DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

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EHSB/AMA

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Dear Gerry,

Now that the decision has been taken to proceed with the construction of the ISR at CERN it seems to me about time that more thinking was done about the type of experiments that can be done with this device. The AR Division at CERN has found it particularly difficult to get experimental physicists to give any serious thought to theseproblems. Several attempts have been made, the more recent one being a small committee set up by Bærnard Hyams, but only one meeting has been held and the approach has been sporadic, to say the least.

This is really quite a serious state of affairs because the design of the ISR is linked with the experimental programme to be carried out much more intimately than is the case for the P.S. Decisions about some of the design features of the ISR will have to be taken within the next six months or so which will vitally affect the experimental possibilities, at a time when very inadequate thought has been given to these.

It seems to me therefore that we ought to see whether it would be possible to set up in Britain a small study group of experimenters who are keen to explore the possibilities of experimentation with the ISR. Some of the experimental problems that will require solution if full use is to be made of the ISR when they come into operation are quite daunting and it is very desirable that more people should be involved in thinking about them.

It may be that the first step to start the ball rolling should be a Rutherford Laboratory seminar about experimental problems with ISR. If you thought it appropriate I should be willing to give such a talk as there seems to have been little change in the situation since I worked on these problems some eighteen months ago. When I was at the Rutherford Laboratory a few weeks ago Bill Galbraith expressed some interest and it would be very good if this could be encouraged.

Yours sincerely,

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E.H.S. Burhop

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