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(Via Air Mail)

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NATIONAL DEFENSE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

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30 Memorial Drive, Cambridge 42, Massachusetts

FSB-HBS

December 22, 1943

Dr. Melvin Calvin
Department of Chemistry
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Calvin:

I have read with much interest your report on the progress you are making on the fluoro compounds.

One thought occurred to me which I am passing on to you for what it may be worth. When I visited Harshaw Chemical some eight months ago, during the discussion of F substitution, two points were brought out by Mr. Long of Harshaw. First, it is extremely difficult to handle aqueous BF_3 and aqueous HF and requires very special handling in commercial work. Second, the diazoborotetrafluoride should be decomposed at a temperature just high enough to distill out the o-fluorophenol. Yields were reported as "good."

Nothing heard to date from the shipboard unit.

Sincerely yours

F. S. Bacon

F. S. Bacon
Assistant to E. P. Stevenson
Chief
Division 11

CC - Dr. T. A. Geissman



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