

September 15, 1954

Mr. C. D. Jackson
Time, Incorporated
9 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York



Dear Mr. Jackson:

As you well know, the people of this and other countries have very little understanding of the present and prospective benefits of atomic energy. In this and other countries, most people think of atomic energy almost exclusively in terms of death-dealing weapons. They have altogether too little understanding that much work is going on here in the United States in finding how to put atomic energy to work for peace.

The members of the Atomic Industrial Forum, a non-profit organization composed of 165 industrial, educational, research and labor organizations concerned with the development and application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, is much concerned about this problem.

The Forum plans to call a meeting in December of the officers and program directors of national and international service clubs, labor organizations, educational institutions, religious groups and others at which time experts from the Atomic Energy Commission, research organizations and industry will discuss what is being done to develop the peacetime potentials of atomic energy.

Yesterday we met with representatives from the American Federation of Labor, Lions International, Kiwanis International, the National Council of Women, the American Medical Women's Association, Foreign Policy Association, the Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, U. S. I. A., and the Atomic Energy Commission, to discuss this larger meeting for December. The consensus was that the proposed meeting was very much in the public interest and we were assured the cooperation and support of the organizations represented in expanding this to all interested organizations.

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As an appropriate date, we are thinking of December 8th, the first anniversary of the President's proposal for an international agency to foster the development of the constructive uses of atomic energy. We also want to hold this meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria and have made tentative arrangements to reserve the Grand Ballroom.

It is our hope that President Eisenhower might find this a dramatic occasion to speak to this group - which we estimate will fill the Ballroom at the Waldorf - on the evening of December 8th. The following day of the conference will be devoted to talks by authorities who will explain what the prospects are for nuclear power and what is being done and what is probable in the use of radioactive isotopes in industry, medicine and agriculture. Also, leaders from education, labor and other segments of our people will discuss the necessity for and the means available in putting the dramatic story of atoms for peace across to people in all walks of life.

This would be an effective means of showing group and opinion leaders in all parts of the country the possibilities of atomic energy and of giving them the strongest possible encouragement to carry this story persistently through their organizations to large numbers of people.

Such a meeting also would provide excellent material for overseas broadcasts and other information activities abroad and would thereby help supplement and add to the government's efforts in this highly important area.

We think it most important that the President take this opportunity to speak to this audience of opinion-influencing men and women and thereby to stimulate thought and study of this vital subject.

We hope that you will consider this a matter proper and worthy to be brought to the President's attention so that we may know whether we may formally invite him for this occasion and proceed immediately with our plans.

Sincerely,

ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL FORUM, INC.

Charles Robbins

Charles Robbins
Executive Manager

