

September 28, 1959

Dr. George A. Derbyshire
Space Science Board
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

Greetings:

You may remember some questions came up relating to classified Air Force information. Could you and SSB lend a hand to declassify it, or at least to make it available to the Board

- (1) The volume density of microorganisms at high altitudes (stratosphere) and their viability in this environment
- (2) The average spectral-reflection profile in the infra-red as seen from high-flying aircraft over major types of terrain: water, desert, forest. From this we could compute the IR spectrum of the earth as seen by a satellite, which would be a model for a Martian probe. We should particularly want to see the spectrum in the 'window' $\sim 3.3 - 3.7\mu$

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

P.S. May I ask you to send SSB-109 direct to Westex distribution according to attached list?

Thank you.