

10 May, 1976.

Dear Toni:

My goodness, it has been many a year since I addressed you so informally and I hope that you will excuse it. But, as you know, I have been kept in very close touch with your family through the yearly "Rundschreiben" for which I thank you. I also hope that you will pardon me for typing this letter but, in doing so, it will be much more legible and I can say more.

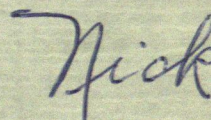
The communication of Hans' passing was received by me only day before yesterday. I feel a very deep sorrow in the loss of a wonderful friend and a truly great man. My heart goes out to you and your family. You all have my most sincere sympathy.

I know from my brief personal association with you that you and Hans enjoyed a very close relationship which I was privileged to observe. Even so, I wonder if you really knew, or just surmised, what a truly great patriot Hans was besides being a great intellect.

Now that the years have gone by, I can tell you that utmost and vital secrecy prevented me from telling you that I was a member of the United States Air Force Intelligence Service. It was in connection with this service that Hans set up the "Pugwash" meeting at Kitzbühl in September of 1958. These "Pugwash" meetings were conceived and promoted by a wrongly maligned public benefactor and wealthy industrialist, Cyrus Eaton of Cleveland, Ohio, in a very successful effort to achieve a meeting of minds and an exchange of information between the great brains of the East and the West. Hans played his role beautifully but, for obvious reasons, I doubt that he ever received any recognition for it, let alone any thanks. If you didn't know, you do now. This was the underlying reason, besides being very fond of you both, for trying to keep in close touch with you over the years. My wife, who passed away in 1974, and I recalled a hundred times or more how thrilled we were on the day Hans took us to the top of the Mountain at Kitzbühl.

It was helpful to know that Hans' passing was peaceful and that he was ill for only a short time. I deeply regret that we were not able to maintain a closer association.

God bless you and yours,



Wallace H. Nichols
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PS: I am sending a copy of the notice and this letter to my former assistant, Ernst Elgering, who is cognizant of all this.