

Alfred Baker Fonds

Travel Series

Australia / New Zealand
1987-89

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5095.5
BOX	8
FILE	42

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman



July 31, 1989

Prof. D. StC. Black
Head, School of Chemistry
Department of Organic Chemistry
University of New South Wales
P.O. Box 1
Kensington, New South Wales
Australia 2033

Dear Prof. Black:

I am sorry that a long trip to Europe has delayed my thanking you for your thoughtful and most interesting letter of June 22nd.

I do believe that it will make sense, eventually, to start a Sigma-Aldrich subsidiary to give much better service, both in Australia and New Zealand, and it might well make sense to work closely with Unisearch.

However, our proposed trip to New Zealand never did take place, because the National Gallery of New Zealand changed its plans.

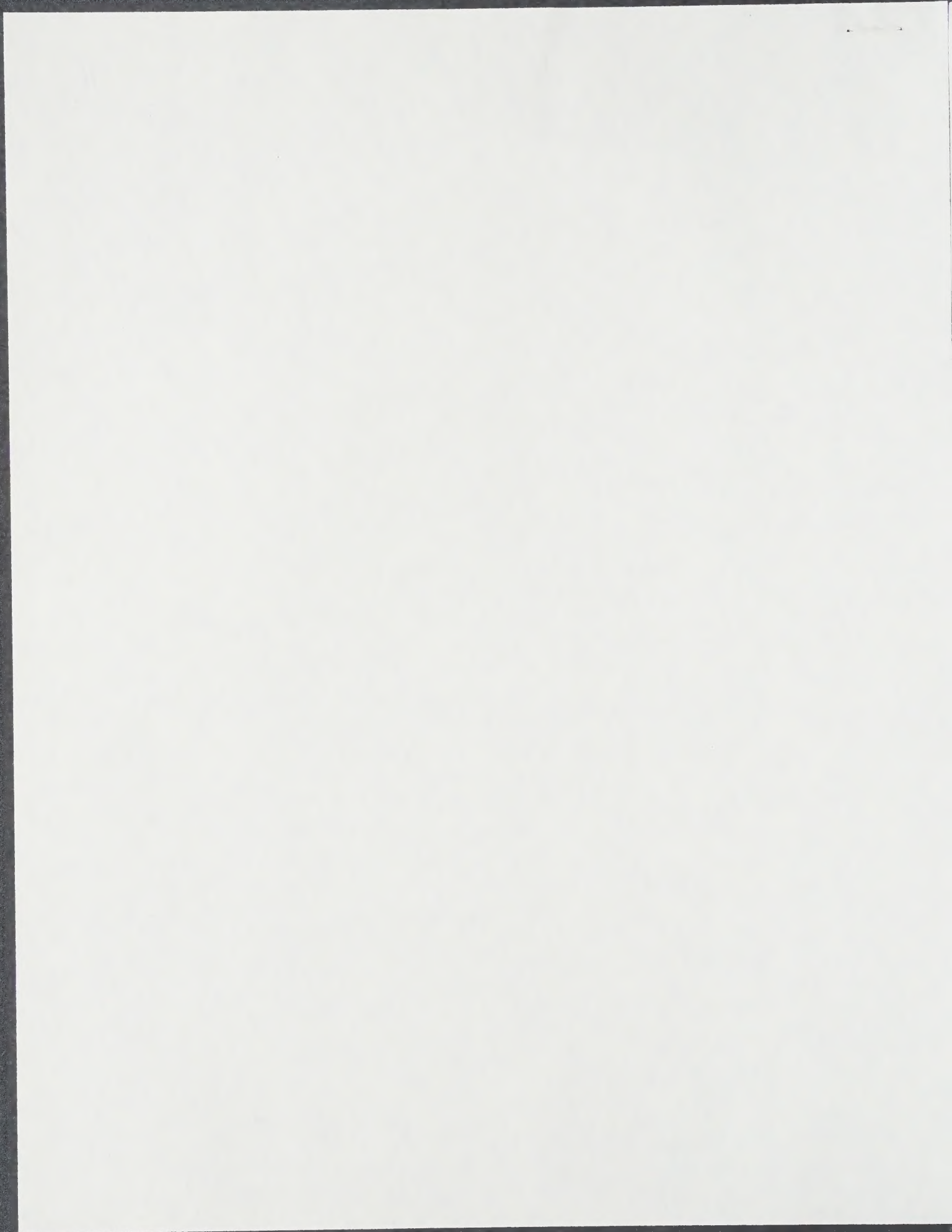
I was most interested in learning about Unisearch. Would it, perhaps, be possible for Unisearch to offer us products which we could purchase. These could be natural products isolated from Australian plants, or research products prepared synthetically in Australia. Could you perhaps discuss this with Unisearch and ask its commercial manager to write to me directly.

The man in charge of our interenational operations is Mr. Peter Gleich, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, and it may well be that he or I will have an opportunity before long to visit Australia. We will then keep your suggestions in mind and will not fail to visit with you.

Best personal regards,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh
cc: Mr. Peter Gleich

SIGMA-ALDRICH



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

P.O. BOX 1 • KENSINGTON • NEW SOUTH WALES • AUSTRALIA • 2033
TELEX AA26054 • TELEGRAPH: UNITECH, SYDNEY • TELEPHONE 697 2222

DIRECT LINE 697 4657
697 4683

PLEASE QUOTE



SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY
D. SIC. BLACK
PROFESSOR OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY
AND HEAD OF SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

22 June 1989

Dr Alfred Bader
Chairman
Sigma-Aldrich
P O Box 355
Milwaukee
Wisconsin 53201
U S A

*Recd Black
6-29-89*

Dear Dr Bader

For some time Dr Andrew Holmes has suggested to me that you would be interested in visiting Australia, both for chemical and art reasons. Unfortunately we seemed to miss out in 1987 when you visited New Zealand. It has taken me a long time to get around to writing because I do not have a concrete proposal and can only make some tentative suggestions. I would be very happy to arrange a formal invitation for you to visit various chosen chemical centres in Australia. In particular, I would be very keen to have you visit UNSW, as we are not only one of the major research centres, but are commercially oriented in an entrepreneurial way.

I understand from several sources, including my former Ph D student Dr Gavin Edwards, now at Imperial College, that you are considering the possibility of establishing an outpost of Sigma-Aldrich in Australia. Perhaps I could tentatively suggest that such an operation could be set up in Sydney (the major commercial centre) with cooperation and collaboration of UNSW. Our University has its own commercial company, Unisearch, which acts as an agent in bringing together academic and commercial interests. Unisearch is very successful and returns profits to the University for further research and scholarly purposes.

It occurs to me that Unisearch could perhaps combine with Aldrich in a venture which would maximise commercial efficiency. Unisearch could provide the local infrastructure and the UNSW School of Chemistry could provide chemical assistance through consulting, contractual or supervising modes. Such an arrangement could be mutually beneficial, requiring minimal outlay on the part of Aldrich, and some income to the School for further research.

/....

Clearly these suggestions are very vague at this stage, but I have received encouraging support from the Manager of Unisearch, Mr Barry Rosenberg, who would be pleased to discuss possible arrangements with you, should you be interested.

Regardless of these suggestions or your response to them, I should welcome a visit by you at a convenient time in the future.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A. Tucker.
for
D. Black.

cc Mr B Rosenberg, Unisearch.

DSB/BR/ 1p



Chemists Helping Chemists in Research and Industry

aldrich chemical company, inc.

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman

December 31, 1987

New Zealand

Dr. Andrew Holmes
Department of Chemistry
Cambridge University
Lensfield Road
Cambridge CB2 1EW, England

Dear Andy:

It is always such a pleasure to be able to chat with you, and I want to thank you for all the time you spent with Isabel and me on December 9th.

