

Sam Miller

516 Nardo Ave.
Solana Beach, Cal.
May 10, 1964

Dr. Leo Szilard
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
La Jolla, California

Dear Dr. Szilard:

I attended a public lecture and panel discussion at UCLA on "The Challenge of Psychical Research" by Dr. Gardner Murphy and his coworkers, last Sunday evening. The meeting was well attended by over 2000 people, including many with academic backgrounds.

Dr. Murphy gave an interesting talk on the requirements for replication and model building and testing. He indicated that there remained a great deal of work to do and that the time was ripe for major developments in the field. He took the physicists somewhat to task for not contributing more to the field. In particular he took your name in vain when referring to your lack of interest in his work at Columbia.

I was wondering if your work in biology might have led you to any renewed interest in phenomena in the field of parapsychology. I have been participating in some investigations recently which may prove to have a fruitful approach. I was at Harvard in 1942 when some of the earlier work was going on. My background is in physics, and I have a keen interest in what I feel is going to be a growing field of biophysics. I would appreciate some of your opinions in this area.

Sincerely Yours,

H. Prescott Sleeper

H. Prescott Sleeper, Jr.

P.S. I notice that NASA is taking a current interest in the area.

May 12, 1964

Mr. H. Prescott Sleeper, Jr.
516 Nardo Avenue
Solana Beach, Calif.

Dear Mr. Sleeper:

I have your letter of May 10 and I would suggest that you call me at your convenience over the telephone, during office hours, at 453-4100. We might then discuss how we might get together and have a chat about your interest in biophysics.

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

LS:jm

516 Nardo Ave.
Solana Beach, Cal.
May, 16, 1964

Dr. Leo Szilard
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
San Diego, California

Dear Dr. Szilard,

I enjoyed our little talk and much the other day very much, and I hope it proved to be of some interest to you also. While we were able to cover only some rather superficial aspects of the subject at hand, I hope it served as a somewhat provocative introduction.

On a somewhat deeper level, I have a very strong conviction about the reality of psi phenomena and from my personal experience I believe that their existence have met the fundamental truth requirements of correspondence, coherence and pragmatism. However, before it can be scientifically proven, the scientists have to be aware that there is a problem to solve. So far, the identification of psi phenomena with the Middle Age's superstitions has prevented a major effort in this field. So far, my awareness of the problem has led me to start to collect data, preparatory to generating some kind of working hypothesis for testing.

Dr. A. Punarich has made an important start on the neurophysiology of "ESP" phenomena. by demonstrating that an excess of acetylcholine in the system acts to dramatically improve both mental telepathy and clairvoyance for the receiver, and an excess of adrenaline in the system promotes "sending" telepathically. He also discusses multiple link telepathy. He has run controlled experiments by inducing cholinergia with drugs, negative ions in the atmosphere, and alcohol. For studies with adrenaline, he utilized a mild electric shock to stimulate the sender. Exceptional receiving ability was correlated with a massive activation of the parasympathetic nervous system. These experiments were done largely with especially sensitive people who had demonstrated a marked degree of ESP ability without control stimulation.

I am sure that Dr. Robert Lynch in La Jolla would be glad to talk to you about his research program. I wish that I had had more opportunity to learn about your work on the central nervous system. Dr. L. Fogel in the Cybernetics program at General Dynamics/ Astronautics would be the ideal person to contact with respect the similar interests. Dr. Warren McCulloch from MIT was here recently and is actively engaged in the area also, as you are no doubt familiar.

Best regards,
Scott Sleeper (over)

Thanks again for the lunch. Please give my
regards to Dr. Falk and Burke Fry. also Don
Haves, if you see him. I worked with him at BNL.

516. North Ave.
Solana Beach, Ca.
May, 16, 1964

Dr. Leo Satterly
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
San Diego, California

Dear Dr. Satterly,

I enjoyed our little talk and had the other day
very much, and I hope it proved to be of some interest
to you also. While we were able to cover only some
rather superficial aspects of the subject at hand, I
hope it served as a somewhat provocative introduction.

On a somewhat deeper level, I have a very strong
conviction about the reality of psi phenomena and from
my personal experience I believe that their existence
have met the fundamental truth requirements of cor-
-spondence, coherence and pragmatism. However, before
it can be scientifically proven, the scientists have to
be aware that there is a problem to solve. So far, the
identification of psi phenomena with the Middle Ages
superstitions has prevented a major effort in this field.
So far, my awareness of the problem has led me to start
to collect data, preparatory to generating some kind of
working hypothesis for testing.

Dr. A. Papanicolaou has made an important start on the
the neurophysiology of "psi" phenomena, by demonstrating
that an excess of acetylcholine in the system acts to
dramatically improve both mental telepathy and clairvoyance
for the receiver, and an excess of serotonin in the system
promotes "sending" telepathically. He also discusses
multiple link telepathy. He has run controlled experiments
by inducing endorphins with drugs, negative ions in the
atmosphere, and alcohol. For studies with serotonin, he
utilized a mild electric shock to stimulate the sender.
exceptional receiving ability was correlated with a massive
activation of the parasympathetic nervous system. These
experiments were done largely with especially sensitive people
who had demonstrated a marked degree of psi ability without
control stimulation.

I am sure that Dr. Robert Lynch in his lab would be
glad to talk to you about his research program. I wish
that I had had more opportunity to learn about your work
on the central nervous system. Dr. A. Papanicolaou would be the ideal
person to contact with respect to similar interests. Dr.
Warren McGeoch from MIT was here recently and is actively
engaged in the area also, as you are no doubt familiar.