

14 December 1992

Dear Martin,

Thanks for the very useful cross-checks and questions. Here are responses to your two lists:

LIST I

a) Borisov:

1) The Sovremennikov address is from the new official list. I expect to receive a copy of it by the time of my return from California ca. January 4 and will send a copy to you.

2) Yes, Compound 19. You are right to surmise that I have assigned all Compound 19 and 32 residents to workplaces in their respective compounds, without yet knowing whether this is correct in any individual case. I am trying to get detailed information on this, both from Ekaterinburg and from officials in Moscow.

b) See above.

c) Dyedov: The only source of onset date is an interview stating the 9th. The 10th was an error. Thanks for checking my SPOT map placements. They will all be refined and checked to give the final figure.

d) Komelskikh: The early Ilenko list of 5 gives the 9th; the interview gives the 10th.

e) Vyatkin: The 14th is from the death certificate.

Generic question: I too would generally place more reliance on primary hospital records and on the pathologists notes when there is conflict with other sources. Even here, judgement may be needed where there is reason to think that errors may have occurred in transcription, as appears to have occurred for autopsy cases 27 and 28. Also, I have not yet tried, by cross-checks, to analyze the reliability of the early list of 5 obtained from Ilenko. More to the point you raise, I will adopt a uniform criterion in the next edition of the data base summary. This was not done for the present edition.

f) Koshaleva: Yes, Olga's transcript of the pathologist's notes gives a death date one day later than does the grave marker.

g) Markova: No, Olga's notes and the grave marker both say the 17th. Why do you have the 13th?

h) Spirina. I agree that the 14th is more likely.

i) I.V. Makarov: Again, thanks for the map check.

j) Mochalova:

(1) According to the interview, she went back and forth between the apartment of her niece and her apartment in Compound 32.

(2) Pathologist's notes and interview both say she was 68.

(3) There is ambiguity in the interviews here.

LIST II

Moscow: Thanks for the correction.

SPOT map: Again, thanks for the check.

Chernyaeva: Hospital designates the last hospital to which the patient was taken, even if dead. When two hospitals are designated, the second is the last.

Chizova: Cemetery and interview give death date as April 12 but the early list of 5 is gives the 11th. Interview suggests onset on the 10th but the early list of 5, being contemporary, could well be more accurate.

Danilov: Danilov said it was on his left shoulder.

Dayanov: A man, not a woman. **Where does the date of 501 come from?**

Fedulova: My arithmetic error. She was 68, not 78.

Komina: 410 is from the grave marker. According to interview, she worked from midnight to 8 AM.

Korsaev: The interview gave 411.

Kozlova: Yes, I used the grave marker Dex. As mentioned above, I need to decide how to use the list of 5 in data summaries.

Lavrov: No, we have only Olga's notes from Abramova with the street name, no number.

Loginova: Thanks.

Lyakhova: I must confess that I cannot now locate the source of the statement about being home April 1-5. The database entry is attributed A (=Abramova). I have 4 pages of Abramova notes, transcribed by Olga. How many do you have?

Maslennikov: Onset on 411 is from the interview.

Patrushev: The designation ZA means only a definite or probable survivor with indication of anthrax sufficient to justify trying to obtain an interview. The UZPPM workplace is just plain wrong, slipped in from Permyakov!

Podgorbunskikh: Again, ZA is not meant to imply definite 022.

Poleshaev: Good question. Absent information to the contrary, I have drawn the line at 70 to get probable daytime location.

Romanov: Noted, but I have no information yet.

Syskov: Thanks.

Tretnikov: Fabrica TRUD is indeed at 82a Selkorovskaya, behind ceramics where I got out of the car to photograph. Why do you say I have placed TRUD at 114?

Volkova, Vostrikov and Zinatulin: To be refined as discussed above.

Birthdays: noted.

Thanks again.

I sent the revised AGYW manuscript to PNAS last week. Should be out early in the new year.

Best wishes,

Matthew Meselson