

DEUTSCHE AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN ZU BERLIN

FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT DER NATURWISSENSCHAFTLICHEN/TECHNISCHEN UND MEDIZINISCHEN INSTITUTE

INSTITUT FÜR MIKROBIOLOGIE UND EXPERIMENTELLE THERAPIE · JENA

DIREKTOR PROF. DR. MED. HANS KNOLL · JENA · BEUTHENBERGSTRASSE 11

(Dr.rer.nat.habil. Udo Taubeneck)

AUG 17 1964

Professor J. LEDERBERG  
Dept. of Genetics,  
Stanford University

Stan-ford, California  
U.S.A.

Jena, August 12, 1964

Tck/Gü

Dear Professor Lederberg,

A few weeks ago, Dr. Vernon Bryson wrote me that there might be a possibility for me to spend a period of several months to a year in the laboratories of Drs. Bryson and Werner Braun at the Institute of Microbiology of the Rutgers University. I would be very happy if this could be managed but the main problem is the fact that it will be very difficult for me to get the consent of the German Academy of Sciences and a permission of the Foreign Office of the GDR. Since 1961, as you probably know, only in quite exceptional cases one gets visa to go to a country of the western hemisphere.

Now the head of our department told me that it might be very helpful if I could have a few lines of you as an outstanding personality, well known to the members of our Academy. If you could, in a short letter, support my opinion, namely that a working period in USA would be a great advantage for my further investigations, then I could present this in addition to my application and maybe, some difficulties could be overcome.

During the last two years, I worked mainly on lysogeny in *Proteus* and its stable L-forms. In the course of these experiments, I found some special cases of defective lysogeny. In these cases the lysogenic strains produce solely phage tails the morphology of which resembles strongly that of T-even tails. The tails are biologically active, they adsorb to sensitive bacteria and kill them without being reproduced. Their action is therefore somewhat similar to colicines. Under separate cover, I sent you two reprints dealing with the subject mentioned.

I would like to try now, whether transformation of biochemical markers and of lysogeny can be achieved with *Proteus*. I hope the introduction of stable

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L-forms in such investigations will be an advantage. It is this kind of experiments, which I would like to perform in New-Brunswick.

Hoping I did not trouble you too much, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
(Udo Taubeneck)