



P.O. Box 875,  
Suva, Fiji,  
27/08/80.

Dear Josh:

This letter will, I hope, find you in good health and spirits. I regret my travels in and through the West Coast had not included a stopover in Palo Alto, but I seem to have been everywhere else!

As you may remember, after Mary was ill in Alberta I returned to Vancouver to resetttle the family and we stayed there until the children were almost through university. The Canadian government, in a fit of economy and shortsightedness, cut out most of the technological research across the country - and not incidentally, my job. So I took on the task of guiding the creation of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency; first, from Suva and in April 1979, set up headquarters in Honiara, Solomon Islands. Once all was organised, and staffed, the Island countries (led by W. Samoa and Fiji) decided they wanted an Islander as the Director, so I resigned from the whole operation. Too much politics has spoiled my enthusiasm for fisheries management.

Mary decided not to leave Vancouver (where my job prospects were minimal) and we are getting divorced.

Being now on my third career - and trying not to appear too erratic - I feel free to reconsider what it is I enjoy and want to do. I've written to Alex Zaffaroni to say I'd like to get back to lab work, and you may hear of that. However, in case prospects in California don't

prove to be what I hope, I've applied to CSIRO in Australia, too. Their Molecular and Cellular Biology Unit wants someone to work on recombinant DNA procedures to look at expression of eukaryotic genes, and now I have the time to step deliberately into something interesting (and the maturity to keep my nerve - which I didn't have, unfortunately, at Syntex in 1964) I'd consider that seriously.

I've told them I'd obtain the lab training required to bring myself up to date, at my own expense, if they offer me the job (which is rather more "junior" than I've had, but one which shouldn't be a strain), and it seems like Paul Berg or Bob Sinsheimer might be good people to ask about that - for a month or so of space as a trainee. What do you think?

I've also had to take the liberty of referring to you as one who knew of my work on phosphodiesterases and nucleases when I was active in that area, so they may write you if they take my application seriously. I'm sorry to impose on you again, but most other colleagues are not in the position of being my "senior" - and that would matter to CSIRO, I think. (Of course, I realize you can refer in the past tense).

It is appealing to consider relocating in California, but to Australia there are fewer immigration problems for me and my fiancé - who is a Solomon Islander.

Should I come to California for a job, or study, I'd be very pleased to see you again, if you have the time to talk about old friends.

Best regards,

Bill Razzell