Dr. John H. Paul
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769 Howard Avenue
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Dear John:

This is to let you know how much I appreciate the fact that you gave up your Sunday afternoon to meet me in New York for a discussion of many of the problems that will face me during my stay in Tokyo. Needless to say, I shall gain a great deal by the added insight and orientation you have given me.

While the subject matter is still fresh in both our minds, I would like to set down some of the main points of our discussion and the decisions that we reached:

1) It was decided that you would telephone Dr. Andrew Warren of the Rockefeller Research Foundation to determine whether or not he would be in a position to release to us the results of the studies on the control of rice paddy-breeding mosquitoes in Portugal, carried out under the direction of Drs. Cambournac and Hill. In view of the fact that the mosquitoes breeding in rice paddies are likely to be of the greatest importance not only for Japanese encephalitis but also for malaria, and in view of the fact that there seems to be considerable controversy in the headquarters in Tokyo as to what may be regarded as effective and at the same time safe procedure, the results of the studies in Portugal, of which I have had only a verbal report from Dr. Cambournac, may prove to be useful in determining the final policy. It is understood that Mr. Gray, the sanitary engineer of our commission, will be charged with the task of advising on the control of mosquito breeding at the policy level. My function in this, perhaps may be limited to indicating the areas which should be given the highest priority from the point of view of Japanese B encephalitis. Since Mr. Gray is not an entomologist, we have decided that it will be necessary for me to obtain help in the theater in the work designed to elucidate the problem of which mosquitoes are vectors and which are not.

2) You expressed your desire and determination that the virus commission laboratory continue in Japan after the departure of the present commission late in August or early in September. At the present time we have only one candidate for this job, namely, Lt. M. M. Segel, Sn.C., at present in charge of the bacteriology, virology and serology sections of the 5th Service Command Laboratory, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. He is
26 years of age, has had 30 months of active duty, expects to be separated from the Army within about a month and is willing to go to Japan for this job in civilian capacity for at least a year. I have interviewed him during the last week, and although I would not think that he was the best person to be in charge of the virus commission laboratory in Japan, I think that he might nevertheless be given that job if no one better than he is available. I may say that his chief experience has been in the field of influenza, and he has rendered successful service to the 5th Service Command and contiguous areas by making an early diagnosis of an impending Type B influenza outbreak. It was my understanding that he would go as a civil service employee, paid from funds available to Col. Same. Since he has no experience with the neurotropic viruses, it would be necessary for him to arrive on or about August 1, so that continuity may be established and also that he may receive a certain amount of training from me. I expect that he would be useful in Japan not only to continue certain long term studies on encephalitis but also to be helpful in the identification of outbreaks of influenza.

3) We agreed that the following should be the main activities of the virus commission during my stay in Japan:
   a) Consultation regarding the control of Japanese encephalitis and laboratory help in the diagnosis of the disease.
   b) Elucidation of various epidemiological factors such as mosquito vectors, ectoparasite reservoirs, human and other vertebrate hosts, etc.
   c) If at all possible, a controlled vaccination experiment on British troops, if it is agreeable to them, or in the civilian population.
   d) Elucidation of the etiology of certain other virus diseases of importance in Japan.

I very much appreciate your kindness in offering to add a footnote to my paper, indicating some of the advances made by Japanese scientists in the study of Japanese encephalitis in recent years which is available either only in Japanese publications or in unpublished communications. After I have had an opportunity to discuss my paper with Dr. Hammon in San Francisco, I will write to let you know whether or not any changes or modifications should be made as a result of our discussion. Following that, I would appreciate it very much if you could send the paper along on its way through the usual channels for publication.

With many thanks and best wishes,

As ever,

Albert E. Sabin, M.D.

ABE:
cc: Brig. Gen. S. Dayne-Jones
    Dr. Francis G. Blake
    Dr. Wm. McI. Hammon