

Langmuir

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Robert A Weinberg, PhD
Member, Whitehead Institute,
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February 4, 1990

Dear Professor Weinberg,

Responding to your interesting letter of 16 January, 1990, I would indeed be happy to serve "as a member of the Review Group" of the Expert Working Group on Biological and Toxin Weapons Verification under the auspices of the FAS.

I am flattered that anyone thinks that I can still make a contribution to this crucial problem at my age and state of "active" retirement. I have had almost no contact with the field since my retirement from the Centers for Disease Control in 1970, except for helping to host the Russian delegation on the Sverdlovsk anthrax epidemic with Matthew Meselson. Prior to 1970 I was well versed in almost every phase of the subject.

I happen to be deeply committed until the end of March but after then I should have ample time to work. It is difficult for me to travel away from Chilmark, here on Martha's Vineyard Island but with planning it is possible. I can get to Boston.

You should know that I have little faith in the individually written word without rather extensive dialogue and repeated revision of original statements. In accepting this responsibility I am prepared to attend and actively participate in seminars, colloquia, drafting sessions as essential features to the creation of useful and constructive ideas.

I note that the envelope you enclosed for my reply is addressed to "Burck" FAS so I am sending a copy to you in Cambridge. I would hope that some time soon I could have the opportunity of meeting with you and learning more of your plans and thinking. Frankly at present I have only the most primitive thoughts of how to achieve the mission.

Sincerely yours,
Alexander D. Langmuir
Alexander D. Langmuir

cc Matthew Meselson
Gordon Burck, FAS

PS I'm sure I see your firm hand in this! *say*