May 12 1958

Dr. A.B. Sabin
The Children's Hospital Research Foundation
Elland Ave. and Bethesda
Cincinnati 29, Ohio

Dear Albert:

I am in the process of drafting manuscript on "Phlebotomus (Sandfly) fever in the Mediterranean area" to be presented at Lisbon. It was rather a shock to be reminded it should be sent in by the end of the month.

While such a brief paper does not permit more than a casual reference to the literature, there are certain features of your work which I have been unable to find in print and I am asking for help.

First, was the communication which you gave at the 1954 meeting of the Congresses at Istanbul published? The Proceedings of this meeting are not available at Yale. If your communication was included in the proceedings and you have a reprint, I would appreciate having one. As I recall, this communication described the adaptation of the two type strains to mice and to the demonstration of neutralizing antibodies by the use of mouse adapted strains. The only other reference to this I can find is in your Craig lecture (Amer. Jr. Trop. Med. & Hyg., 1955, 4:198).

Second, where was published your work on hemagglutination-inhibition as applied to the papataci viruses? There is no reference to it in the Craig lecture, the last published report that I can find.

For convenience in reference I would also appreciate reprints of the Craig lecture and of the article printed in the Arch. fur Gesante Virosforschung, 1951, 4: 368-410.

I am avoiding any analysis of the recent Russian work by simply stating that the paper, as the title implies, is limited to the Mediterranean theatre. Also, in the preamble am not mentioning Shortt's observations, but in order not to overlook it entirely, may remark in the discussion that he was evidently dealing with an agent different from your strains and our isolates in Egypt. I agree with you that his claims, particularly in view of subsequent developments, leave one in serious doubt on their validity, but it may be undiplomatic to entirely ignore them. What do you think?

Yours sincerely,

R.M. Taylor, M.D.