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Professor Matthew Meselson
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Dear Professor Meselson:

I hope this letter finds you well. It has been over a year since we last spoke, when we met in your office to discuss your comments on my senior thesis, which dealt with your involvement in the Yellow Rain and Sverdlovsk CBW incidents. Since that time, I have converted the thesis into two articles which I have submitted to be published. I have received a response back for the Sverdlovsk half of the story, which is to appear this fall as "The Anthrax Solution: The Sverdlovsk Incident and the Resolution of a Biological Weapons Controversy," in *The Journal of the History of Biology* 30 (1997). I am writing to you now to send you a copy of the revised manuscript and to ask you for permission to reproduce some material. First of all, I have cited liberally from some documents I found in your files at your office, mostly concerning your trip to the Soviet Union and your meetings with Burgasov et al. I also cite an early interview with you (from 1993) on page 16 of the current manuscript. I also intend to reproduce two figures:

1) Figure 3: Soviet data on the death spread. From the paper in your files by I. S. Bezdeneznyh, P. N. Burgasov, and V. N. Nikiforov, "Epidemiological Analysis of Anthrax Outbreak in Sverdlovsk," (1986): 7.

2) Figure 4: Map of the Sverdlovsk region and the wind-speed data. From Matthew Meselson, Jeanne Guillemin, Martin Hugh-Jones, Alexander Langmuir, Ilona Popova, Alexis Shelokhov, and Olga Yampolskaya, "The Sverdlovsk Anthrax Outbreak of 1979," *Science* 266 (18 November 1994): on 1205 and 1206. (I have already written to *Science* and require your author permission.)

I will, of course, provide proper citations for both the figures and the archival material. Once again, I really appreciate all of the assistance you have given me. I understand that your wife is working on a book about Sverdlovsk. Perhaps she would find this manuscript interesting. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Gordin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Michael Gordin

Enclosure