

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL
2101 Constitution Avenue Washington, D.C. 20418

March 1, 1994

TO: Members of BW Working Group
FROM: Jo Husbands

SUBJECT: Plans for March 16th Meeting

We have heard from Alexei Yablokov that he is not able to meet with us for dinner on the 16th, so the meeting will end about 3:30 since Josh has to catch a flight from Dulles. (We may want to continue working for a bit after he departs.) A draft agenda is included with this fax. Please let La'Faye know if you need a hotel for the evening before the meeting.

Josh will report on his conversations with various folks in DOD, State, and the NSC about potential assistance for BW conversion projects, but the prospects are good enough to make the Moscow trip worthwhile. As you may recall from the January meeting, Josh and others were reluctant to go if we could not offer some relatively concrete assurance that money could be available to support work with the Russians. We will clearly not be going with a check in hand, but Josh believes it is worth the effort to move things along.

Our meeting will be devoted to preparations for the meeting with our Russian counterparts in Moscow (and to a far lesser extent to MOSCON and to the Royal Society). My notes from the January meeting suggest that we are planning to cover four topics. They are listed below, with comments in parentheses about how much time might be devoted to them, based on whether they might be the basis for joint research/conversion assistance.

1. Smallpox as a possible test case for a "tight" regime for BW transparency (1-2 hours of the Moscow meeting)
2. Ways to strengthen the BW Convention (2-3 hours)
3. Conversion of BW facilities (most of the second day of the meeting to help them craft a proposal)
4. Anthrax pathogenicity (about 1/2 of the first day, in order to see if we can define an appropriate topic for joint research)

Josh will be sending a letter to Rem Petrov shortly proposing these topics and this division of the time, so please give me any comments or suggestions as soon as possible. I will pass them along to Josh, and if necessary we can "consult" via phone and fax before the letter goes to Moscow.

Cheers.