

To: Professor S.F. Borisov
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From: Prof. M. Meselson
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Dear Professor Borisov,

I have learned from Professor Suetin that you are willing to participate in our forthcoming research in Ekaterinburg and to provide our communication link. I am most grateful for this and look forward to meeting you.

This first e-mail message will serve to verify two-way communication. Could you please confirm its receipt?

Our travel plans now are as follows:

Tuesday 2 June: Arrive Moscow 15:30 local time on Finn Air #704 from Helsinki.

Thursday 4 June: Depart Moscow 10:15 AM on Aeroflot #261.
Arrive Ekaterinburg 12:45 (moscow time).

Sunday 14 June: Depart Ekaterinburg 06:15 (Moscow time)
on Aeroflot #262.
Arrive Moscow 08:45.

Wednesday 17 June: Depart Moscow 16:25 on Finn Air # 705.

In addition to myself, our party will consist of:

Professor Jeanne Guillemin, Department of Sociology, Boston College;

Professor Martin Hugh-Jones, School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana;

Professor David H. Walker, Department of Pathology, University of Texas Medical Branch; Galveston, Texas;

Dr. Alexis Shelokov, Director of Medical Affairs, Salk Institute Government Services Division, San Antonio, Texas; and

Dr. Olga Yampolskaya, Department of Infectious Diseases, Botkina Hospital, Moscow.

Drs. Shelokov and Yampolskaya both speak Russian and English. Professor Guillemin is my wife.

As for accommodations, we are all good travellers and do not need luxury.

An early step to be taken before we arrive is to designate the Ekaterinburg "team" -- two or three colleagues interested in the problem and willing to participate before and especially during our visit. I understand that Drs. Shepetkin and Novozhemov may wish to work with us. At the start of our visit, preferably over dinner on the day we arrive, we should meet with the Ekaterinburg colleagues who will be working with us to get acquainted and to agree on a general plan of study.

It would be good if, before we arrive, our Ekaterinburg colleagues could view the VHS videotape and printed articles that I sent to Professor Gubanov while he was in Illinois.

We would be very grateful if a number of things could be arranged for us in advance. Although we have a tourist map of the city, it may not show all of the streets. Could you obtain for our use a good street map?

At this time, I would also ask if you or your colleagues could contact the following persons before we arrive so that we may meet them during the first part of our visit:

- 1) Professor Arkady I. Korteve, former Director of the Sverdlovsk Medical Institute. He is a distinguished physician whose previous specialties included anthrax. During the outbreak, he worked many days in the intensive care ward at Hospital number 40. Unfortunately, he suffered an aneurism some months ago and may still be in fragile health. Please try to make an appointment for us to consult with him early in our visit. He will surely remember Dr. Olga Yampolskaya, the assistant to Professor Nikiforov, with whom he worked closely. If his health is still not good, he need not see all of us. If at all possible, however, at least Drs. Yampolskaya, Walker, and Shelokov should consult with him. If there are any special medicines he needs, let me know and I will try to bring them. Because of his outstanding reputation, specialized knowledge and extensive direct experience with the patients, meeting with Professor Korteve is a high priority for us.

- 2) Dr. Faina A. Abramova, formerly of the faculty of pathological anatomy of the Sverdlovsk Medical Institute.

- 3) Dr. Lev Grinberg, former assistant of Dr. Abramova and a practicing physician in Ekaterinburg.

- 4) Scientific representatives of the Military Epidemiological Sector knowledgeable regarding the 1979 outbreak. Incidentally, we will also try to come prepared to discuss the potential for possible commercial utilization of the facility, if that is desired.

5) Any individuals who you or your colleagues consider to be truly knowledgeable regarding the medical-pathoanatomical, epidemiological, veterinary or other important aspects of the 1979 outbreak.

At a later time, I will prepare a list of several others who we would like to meet, including survivors and relatives of the deceased.

Cordially,

M. Meselson