Whether editors wish to befuddle ordinary human beings by labeling such a simple procedure a "Miracle" is something we will have to ponder. Ordinary human beings will believe MacArthur's way of solving the problem: "We must break out of the straitjacket of the past, and proclaim our readiness to abolish war in concert with the great powers of the world."

This would bring the magical results MacArthur promises us, or the solution you say he did not give us, provided we "slap down" the false fear of "Communism" in the same way we "slapped down" McCarthyism; and extend the big hand of Uncle Sam in a gesture of brotherhood to countries with whose ideology we do not agree, but in the spirit of our forefathers acknowledge it is their privilege to practise.

Very truly yours,

(signed by) Miriam Stern

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

February 25, 1955

Mr. Morris N. Eagle
300 Riverside Drive
New York 25, New York

Dear Mr. Eagle:

Many thanks for your letter of February 18. It was thoughtful of you to discuss the matter with Hoffman, and I think your suggestion that I keep in touch with Shepherd Stone is a good one.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

N.Y.

300 Riverside Drive
New York 25, New York
February 18, 1955

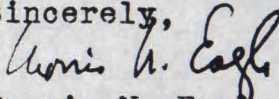
Dr. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I wrote to you a short time ago regarding your New York Times "Letter to the Editor" and would like to thank you for your kind answer.

Since my last letter I received some information which may be of interest to you. I spoke to Paul G. Hoffman the other day and told him the content of your letter. He informed me that he has always believed that a large share of non-governmental action would be necessary to preserve peace, and a number of years ago, while President of the Ford Foundation, he was quite active in initiating a study designed to investigate the role of non-governmental groups in "waging the peace". He believes that the study was assigned to some other group to carry out. Apparently, it has bogged down, for most people I have spoken to have never heard of it.

If you are interested in learning more about the study and feel that it may be of help to you in your plans, you can get in touch with Shepherd Stone of the Ford Foundation who, I understand, had supervised the project.

Sincerely,

Morris N. Eagle

206 West 99
New York 25, N.Y.
February 11, 1955

My dear Professor Szillard :

You are longing ^{for} "the principles, on which an adequate settlement could be based". May be, you will find them in the trilogy, I am sending enclosed.

Your Colleagues, Professor HUTCHINS (via Sims Carter), Professor John U. Nef and the late ARTHUR SCHNABEL praised my ideas; the State Department and Justice OWEN ROBERTS called them the right step to a just Worldunity; WALDEMAR KAEMPFERER called the Trilogy a message to mankind, worthy of being considered.

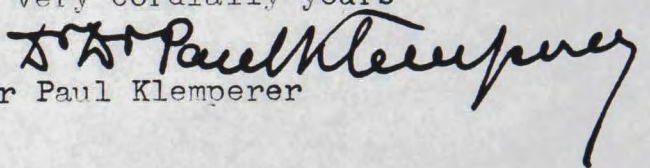
About 50 great minds on earth agreed with the ideas. The first part of the trilogy has often been performed in Vienna and in New York; press and public applauded it very much.

Please, read the trilogy and let me know your opinion concerning the possibility of starting the propaganda.

Is it thinkable, that a terrible 3. worldwar should ~~be~~ be fought, while the point of question is but: whether the idea of individualism (free enterprise) or the idea of collectivism (mutual profit) is to be preferred?

II myself propose a middle way - a way of coexistence ~~by~~ by mens own choice'.

Very cordially yours


Dr. Paul Klemperer

U.S

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

March 2, 1955

Dr. Paul Klemperer
206 West 99th
New York 25, New York

Dear Dr. Klemperer:

Many thanks for sending me your trilogy. Unfortunately, because of the pressure of work, it doesn't seem likely that I will get around to reading it in the near future, and so I am sending it back to you. Should I have the time to read it later on, I will write you in order to borrow it from you.

With many thanks and best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Lee Sillard

Enclosure under separate cover.

y.

N.Y.

MARION SAUNDERS
Literary Agency
104 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS
SAUNDMAR NEWYORK

TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 5-4667

February 8, 1955.

Professor Leo Szilard,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Professor Szilard,

I read your excellent Letter to The New York Times
dated February 2, 1955, and thought it was
unusually pertinent to the troubles of the
international situation.

Do you write for magazines, or would you like to do
so if you have time?

We handle a number of writers on current events, and
if we could be of assistance to you in market-
ing your material, or placing a book ? - we
would like to hear from you.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Marion Saunders

MS.

The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

March 2, 1955

Mr. Marion Saunders
104 East 40th Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Saunders:

I appreciate your letter of February 8th, and I shall keep it in mind in case the services of your Agency might become of interest.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

C.G. *Chicago*

CHARLES G. MORRIS
P. O. BOX 875
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

February 9, 1955

Prof. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter published in The New York Times of February 6th. Is H. G. Wells a prophet when he names 1956 as the year of the Atomic War?

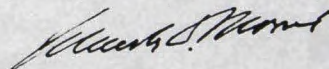
We know that the submarine was prophesied in Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea in the late 1800s but half a generation before submarines were actually used.

