

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
16 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

11 April 1977

Miss Betsy Turvene
Forum Office
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20418

Dear Miss Turvene,

Could you please arrange that a copy of the printed summary of my workshop at the Academy Forum on Recombinant DNA be sent to the following person when it is available:

Dr. Arthur J. Emery
ONR (Code 443)
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

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Dr. Arthur J. Emery, Jr.
ONR (Code 443)
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217

Dear Dr. Emery,

Dr. Meselson has asked me to send you the enclosed short summary report of his workshop at the NAS Forum on Recombinant DNA. I have also asked the Forum office to send you directly a copy of the longer summary when it has been published.

Sincerely yours,

Michael A. McGrath
Secretary to M.S. Meselson

Encl.

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11 April 1977

Dr. Daniel E. Koshland, Jr.
Academy Forum Office
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20418

Dear Dan,

Thank you for your letter of 29 March. I enclose a copy of the extended summary report of our workshop at the Academy Forum on Recombinant DNA Research. This is the draft I sent to Betsy Turvene at the Forum office and, aside from possible minor corrections, it should be close to the final form.

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

Encl.

FORUM OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ON
RESEARCH WITH RECOMBINANT DNA

7-9 MARCH 1977

Summary Report of Workshop 6

Dr. Matthew Meselson, Chairman

1. The workshop took note of the fact that any use of recombinant DNA technology for military purposes is prohibited by the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972, to which the United States is a party.
2. The workshop also took note of the fact that in 1973 the Administration submitted to the Congress a bill to have the provisions of the Biological Weapons Convention implemented as domestic law. No legislative action was taken.
3. The general view of the workshop was that recombinant DNA technology does not offer any ready means for the development of weapons by terrorists. The view was also expressed, however, that terrorists might attempt to create fear by threats involving the use of such technology.
4. The workshop endorsed the principle of openness and freedom of information to avert the mis-application of recombinant DNA technology.