

April 7, 1960

Dr. Hideo Kikkawa
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JAPAN

Dear Professor Kikkawa:

Dr. Hirota was kind enough to show me your letter to him and to transmit your message concerning the possibility of a visit to Japan. I am deeply honored by your consideration and appreciate the effort you are undertaking on our behalf. I hope that the practical difficulties will not be so formidable as to prevent a happy outcome.

Unfortunately, I have heavy commitments on my time here and these are not likely to become appreciably lighter in the future. At this time I could not readily plan to be absent for more than about a month; under some circumstances I might manage to prolong this to perhaps five weeks. Much as I would like, I would be quite unable to consider a longer absence, for example for the five or six months that your letter indicated. If this is a necessary condition for the arrangements you have in mind, I very much regret that I would have to postpone the undertaking beyond a time for present planning. Although a month seems a relatively short time it would afford an opportunity to visit and occasionally lecture at a number of universities and even to spend some leisurely days at the centers at Tokyo and at Osaka. As best I can judge now, the earliest and most convenient time on my part would be September, 1961. However, if you would wish to make an alternative suggestion, or to indicate some more precise dates that would fit in with the academic schedule in Japan, please let me know. I am still contemplating attending the Pacific Science Congress at Honolulu in late August, 1961. There may be some advantage in time and cost in combining the trips.

I am sure that you would wish to have some information on our minimum financial requirements for the visit if you would request some assistance from the Rockefeller Foundation and if the time I indicated is not prohibitive. I would have to ask that you furnish round trip air fares for my wife and myself, and subsistence while we are in Japan. However, we would not require any additional honorarium as my salary, for a limited interval, would be continued by Stanford University. If we proceed from Honolulu the saving would be about \$500.

I am sure that such a visit, with its opportunity to make closer contacts with our genetical colleagues in Japan, would be quite fruitful for us. We have greatly enjoyed having had such Japanese students as Iino and Hirota in our laboratory in the past.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics