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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Adetokunbo O. Lucas, M.D.
Director
Special Programme for Research and
Training in Tropical Diseases
World Health Organization
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

Ref. LEP/T16/181/L4/1

Dear Dr. Lucas:

Thank you for sending me the Curtiss' application for research on M. leprae.

This is a first rate team and I am glad to see them recruited to work on leprosy. I strongly recommend approval.

My only caveat is that the jump from Mycobacterium to E. coli may be ambitious, especially for the expression of antigens which would be the most immediately important practically. For that reason, I would hope that more attention be paid to efforts to cross M. leprae with other Mycobacteria.

Perhaps this was discussed at the Workshop on Genetics of M. leprae (Boston, September 29-30, 1977) mentioned on page 20 of the proposal. If so, I would be grateful for a copy of the summary proceedings thereof.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

P.S. Your office evidently still has my Stanford address.