

HUGHES *Research Laboratories*

A DIVISION OF HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY
3011 MALIBU CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

1 December 1961

Dr. Leo Szilard
Hotel Du Pont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.

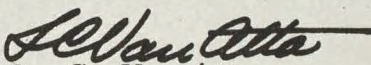
Dear Dr. Szilard:

I have been particularly interested in your forceful presentation of a fresh point of view on the subject of world security because of my own personal interest in the subject, and my recent position as Special Assistant for Arms Control to Dr. Herbert York, former Director of Defense Research and Engineering.

Your television appearance with Jerry Wiesner and others had a very favorable public impact. I have enjoyed some of the things you have written on the subject but would appreciate getting from you a copy of your talk "Are we on the Road to War." My young friend, John Dixon, of the U. S. Information Agency, tells me he had the benefit of a conference with you recently.

With Mr. Franklin P. Huddle, of the Office of Secretary of Defense, I am completing a paper resulting from my year in the Pentagon dealing with a positive program of action directed toward improved world security and welfare. The report will be ready for distribution early next year and I will take the liberty of sending you a copy.

Yours sincerely,


L. C. Van Atta
Director

LCVA/ct

cc: F. P. Huddle
John Dixon

27 bic. answered

Washington, D. C.
March 4, 1962

L. C. Van Atta, Director
Hughes Research Laboratories
3011 Malibu Canyon Road
Malibu, California

Dear Dr. Van Atta:

Attached you will find a revised and final version of the speech, which you have previously read. I would very much appreciate your letting me know whether you are sufficiently interested to be willing to be part of the proposed operation.

The enclosed set of copies will bring you up to date of how far we are. If you are willing to participate, you will presumably be asked by the Fellows to serve on the Panel of Political Advisers. This would be a small group of people who would have to meet for a few days six to ten times a year with the Board of Directors of the Council.

Attached is a clipping from The Commonwealth magazine. I am sending you under separate cover a set of clippings giving you more extensive data on the press reaction which is so far uniformly favorable. I am also sending you under separate cover a set of letters which I have received which indicates the character of the response.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

Hotel Dupont Plaza
Washington 6, D. C.
Telephone: HUDSON 3-6000

Enclosures

File: Current
HUGHES *Research Laboratories*

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14 March 1962

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

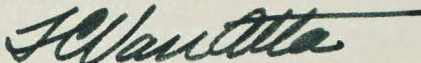
Dear Dr. Szilard:

Thank you for the revised copy of your speech and the other material.

My time is now so over-committed that I will not be able to accept any formal or continuing association with the Council. I appreciate very much your having considered me and will continue to have an active interest in following from the sidelines the positive action program you are stimulating.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


L. C. Van Atta
Director

LCVA/ct