STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

FROM :

DATE: 2-5-50

SUBJECT: Dear Josh,

Here is the first batch from H 226. Incidentally, since time & especially refrig space is limited here, I'm only carrying H 226 at the moment. ~~the~~ If ~~we~~ we want to go to another culture, I'll have you send it on.

H 226 is the toughest one to work yet, tends to have a long lag, fewer of the cells from an EMS ~~plate~~ colony ever do grow, has a terrific tendency to form filaments — then — which sort of mess up the relationships. I indicate on my sheets how the separations are performed though in these cases.

I've jotted some notes re microcolony morphology. There seem to be several types, maybe 4. I'll be interested to learn if these types correspond to any segregation etc. With the others (H 168 etc) I used to guess if a colony was a segregant by its size (growth rate) & sometimes cell size. Incidentally, cells of some of these families are the smallest I've ever seen, g12 & descendants for example.

I'm sorry I don't have your letters here so can't recall all your questions. I haven't done any writing. In this connection, what do you want to say to the bacteriologists? I.e. could you sketch out an outline indicating the main points you want to make & where one draws the line so far as any genetic analysis goes? We will publish both together. Would it be worthwhile to stick a little note re the technique in say Science? But I note being sole author on either of them.

As for cases of "pure haploids" on initial plating & then finding a few lac V colonies, the usual case is: a plate with about 500-1000 colonies appears all negative. But on careful inspection, you find a couple of very small colonies which on streaking prove to be lac V. Hence it probably only means a low frequency of lac V bacteria. ~~But~~ But they ~~a~~ weren't typical mosaic colonies either.

I have done a little work on the new job too. I don't know if I have earned a dollar at it though. I'm doing two things about as far apart on the genetics spectrum as you can get — atomic energy effects on human populations and single cell studies. It's amusing in a way.

I won't be able to do any more until I write you now as I'm off on a rover mission to Oak Ridge 3 days or Los Alamos 3 days the Wednesday. Then I hope to do about three or more on the weekend.

After March 9th I should have some time to do some writing but not before.

Not so idle rumor has it you are going to Oak Ridge to give a seminar + to have a look at a possible job. While Oak Ridge is fantastically equipped etc, and a good place to get a lot done, and also since in my present capacity I should be glad to have the A.E.C. hire the best people possible + have should encourage you, I would sort of hate to see you get out of University work. It seems to me you could contribute a lot through graduate student training as well as by your own research.