

## Gumbel #4

Call from Peter Gumbel to me in Woods Hole, ca. 4:00 to 5:00 Saturday Aug 31. Notes typed just afterwards.

He received my Fed Ex with 1979 Burgasov report, Sverdlovsk posters, and news clips but not yet the audio tapes or yesterdays' fax of my notes of our ca 10 August and 17 August conversations. He would like to have the DC and Baltimore tapes, which I will have copied and sent.

He confirms that his inquiries lead him to conclude that Aramil mixes bone-flesh meal (with grain?) and tests it (for bacterial contamination?), but does not actually produce it. The question is whether any Soviet ever said otherwise. Gumbel has found no such Soviet assertion, only my 1988 Public Information Report and press stories that could have been derived from it or from my earlier briefings and memos. See my memo on our 17 August conversation.

During the conversation, Gumbel looked over his information on death dates. The latest he found was 5 May, based on grave marker. I read him the chronology of May and late April admissions from the Burgasov/Bezdenzhnykh/Nikiforov manuscript.

The dates of the illegal butcherings are both given as April 7 in Gumbel's copies of the court records, which he believes to be authentic.

I told Gumbel that he should feel free to quote anything that I have written to him but I requested that he ask me in advance about using any direct quotations from our telephone conversations, to be sure that any such quotation accurately expresses my meaning. He explained that this was not the usual practice but that he would respect my request.

I told Gumbel that the english Cambridge tape has Sergeiv saying that he wrote daily summaries and later a report. Gumbel had not understood Sergeiv to have written a report.

I told him that there was no good basis to speculate that children would be protected by other vaccinations.

I repeated my conclusion that the evidence most strongly supports gastrointestinal and cutaneous, not inhalatory, anthrax, referring to the age and admissions distribution as fixed points. And that although I had less hard information regarding the source of the contaminated food, I had no good reason to doubt the essentials of the account of Bezdenzhnych.

He asked about the dates of the BWC review Conference and if I plan to go.

I again urged him to contact Steele and Lederberg.

After Moscow, he will be posted to Paris, where we might have dinner sometime and review the entire history.