

March 10, 1989

Herbert Marcovich
Institut Pasteur
28, Rue Du Dr Roux,
75724 Paris Cedex 15
FRANCE

Dear Herb:

The *Pasteurella tularensis* and VEE stocks to which I was referring were, of course, those destroyed following the order of President Nixon and in conformity with the 1972 BW Convention.

The *P. tularensis* strain of Soviet origin is that with which vaccines have been made in the U.S. It was provided in the normal scientific fashion by a Soviet institute.

As for Iraq, I have seen newspaper stories that the American Type Culture Collection did send a strain of *P. tularensis* there.

I know of no convincing evidence that any country in the world is attempting to acquire biological weapons. Of course, there could be developments of which I am not aware, but it is important to recognize that this is a topic filled with misinformation and disinformation.

Jeanne and I send you our very best regards.

Sincerely,

Matthew Meselson
Professor of Biochemistry
and Molecular Biology