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From MSM@ISR.HARVARD.EDU

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Dear Sergei, Vladimir and Ilona,

Here are the questions that I spoke with Volodya about just before he left the US. I am writing the comprehensive report of our studies for submission to Nature (both Russian and English editions), but it would help quite a bit to have answers to the following questions. I of course understand that some of them may be impossible or too time-consuming to answer. But I will appreciate whatever you can do.

1) There are four victims we believe went to assemblies in Compounds 32 or 19 in early April. These are: Lozhkin (official list number 60), Nazarov (31), Prokhorov (57) and Vyatkin (11). It is important to know the exact dates when each man was at assembly. This information might define the day or days on which exposure occurred.

Ilona was told by the brother or wife of Nazarov that he was at assembly from April 3 through April 8. That would be Tuesday-Sunday. But memory for dates could be in error. And for the other three men we have no interview information regarding exact assembly dates.

Would it be possible to obtain further information regarding assemblies? There may be two ways to do this. First, additional interviews with family members of the four victims might give more specific information. Second, there may still be records at the local Voenkوماتs. In this regard, we have the following information from Ilona's interviews:

Lozhkin, Mikhail Mikhailovich: He was called to assembly at the same time as Pepeliajev, Vladimir I., who at that time lived at Vikulova 35/2-112. Both men belonged to military detachment 52508. Also, if Pepeliajev could be interviewed, he could be asked about the dates and/or days of the assembly.

Nazarov, Vasilii Mikhailovich: Kirovskiy rayon Voenkomat in Turgenev street.

Prokhorov, Valeriy Petrovich: Dgeleznodorodniy district voenkomat.

Vyatkin, Aleksandr Ivanovich: Chkalovskiy rayon Voenkomat.

2) We need to locate on the map residences and workplaces of the individuals whose addresses on the official list are given as NII 19 or MSD 32. Would it be possible to conduct interviews regarding some of them? Perhaps Mishustina would help. Also, can the map locations of these addresses within the compounds be determined, either from street maps for the compounds, by interview or in any other way?

3) Does ZAGS, SOBES or any other archive keep information regarding workplaces? If so, could we obtain workplaces for the victims for whom we have no interview information regarding workplace? The official list numbers of these cases, including NII44 and MSD32 cases are:

5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 32, 34,  
37, 40, 44, 50, 51, 54, 55, 64, and 66.

For 6 of these 21 persons, we have no date of death. These are numbers 19, 32, 64, 66, 67, and 68. Can these dates be found in archives?

4) Hospital records state that Podgorbunskikh, V.,G. had cutaneous anthrax. His residence was listed there as Gazorezchikov per 45-8. If he can be interviewed, please ask him, in addition to the applicable questions on the interview form (a) what part(s) of his body had cutaneous sores; (b) how he thinks he may have been exposed; (c) when he first noticed the sores and (d) how many other cutaneous cases there were, so far as he knows.

5) From what records or archives was the official list prepared?

6) In 1979, approximately how many persons worked the daytime shift at the:

Ceramics tile shop?

Ceramics pipe shop?

Ceramics factory in total, including the tile and pipe shops?

Rubber factory RTI on Titova?

Mechalonna MEX44 at Selkorovskaya 114?

Elmash

Liftostroya

7) We do not understand why we do not know of any victims who were younger than 24 in 1979. Is there any reason to believe that such young people were greatly under represented among employees of the ceramics pipe and tile shops? Would it be possible to obtain evidence regarding this question from employment records or from interviews?

8) In 1979, approximately how many people resided in Chkalovsky rayon? In Vtorchermet micro-rayon? Approximately what was the age distribution of the male population of Vtorchermet? Of the female population? If there are no age distribution statistics for Vtorchermet, what were the corresponding statistics for Chkalovskiy rayon?

9) Is the "brick factory" the same as UZPPM at Novostroya 1?

10) For Runev, Aleksandr Gennadyevich, the interview of June 28 reports that he worked at the Housing and Communal Services Office of the Synthetic Fibers Plant, later reported to be at Kollektivniy 6. His hospital record states that he worked at Ural SanTechMach, Berezovskiy Uchstk. Are these the same locations? If not where is the later location and which is the correct location?

11) On my map I cannot clearly distinguish addresses in the region where Bisertskaaya becomes Elizavetinskoe Shosse. As a result, I am unsure of the locations of Liftostroytelniy and Sverdlesmash. Please designate their locations with respect to cross streets and transport stops (for example, "one-third the distance from stop Sverdlesmash to stop Novinskaya, on the east side of the street".)

12) The official list gives the residence of Blizniakov(42) as UralNIIskhov. Where is this on the map?

Again, thanks for anything you can do to find answers to the above.

Jeanne and I are expecting to come to Moscow and Ekaterinburg late in August if that is convenient for you. Please let me know if it is.

With very best regards from Jeanne and me,

Matthew.