We know that Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote of the "Airy Navies dropping down with costly bales," though he did not specify the airplane.

We know that Kipling in "The Night Mail" wrote of the airship that followed the beam to its destination as every airliner does at night now.

But Tennyson also wrote of "The Parliament of Man." Has this generation capacity to create that solvent of international difficulties in time to forestall H. G. Wells prophecy of Atomic War?

Very truly yours,



Charles G. Morris

CGM:hhl

N.S.
The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

March 2, 1955

Mr. Charles G. Morris
Post Office Box 875
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Morris:

I appreciate your letter of February 9th, but I regret that I do not have an answer to the question which you raise. I shall try my best to set up something along the lines of the article which was published in the New York Times on February 6, but I do not know whether enough support will be forthcoming to make it possible to do something really effective.

Very truly yours,

Leo Szilard

U.S. New York

MRS. DAVID E. SCHERMAN 400 EAST 59TH ST. NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Feb. 8th '55

Dear Professor Szilard:

Your letter in last Sunday's New York Times sounded like a clarion call in this desert of apathy! Like you, I believe that there are men and women of leadership in responsible places who could be gathered to form a committee to prevent World War III. However, I believe that the majority of people don't want war but have been driven into inactivity by ten years of political and moral retreat.

I am a mother of two small boys

who wants to believe in their
future and that of all other
children of the world. I hope
that you and other people like
you can start such a committee as
you describe and I am sure
the "grass-roots" response will
be a national one.

Very sincerely,

Rosemarie Kedlich Schenck

123
The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

March 2, 1955

Mrs. David E. Scherman
400 East 59th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mrs. Scherman:

I wish to thank you for your very kind letter of February 8. I shall try to do my best to get something under way along the lines of the article to which you have responded. However, it is too early for me to say whether sufficient support will be forthcoming to make this possible.

I appreciate the words of encouragement which you put into your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

V. A. NEKRASSOFF, DR. ENG.

Mechanical and Ordnance Engineer

INTERIOR BALLISTICS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE,
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, ROOM 16
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON 17, D. C.

1955
February 1955

Prof. Leo Szilard
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Prof. Szilard:

Having read your letter in the New York Times of February 6th last I feel that I am with you with all my heart and brain. Perhaps this is not much, but this is all that I have in me.

I cannot claim myself "Scientist," but at any rate since 1909 I am working in Science, for Science and by means of Science. All my more or less inglorious efforts are given to the most unpopular mathematics in Nomography and Interior Ballistics.

After August 6, 1945 I, full of animation, or aspiration, began my lecturing, talking and writing on this very same subject—that the appeal for the necessary intellectual leadership by all means must come from the organized and united scientists in general and from their top-men in particular all bound together by this activity beyond and above their historical, social, political, national demarcation lines...Well, here I am today... I am enclosing herewith my last reproduction (enlarged perhaps not for its advantages) of my first lecture given in December 1945 (Russian Society of Friends of Russian Culture) under the title "Human Science—neither West, nor East." I have published this lecture in English in 1948 as a lithographed brochure and 135 copies have been mailed by me to professors, writers, educators in the U.S.A. and in England not known to me personally but who were involved in public discussions of this topic in the current press. This was a realization of my somewhat crazy idea of "lecturing by mail" not for "a general public," but for the limited audience of my own choice! I received 18 "answers" of no particular interest. In 1950 I have re-edited my brochure under its present title—"Russian Science and Russian Government" (Parallels—1818-1850, 1918-1950).

Please accept one copy and try to read it. Perhaps even in my defective English you will observe those points which I am inclined to consider as akin to your prognostics and recommendations.

My respectful, urgent request is—please, after reading (if any will take place) return back my "essay" to me, all the necessary postal facilities are also enclosed herewith.

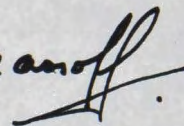
Prof. Szilard

If you will find any interest in telling me your opinion, please do not hesitate to use plain, straightforward words without losing time on making them soft and round. I assure you, I can take it! I am old enough (I was born in 1881 in Russia) to be able to appreciate in any criticism its meaning but not its words. I am also enclosing my condensed auto-biography.

Perhaps professors H. Urey and E. Rabinovitch of your university may say to you a few words about me or at least about the fact of my existence.

With my sincerest apologies for my harmless aggression, I am,

Respectfully yours, V. N. Ramanoff.



U.S.
The University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

March 15, 1955

Dr. V. A. Nekrassoff
Department of Chemistry, Room 16
Catholic University of America
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Dr. Nekrassoff:

It was very kind of you to write me on February 12 and I regret only that I was unable to find the time to read your brochure. I have little hope that I shall be less busy in the coming weeks so I had it returned to you. I have been so much swamped by mail as a result of the Letter that appeared in the Times that I find it difficult to keep up with my correspondence.

