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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

7 September 1965

Professor Matthew Meselson  
Biological Laboratories  
Harvard University  
16 Divinity Ave.,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Matt,

This morning I tried to telephone you to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the Pugwash BW group in Stockholm on October 22nd - 24th. I am not terribly anxious to go to the meeting simply because I'm not anxious to travel very much. However, it looks as though you have made a good deal of progress since Karlov Vary and therefore this meeting might be able to be extremely useful.

Several questions <sup>come</sup> to my mind immediately when I think how I should prepare to contribute to this meeting. First, is to know the exact status of the published literature in the field in this country, in particular how much of the work on early detection of BW is available for open discussion. I would like to get copies of all recent unclassified reports on progress in the detector which I devised and others which are presumably being explored. I think that this work is largely if not completely unclassified and so should be available as a basis for some of the technical discussions. The second thing I would like to know is the attitude of PSAC and Dietrich and other people in government who are concerned with this question and would be in a position to give helpful technical and political briefings. Third, I'm very curious to know how serious Philip Noel-Baker is about the willingness of LG to make declarations against the use of BW by the UK. In Karlov Vary he felt that this was an issue the LG would be enthusiastic about supporting and if he really thinks that he can put it over that should have extremely important moral and political as well as actual technical advantages.

I guess in summary my attitude towards going to this meeting is some sort of an all or nothing view, namely that unless I do some homework and feel that I can really contribute something towards definite steps that are practical to take at this time, I would not like to go the meeting. If, on the other hand, these definite things do seem realistic, then I would be willing to put in a certain amount of time and preparation hereand in Washington if necessary in order to do the job right.

I understand that you are going to be gone for a week starting today then back in Harvard for a couple of days and then gone for another 20 days. I hope that this letter catches up with you and that we can discuss these questions and decide what to do. I expect to be in Berkeley all the time except for very short trips (if any) so that you should be able to call me here or wherever I am. I am sticking close to home now because three days ago Bonnie gave birth to a baby boy and needs a certain amount of help around the house with the 2 children.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Donald A. Glaser  
Professor of Physics and  
Molecular Biology