Dear Dr. Sabin

I am very glad and thank you for your letter of the last year. Excuse me I have lost long time my opportunity to inform you my results on Jap. B Encephalitis Virus in the last year. I am very sorry to know that you suffered from Rift Valley Fever. Immediately after receiving your letter I warned Dr. Ishii that his "K" strain is the same to Rift Valley Fever Virus and it is dangerous to contaminate the laboratory. At the same time I wrote a letter for Dr. Kimura of The Kyoto University that his strains had been identified as true dengue viruses by Dr. Sabin. Also I told Dr. Yaoi that his strain was a fixed rabies virus.

Thanks to Lt.Col. Tigertt I was able to read your two reports of J.B.E. in the quarterly report of Viruses and Rickettsial Disease Commission 1 July, 30 Sept. 1946. Iam surprised that 30 strains of J.B.E. Virus have been recovered by you from different pools of adult mosquitoes, mosquito larvae or larvae and pupae, ticks, cattle lice and hog lice collected in nature. Little is known about the natural source of infection for mosquito. According to my opinion there are two possibilities, (1) hereditary transmission of virus from adult to egg and (2) from the natural reservoir of virus. We indicated some positive results of the transovarial infection of J.B.E. Virus but not clear out because we performed blind passage in J.B.E. virus infected area. In 1946 we tried with failure to reconfirm our former results by no using of the blind passage method. Your results support the first possibility in arthropode phase. In the last winter it could be proven by us that mosquitoes which had been artificially infected last summer still retained the virus in March this year. In other words the virus remains over winter alive in mosquito in nature. The viraemia in so-called normal animals and birds was already reported by us in human being, rat, dog, goat, horse and sparrow but not chronic. In 1946 our experiments were negative to find some animals especially birds showing chronic viraemia with exception of a season bird which showed viraemia 6-7 days long. It is interesting that some will duck suffered from Russian Spring Summer Encephalitis with chronic viraemia.

In last summer we performed neutralization test with the viruses, J.B.E. virus, West Nile Strain, R.B.E. eastern type and western type viruses for various kind of animals and birds. The serum test was drawn from each group which was divided according to age. Development of virulidicine is different among animals and birds. In past few years J.B.E. Virus was distributed very little.

Yesterday I met Dr. Hammon in Th 436 Gen. Lab. I am very glad to see him again to discuss J.B.E. program. He is now planning to vaccinate children next summer.

Please come to Japan and advice how to prevent J.B. E. in Japan.

Your truely

[Signature]

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