

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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*Martin Kaplan
CPW*

In reply please refer to:
Prière de rappeler la référence:

14 July 1970

Personal and Unofficial

Dear Dr Housewright,

May I please refer to our previous correspondence on the Pugwash Symposium on Rapid Detection and Identification of Microbiological Agents. Owing to the uncertain situation with regard to Fort Detrick, it was decided to postpone the Symposium. Several days ago, Professor Rotblat had a meeting in Geneva with some Swiss scientists who were very much in favour of sponsoring and holding the Symposium in Geneva. Professor Rotblat agreed, and the tentative dates set were 18 through 21 February 1971. Dr Bernard Mach of the Institute of Pathology of the University of Geneva will be the responsible individual for organizing the Symposium.

You will receive official word of the above in due course from Professor Rotblat. He asked Dr Mach and me to get started in the meantime on the substantive preparations.

We should like to have your suggestions on specific agenda items, and on individuals who might be invited to prepare background documents. As far as possible, we should like to have scientists participate who actually worked on the various technical procedures in defence establishments. Also, the three major topic headings originally suggested (see previous correspondence) will have to be expanded with sub-items.

continued.../

Dr Riley D. Housewright
Scientific Director
Department of the Army
Fort Detrick
Frederick, Md. 21701
USA

Copy to: Dr Ivan Bennett, New York
Professor Bernard Feld, Cambridge, Mass.
Dr Matthew Meselson, Cambridge, Mass.
Professor Joseph Rotblat, London
Professor Jacques Freymond, Geneva

May I ask that you send your suggestions on the above to me, and I shall take them up with Dr Mach who will then take charge of future correspondence. Invitations to participants will be sent by Professor Rotblat from London, and it would be appreciated if you could send to him, at the following address, copies of all correspondence on this Symposium:

Professor Joseph Rotblat
Secretary-General
Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs
9 Great Russell Mansions
60 Great Russell Street
London W.C.1, England

A similar letter is being sent to other responsible officials in microbiological defence establishments in eastern and western Europe.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Sincerely yours,

Martin Kaplan