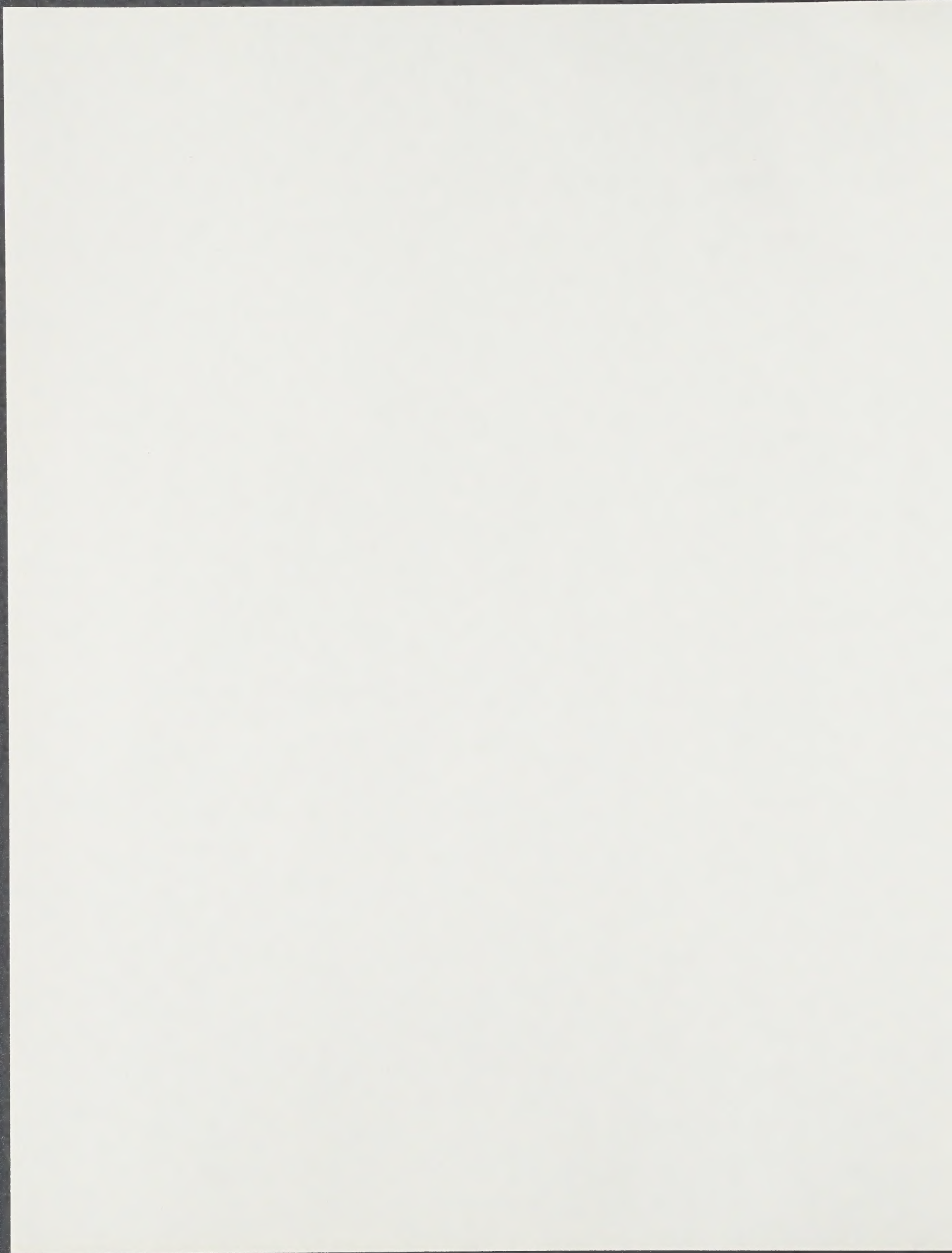
When the time comes when we know just when we will be going to New Zealand, I will write to Prof. Black to inquire about the possibility of a visit to Australia.

Thank you particularly for your important suggestion that we offer tetrabenzyl orthophosphate, which we will certainly try to make.

Best regards to you and your associates, and all good wishes for the New Year.

As always,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh



Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman



October 6, 1987

Dr. Ian J. Miller
Managing Director
Carina Chemical Laboratories Ltd.
P.O. Box 30366
Lower Hutt, New Zealand

Dear Dr. Miller:

I am most interested in your letter of September 16th, and we would very much like to become your customer for all three groups of products.

Please do send me a list of durene derivatives, and of these the amino derivatives will be of greatest interest. May I suggest that you offer us initially 1--10 kilo lots of purities in excess of 97%, and we will place our trial orders with you. Deliveries will not be urgent, and we could live with delivery schedules of three to six months after the placing of the orders.

