

PERSONAL

January 15, 1970

Sir Solly Zuckerman
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The Zoological Society of London
Regent's Park
London, N.W.1
England

Dear Solly,

I hope you will excuse this somewhat tardy reply to your letter of December 12. It was rather delayed in the Christmas mail and it has taken me a little time to gather the information.

I assume from your letter that Charles MacLean is not so much interested in the formal philosophy of science as he is in those areas of science that border upon public policy and the public interest. I can easily gather additional information on the philosophy of science proper if I am in error on this point. What I have found out deals mainly with science and public policy at M.I.T. and at Harvard.

Both M.I.T. and Harvard are now in process of selecting graduate students for September entrance. Official application forms for Harvard are enclosed. Those for M.I.T. have been sent to you under separate cover. Let me begin with Harvard. The Government Department offers a seminar on science and public policy and it is possible to obtain a Ph.D. with emphasis in that field. I would say that the emphasis is on institutional inter-relationships and economic matters rather than on the direct application of science to public problems as for example in pollution, transportation, or national defense. Another department at Harvard with some interest in science and public policy is History of Science. The emphasis there is just what the name of the department implies as may be seen from the course listings starting on page 188 of the enclosed Harvard catalogue. MacLean may wish to apply to one or the other of these departments or he may wish instead to apply for admission as a Special Student. A page of information regarding Special Students is enclosed. It is easier to be admitted as a Special Student and Special Student status confers almost complete freedom of choice in course work. A year spent in this status will allow MacLean to inform

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himself of all opportunities in the Boston area before making a final commitment to any one department or institution.

I believe M.I.T. now has a stronger and more exciting program in science and public policy than does Harvard. I have talked with Lincoln Bloomfield who is Chairman of the Admissions Committee at M.I.T. and I have also spoken with George Rathjens. They are very much in process of beating sword into plowshares, converting the emphasis from weaponry to other national and international problems facing mankind. Although it is somewhat late to apply according to the formal rules, this in fact is no problem. MacLean's application would be considered by Bloomfield's committee if it could arrive within the next two or three weeks, and possibly even later. The opportunities at M.I.T. are described in the enclosed booklet "Political Science at M.I.T." and in the accompanying statement and course outlines.

One problem that may arise is financial support. At present, this is quite difficult. U.S. Government scholarships are generally not available to citizens of other countries. University scholarships are scarce and the competition is rather fierce. This is not to say that scholarship support is impossible to obtain but it may be difficult. At Harvard it is past the time for application for scholarships for next year. This is not the case at M.I.T.

On a completely different subject, I am sorry not to have been able to supply you with the memorandum we discussed. I have been almost frantically busy with activities related to the government CBW review which in fact still continues so far as certain outstanding problems remain.

When MacLean has digested this information and makes application either to Harvard or M.I.T. or both, please have him let me know so that I can keep an eye on proceedings at this end.

I hope this letter finds you well and relatively pleased with the New Year thus far. With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Meselson

MM:ls
Encl.