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united nations educational, scientific and cultural organization
organisation des nations unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

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in your reply, please refer to :
en répondant, veuillez rappeler :

n° **Personal**

25 June 1962

Dear Dick:

In your cable received on 22 June you ask for my personal comments with regard to Snider's tenure. This problem arose at the SCOR Executive Committee meeting in April, when a termination date of March 1963 was mentioned as a possible compromise between September 1962, date of the next IOC meeting, and September 1963, date to which the NAS-NRC letter referred as a possible terminal date. My understanding, and apparently Snider's, was that March 1963 was decided upon by the SCOR Executive.

When Böhnecke circulated the draft report on this April meeting, Humphrey insisted that 31 December 1962 was decided. Both the SCOR Executive Committee report and the SCOR announcement of transfer of coordination use this date. So does my announcement to members of IOC (see enclosed copy). Thus the die is becoming more and more cast.

Böhnecke, in a letter to Snider indicated that the exact date could be decided by me. It seems to me I cannot choose a date later than 31 December, in the face of the aforementioned documents, without accompanying this choice with a statement that we are unable to assume the responsibility assigned to us by IOC and SCOR. I am not prepared to do this.

Frankly we are not prepared to carry out the coordinating job in the same fashion as Snider has done, nor do I think this is necessary. Although the value of personal contact cannot be denied, the job now is to bring about some fitting together of operating plans and scientific programs, to ensure the most effective coverage in time and space. This can probably be done at regional meetings where representatives of participating institutions are brought

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together to work out the details. Thus we are convening three such meetings this year - one in Cronulla for the southeastern Indian Ocean, one at Wormley for the Arabian Sea, and one at Bangkok or New Delhi for the Bay of Bengal.

The other question is to what extent we should continue efforts to get additional countries of the region involved. It is certainly a full time job to negotiate their largely token participation and to find them the resources to do the work. At this point I am inclined "to take a turn and hold what we've got" - i.e. to concentrate on coordinating the work already planned and likely to be carried out.

Thus I foresee no important difficulties if Snider finishes at the end of this year. On the other hand I would like to record my appreciation for the good job he has done during the past few years, without which we probably wouldn't have an Indian Ocean Expedition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Warren".

Warren S. Wooster