

6-205 MIT 02139 29March80

Dear Matt:

The story of anthrax in Sverdlovsk is very dis-
tressing to me. If really a BW escape, the light thrown on the
USSR style is grim. If not, the inflammatory tack of our State
Department is equally gloomy. True that pulmonary anthrax is
what one cultivates for BW, but it was by no means unknown in
older times, when there was the English "woolsorters' disease."
I just do not know what other intelligence they have; ~~but~~ the
story credited to ^{our} officials is consistent, but certainly all
circumstantial. What is the outbreak rate in USSR, etc etc.?
Have you an opinion about all this, or would you try to learn
more?

It seems important enough to worry about at least a
little.

yours

P Morrison

Phil