

STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

July 29, 1977

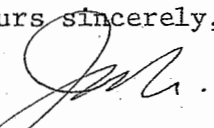
Mr. Robert Mikulak
Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
State Department
2201 C, NW
Washington, D.C. 20451

Dear Mr. Mikulak:

I have been rather tardy about following up our conversations of early May concerning possible restatements of the U.S. definition of biological agents for the purposes of the BW treaty.

In the interval, as you know, there has been considerable motion with respect to regulatory legislation in this field, but the outcome is still uncertain. In that light, I suspect that it would be only adding to the confusion to attempt to make further statements about the BW connections of recombinant DNA at this time. I would rather suggest that we would wait until the dust settles in the arena of the legislative controversy. When that legislation has been enacted, I will write you further to suggest clarifying wording of definitions that would be consistent with the law as it is ultimately written.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

✓ cc: Dr. Matthew Meselson

JL:ek-f

COPY

Memo from

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

To: Bob Mikulak
AZDA

JUL 29 1977

Excerpts From the Address

Special to The New York Times 77

CHARLESTON, S. C., July 21—Following are excerpts from the text of President Carter's address here today to the Southern Legislative Conference:

The whole history of Soviet-American relations teaches us that we will be misled if we base our long-range policies "on the mood" of the moment, whether that mood is euphoric or grim. All of us can remember times when relations seemed especially dangerous and times when they seemed bright. We have crossed those peaks and valleys before. And we can see that, on balance, the trend in the last third of a century has been positive.

The profound differences in what our two Governments believe about freedom and power and the inner lives of human beings are likely to remain, and so are other elements of competition between the United States and the Soviet Union. That competition is real and deeply rooted in the history and values of our respective societies. But it is also true that our two countries share many important overlapping interests. Our job is to explore those interests and use them to enlarge the areas of cooperation between us, on a basis of equality and mutual respect.

Growing Disillusionment Noted

was time for honest discussions about international issues with the American people. I felt it was urgent to restore the moral bearings of American foreign policy. And I felt that it was important to put the U.S.-Soviet relationship, in particular, on a more reciprocal, realistic and ultimately more productive basis for both nations. It is not a question of a "hard" policy or a "soft" policy, but of a clear-eyed recognition of how most effectively to protect our security and to create the kind of international order I have just described. This is our goal.

We have looked at the problems in Soviet-American relations, freshly and have sought to deal with them boldly and constructively with proposals intended to produce concrete results:

¶ In the talks on strategic arms limitations we advanced a comprehensive proposal for genuine reductions, limitations and a freeze on new technology which would maintain balanced strategic strength.

¶ We have urged a complete end to all nuclear tests and these negotiations are now under way. Agreement here could be a milestone in U.S.-Soviet relations.

¶ We are working together toward a ban on chemical and biological warfare and the elimination of inventories of these destructive materials.

"BIOLOGICAL WARFARE"

Is that reference in the present tense an oversight?
Or is there still some agenda for BW.

It may get an unintended rise from the other side if it is an oversight but not explained as such!

(2)

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