From H. Kalckar re: Szilard

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INVESTIGATION OF
MICRONUTRIENT ELEMENTS

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Dear Josh,

About Szilard — I did not approach Bronk, I agree with you it would be an empty gesture. Instead I wrote three great persons: Niels Bohr, H. J. Bhaba and J. Yukawa. Concerning the Royal Dan. Academy — I am afraid that I am just a month too late — we shall see. — A Token of official recognition from India or Japan would be meaningfull to Szilard. — What a Tragedy and yet he is cheerfull and of course very courageous. I must have spent 2 hours at his bedside at Memorial. He was particular interested in two things. He encouraged me greatly to consider an offer from Jonas Salk to come to La Jolla. Tomorrow — I will see Salk again (it is Salk's initiative; I will take him to the Boston Symphony concert in Washington!). What is your opinion about Salk's great plans?

Szilard and I talked about the book "The Children of the A bomb", a collection of children's letters describing in a condensed form what they saw and felt the dreadful August day when the atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima. My good friend Jean Katsuma Dan who translated

the book to English sent me the book directly from Japan. It is impossible to get here — nobody has heard about such a book. I am trying to do something about it and Szilard encouraged me to contact Norman Cousins.

— We are trying to get Bohr to come to a symposium on photobiology. I am not sure that McElroy is handling him sufficiently skillfully so as to succeed in having him come. After all Bohr is an elderly man. I hope that George Wald has acted on my suggestion to have Harvard invite him too. Perhaps invitations from Stanford and Cal. Tech would help consolidate. But it has to be in April because the photosymposium (which I suggest be called "Light & Life") is last week of March. It is probably too late. Ask Henry Kaplan!

I am writing this letter at 5 a.m. — that is a time of the night when one is apt to get imaginative ideas. — Is there any chance of conferring a "doctor honoris causa" on Szilard at Stanford? Otherwise there is Cal Tech, Oregon and perhaps even U. of Chicago (Evans would be kindly inclined).

We will write Esther and you soon about news on the K12 front. There are some which might interest you.

Fondest regards

Sincerely

Herman