

5647 Blackstone Avenue
Chicago 37, Illinois
December 28, 1946

Rector de la Universidad Catolica de Chile
Santiago, Chile
South America

Gentlemen:

The enclosed circular describes a lecture by Comdr. Andrew W. McReynolds on the subject of the atomic bomb; in particular on the tests conducted at Bikini. As assistant to the Technical Director, he played an important part in the planning and conduct of the test and participated in all phases of the scientific program until its completion thus acquiring a most complete and unique insight into its significance and results. Since he plans to be in South America during the months of April and May 1947 for the purpose of extending these lectures to a number of countries there, I take this opportunity to advise your organization. I myself was a member of the scientific staff in the bomb development laboratory and will accompany Comdr. McReynolds on the tour.

Since this subject has proved of great interest to the people of the United States and has been discussed before universities, schools, business men's clubs, and technical societies, I believe that similar groups in your country would be equally anxious to hear more about it. The nature of the lecture is such as to be of interest to the general public, whether scientifically trained or not. It is designed to be impartially informative and is not sponsored by any organization. It will be delivered in Spanish and accompanied by projection of selected slides and motion pictures.

The itinerary is not definite as yet, but we expect to be in Chile during the period April 4 through April 16, and would be happy to consider giving a lecture before your organization during that time. Since it will not be possible to complete scheduling of the tour until all groups have indicated their preferences of dates for the lecture, may I ask that in case you are interested in scheduling a lecture, you advise me as soon as convenient, preferably by January 20, of the dates which would be suitable. If possible please indicate more than one date which would be satisfactory.

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Since the speaker will not be under the auspices of any group, all travel expenses will be borne by him personally. We therefore ask that groups before which the lectures are given share a part of these expenses. It is estimated that about fifty to seventy five dollars from each group will be sufficient to cover the expenses. This amount, of course, decreases with the increasing number of lectures which it proves possible to fit into the limited time of the tour. Will you therefore indicate in your reply whether your group will be able to share the travel expense.

It is our sincere desire to make these lectures available to all groups which wish to hear them if time allows. Many such groups, particularly those in smaller cities or communities, I am unable to contact. I hope that you will refer this to any organizations which you feel may be interested in the subject.

Cordially yours,

Harold Hirsch

Harold Hirsch

HH:bd

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