I hope you will therefor forgive me if I cannot write you anything that would be of greater interest to you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard



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Feb. 13, 1955

Prof. Leo Szilard,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Prof. Szilard,

Last week I read your very interesting letter published in the New York Times. I agree with you that the present situation needs most serious attention. I want to introduce myself. I am a business man of 62 years of age. I have been interested for the last forty years in the idea of the organization of a just world peace. I have observed world affairs very closely during that period, and I think I know some of the things that make this world "tick" the way it does. Moreover, I am confident that if there is a willingness to resolve the world crisis it can be done without appeasing any nation.

I do not wish to be in the limelight, and what I have done along this line within the last 15 years has been an attempt to get this problem tackled realistically by the political leaders who are in the best position to do something about it.

I have steered clear of any organizational support, because, in this hysterical age, I was afraid that the opportunity for killing this idea by giving it dubious ^{support} was too dangerous. To protect this idea against the machinations of selfish and reactionary interests who may not be sincerely interested in the organization of a real world peace, I have carried on this effort alone. It has been a tremendous job, as you can see from the Chronology of the plan which I enclose.

At one time, I thought we had got the idea started in the world under strategic auspices. Sir Benegal Rau, as an intermediate between East and West and a very sincere believer in the organization of a genuine world peace, became very much interested in this proposal as a means of starting to resolve the world crisis. Before he was elevated to the World Court, he had with him a resolution to present to the United Nations at the opportune time embracing this proposal. This resolution was developed after a great deal of work, and after a mailing of this plan to 900 world diplomats had brought about a very favorable response from all over the world. The time did not seem propitious when Sir Benegal Rau arrived in Paris, soon he was elected to the World Court which took him out of his political position of inspired leadership in the United Nations, and, as you know, he died not long after he was a member of the World Court.

I have been hoping I could interest President Eisenhower in this idea, since, in my opinion, there are only a few men in the world who are in a strategic position to get the world to consider this different analysis of the world situation, and to get the idea launched before the world, much as he did his plan for the peaceful use of atomic energy. But I believe that the diplomats and military men in Washington are so concerned with the symptoms of the world crisis that they overlook, almost entirely, the key problem of the mutual military security of each nation in order to relieve the fears that now block the solution of practically every major world problem. The principles of the Connecticut Plan, with its system of checks and balances, is fair to every nation, and will lay the basis for the organization of a genuine world peace. But like in human sickness, the symptoms often are so disturbing, the cause may not always be seen at first, so in the present fear sickness of the world, the cause is not easily noted, especially by political leaders and military men who are driven to the limit of their time by the day-to-day problems which do not leave them time or thought to think through the fundamental question that must be solved first before they can cure the symptoms upon which they are working so hard.

I have an acknowledgement from the State Department, dated July 29, 1953 reading as follows: "After consideration at the White House, your letter of June 12 to the President was sent to the Department of State so that we might also see your comments and suggestions. We have also been asked to thank you on behalf of the President for your good wishes." also --

"I trust you will excuse the delay in my acknowledgement at this time the receipt of the material concerning the Connecticut Plan which you submitted several months ago through the office of Governor Lodge of Connecticut, and your telegram about this matter to Secretary Dulles, as well as your telegram and letter to the President which were referred to us from the White House for our information. You can be sure that your material has been brought to the attention of officers directly concerned with international organization questions. We appreciate your making your views available to the Government." Signed by Howard A. Cook, Division of Public Liaison.

All that was nearly two years ago, and it seems to me we are still pre-occupied with the symptoms which I am sure we cannot adequately solve without first tackling the cause, i.e. the security struggle of each individual nation.

If you believe in the soundness of my thinking, and the methods which I would follow to get this idea before the world for the practical consideration of its statesmen, and if you have strong enough connections in Washington so that you could get me to President Eisenhower for a careful discussion of this problem, I would greatly appreciate it. I noted in the introduction of your letter in the New York Times that you help or were instrumental in getting action on atomic energy from the Government. Maybe you know the magic word to get a consideration of world peace. Any help would be appreciated.

I am enclosing some material on this plan. The Chronology gives a brief account. The analysis covers the philosophy. The blue print shows the organization within the framework of the U.N. (the place is all ready) with the system of checks and balances to protect all nations from each other, thus removing the fears for individual national security from the military standpoint. No nation can control this system for its own benefit, yet all nations can have mutual security. The page beginning "Major World Problems" was written prior to the Korean War. Please note that none of these problems have been solved in this period. The letter of Sir Benegal Rau, was given to me to

include with a world-wide mailing of this plan over four years ago, after the Indian Delegation had given its approval to this letter calling attention of world diplomats to this plan. Sir Benegal Rau had studied this plan for several weeks before giving me this letter . I believe if he had not been elevated to the world court, followed by his long illness that resulted in his death, this proposal would have got before the world before this. That door was closed. I think President Eisenhower, after his successful launching of his atoms for peace plan , is in the most strategic position to help get world peace and to help solve the world crisis before things get any more inflamed.

Sincerely yours,

R. Walter Bishop

R. Walter Bishop