UM UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
Stadium Gate 27
611 Beacon Street S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

December 30, 1981

Fred Starr, Ph.D.
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Tulane University
327 Gibson Hall
New Orleans, LA.   70118

Dear Fred:

I have heard so much about you I have the feeling we have met, but I am
not sure. Our friend Alan Jaffe tells me that you might be able to help
me with a pleasant problem I have for next summer--to put together a
small jazz group in Moscow.

It is to be a very small affair for a group of hundred or so people who are
having a congress on the prevention of heart attack and stroke. It will be
part of the much larger World Congress of Cardiology but will not be an
official function. It has been my custom for years to get together jazz
groups for this small Scientific Council and it has usually been delightful.
The last one was in Toyko in 1978, and we had, of course, the Toyamas.

The Moscow occasion will be in the last days of June, a cocktail hour party,
and we'll probably play only an hour and a half or so, after which the
musicians would be invited to dine with us. There aren't any funds set aside
for this but, of course, I would arrange to pay transportation and "minimum
scale," whatever that might be in Moscow.

If you can give me any leads that I can pursue directly or if you would be
willing to serve as agent interlocutor, I would be most grateful. From my
brief visit there a few years back, I got the impression that Leningrad is
the closet place to find any solid musicians.

I need at least a trombone and rhythm section (I'll play lead on soprano).
However, any conventional arrangement would be fine, if there is a group
which doesn't like to be broken up. It would have to be a group predominately
traditional in orientation.

Please give me a call collect at 612/376-4060 during work hours or at home,
374-9016.

Sincerely,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.   pc: Allan Jaffe
Professor and Director

HEALTH SCIENCES

HB/jml