Van Niel

HOPKINS MARINE STATION

PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA

III - 24 '59.

Dear Joshua:

After my return I talked with la Rivière about the amino acid requiring mutants of Roger's strain of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* that can "adapt to" aromatic compounds.

They will be very much appreciated, and we shall do our utmost to maintain them in our culture collection, as well as send you live (or lyophilized, if preferred) subcultures.

In the near future I hope to be in a position to send some suggestions for the "program" of Space-microbiology. Meanwhile, we are saving up cells from cultures of green and purple bacteria; and I shall soon start some new cultures so that it will be possible to compare reflection spectra of, for example, Sulfur purple bacteria with and without S-globules.

Very best, also to Esther,

As ever

Kees.