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WASHINGTON, D. C.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPACE SCIENCE BOARD

15

January 4, 1962

Dr. Colin S. Pittendrigh
Department of Biology
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Pitt:

I have read your thoughtful letter of December 31, 1961 with great interest. It is certainly timely for an authoritative Board statement on the biological sciences to be developed for the use of the newly organized NASA Office of Space Sciences -- and I agree completely with the approach outlined in your letter.

I am appointing you Chairman of an ad hoc committee on Life Sciences to develop a definitive position in this area for consideration by the full Board. By copy of this letter, I am also appointing Messrs. Hartline, Lambertsen and Lederberg as members of the Life Sciences Committee. The terms of reference for this committee are well set forth in your letter -- I have taken the liberty of asking the Secretariat to include a copy of this communication with the letters to your committee members. Some related comments from Hartline and Urey have been received and are also included.

I hope that you can convene this group within the next two or three weeks: so that the Board's position can be available to the NASA as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

L. V. Berkner
Chairman

enc.

cc: Dr. Hartline
Dr. Lambertsen
Dr. Lederberg