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DATE: 25 August

TO: Dr. Jeanne Guillemain

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FROM: MARTIN HUGH-JONES

DEPARTMENT: ELH

MESSAGE:
I dislike climatology wet labs - so
I am going home. See you / talk on
hand.
Hj.

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25 August, 1992

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Dear Y'all (It sounds even stranger when I say it!),

I think that the time has come for us to have a unified set of rules for who had anthrax in 1979. This will prevent confusions and reduce somewhat any possible later accusations of subjectivity and time-wasting arguments (e.g. "She had to have anthrax. She lived next to the ceramics factory!" "So what! People die!" etc). And it may well be that we will be called upon to one day provide that cleaned up and final list of victims that Burgasov and the enthusiastic KGB prevented.

Cognizant that we are dealing with human beings with names and families but to make it a little easier for us to be objective I am proposing the following set of DRAFT rules or criteria for membership of the SVERDLOVSK ANTHRAX SOCIETY:

FELLOW:

All fellows will have died of anthrax. Proof of this is by one or more of the following minimal conditions being met:

- 1: Name is on the Official List of victims compiled by the KGB.
- 2: Grave with name and death date for April to June, 1979, is in Area #14 of the East Cemetery.
- 3: Individual died during the epidemic, April to June 1979, was autopsied by Abramova, Grinberg or [who was the third pathologist?] and the lesions recorded were of anthrax.
- 3: Person died during the April to June, 1979, period and their death certificate gives "toxic" or "septic" pneumonia as the cause of death.
- 4: Name was circled on the original "H" lists.

MEMBER:

All members were clinically confirmed cases of anthrax and survived, with or without treatment. Proof of this is provided by one or more of the following criteria being met:

- 1: A notation of '022' against their name on contemporary lists or

other documents, e.g. "H" lists; according to M.I. '022' cases were bacteriologically confirmed.

- 2: Individuals identified as culture positive in any authentic and contemporary documents [to be revealed to us].
- 3: Survivors with cutaneous anthrax that can demonstrate the characteristic scar.
- 4: [In the off-chance that further medically documented cases are produced, the medical record for such cases must show a contemporary diagnosis synonymous with anthrax, e.g. positive on serology or skin test.]

ASSOCIATES:

All associates are or were individuals known to have been ill at the appropriate time with signs associated with anthrax (pneumonic, enteric or cutaneous forms) that was not diagnosed as a separate condition; 'signs' are used as an onlooker cannot by definition recall symptoms. The criteria for Associateship include one or more of the following conditions:

- 1: "H" cases suspected by M.I. and colleagues.
- 2: Patient in Hospital #40 for more than three days; David/Alexis ... you might want to change this threshold triage period.
- 3: Persons with acute respiratory distress with high fever and appropriate antibiotic treatment recalled during 1992 interviews either by the individual themselves or by a close friend or relative.

You will note that the evidence is hardest for 'Fellows' and softest for 'Associates'. You may wish to add further criteria. With the above criteria, I think we can now exclude some people from consideration, such as Golasheva, and correctly assign new individuals emerging from the interviews.

Some evidence will have to be provided whenever anyone is proposed for SAS membership. We can then discuss the proper status of any existing individual or new name. We all have copies of the official list, "H" documents, and the autopsy notes?

I would also propose that Alexis be the sole arbitrator of the correct spelling of all Russian/Tartar/etc names. What with contemporary mistakes and multiple entries, present-day typos, and different transliteration systems being used, there is a very real problem of adding confusion to what was not fully resolved in 1979.

Please, let us discuss this matter and not go our separate ways.

Best wishes,


Martin Hugh-Jones