

Gumbel

Gumbel #1

21 July 1991

Dear Mr. Gumbel,

I enjoyed talking to you Sunday and am glad you got through to Langmuir and Brachman. You would also be well advised to talk with Dr. James H. Steele, emeritus prof at the School of Public Health of the University of Texas at Houston. He is a vet with a great deal of experience and knowledge about anthrax and much else and has spent considerable time with the Soviet physicians in the US.

I enclose a memo on our conversation and some further comments that may be of use. I will send it to Albrink, Brachman, Langmuir and Steele for their comment which I would be glad to share with you. All of us wish we could come to Sverdlovsk too! After years of asking Soviet permission with no positive response, I see that now we could probably just go. Perhaps next Spring.

I do urge you to see Yampolskaya and Burgasov, in addition to Sergiev who you have already contacted. At the Botkina Hospital (Metro Dinamo) the telephone for Yampolskaya is 945 9958. At home it is 454 9514. The number of the daughter of Burgasov is 227 4185. In Sverdlovsk, the Director of the Sverdlovsk Medical Institute who worked with Nikiforov and Yampolskaya at hospital #40 is A.I. Korteve. He had been ill earlier this year.

In addition to my FAS report, corrected at two places, I enclose two articles, a street map and photocopies from a SPOT photo. One article describes an epidemic of gastrointestinal anthrax in Yaroslavl in 1927 with 27 cases, all of them fatal. The other is a report of two legal proceedings in Sverdlovsk dated July 11 and July 18, 1979 for violation of vet laws.

Do let me know where you will be after Moscow as I wish to continue to follow this matter.

Sincerely,

Matthew Meselson