Regarding natural products, we would also be most interested in receiving lists, particularly of compounds not now commercially available. By commercially available I mean not now listed in the Sigma and Aldrich catalogs. With these natural products I would appreciate your offering us initially 10 to 100 gram lots where the compounds cost several dollars per gram or more, and kilogram lots where these could be available in such quantities at \$200 to \$1000 per kilo.

The same applies to the products of pyrolysis of carbohydrates.

Where these compounds are of main interest to organic chemists, Aldrich will purchase. Where they are of interest only to biochemists, Sigma will place the purchase orders. There are, of course, a good many compounds of interest both to biochemists and organic chemists, and those will be listed both by Sigma and Aldrich. I am taking the liberty of sending copies of our correspondence to Dr. Jobst Vandrey who is in charge of purchasing at Sigma.

My wife and I hope to visit New Zealand in conjunction with an exhibition of our paintings at the National Art Gallery in Wellington, either late in 1989 or in 1990, and we very much hope then to have a chance to meet you personally.

SIGMA-ALDRICH

P.O. Box 355 Milwaukee Wisconsin 53201 USA Telephone (414) 273-3850 Cable Aldrichem TWX 910-262-3052 Telex 26-843

Dr. Ian J. Miller
Carina Chemical Laboratories Ltd.
October 6, 1987
Page Two

Of course, we also hope to have placed a good many purchase orders with you before then.

I much look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh
cc: Dr. Jobst Vandrey

CARINA



CHEMICAL LABORATORIES LTD.

North End
Number 2 Shed
Gracefield Road

P.O. Box 30366
Lower Hutt, New Zealand
Telephone (04) 662-753

cc J.D. 10-6-87

16th September, 1987.

The Purchasing Officer,
Aldrich Chemical Company,
940 West St Paul Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wis. 53233,
USA.

Dear Sir,

Carina is a small privately owned laboratory which was set up to carry out technical work on behalf of two New Zealand companies for two joint ventures between them and ICI. One of these is to develop chemical industries based on durene, which will be obtainable from a new synthetic petrol plant currently operating in New Zealand. Carina has also been carrying out contract synthesis on a small scale in New Zealand, and contract extractions of pharmacologically active natural products.

I am currently carrying out a feasibility study regarding the preparation and supply of certain fine chemicals which could with reasonable prospect be manufactured from New Zealand resources. It would not be my intention to market these independently, but rather through established chemical distributors, and it is for this reason that I am approaching you.

We are considering three groups of chemicals. The first are chemicals based on durene, such as durene diamine, duroquinone, durohydroquinone, etc. In principle we could manufacture a reasonably large variety of durene derived chemicals, although of course price/demand constraints would limit the numbers offered.

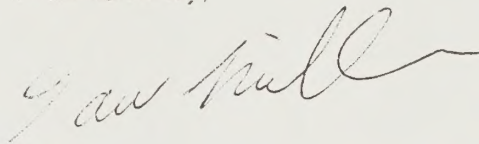
The second group are extractives from New Zealand plants. For example, the literature indicates that chemicals such as ecdysteroids, and a number of other chemicals which are currently very expensive could be produced, while there are a number of other possible materials which are currently not listed anywhere, as far as I know, but which could be supplied, at least in principle, if desired. There are some, such as podocarpic acid, which have been requested by a number of sources from New Zealand laboratories from time to time, and which may be able to be supplied at a reasonable cost.

The third group includes pyrolysis products of carbohydrates. I realize that some, such as levoglucosan are already available, but I feel we may be able to produce such material at a considerably cheaper price. We could also offer some other anhydrosugars which are currently not available, eg levoglucosone. We may also be able to produce a number of other carbohydrate materials derived from seaweed materials, eg agarobiose, agarobitol, etc.

The purpose of this letter is to ascertain whether your company would have any interest in purchasing from us. If so, I would appreciate any information you could provide regarding your company's policy, and I would welcome any questions or suggestions from your point of view. I would be happy to provide further information as best I can, and initially any information from either side could be given without commitment. All information from you would, of course, be treated as confidential.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ian J. Miller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Ian J. Miller, (Dr)
Managing Director