Dr. Albert B. Sabin  
Children's Hospital Research Foundation  
Elland and Bethesda Avenues  
Cincinnati, Ohio  

Dear Albert:

A while ago I had an inquiry from the Canal Zone Health Bureau as to our availability to assist with the serological testing of paired sera collected from a statistically significant sample of the Canal Zone residents in case your vaccine strains are administered on a mass campaign basis. Because of heavy commitments to several going research projects I had some immediate reservations; at this point it was mentioned that actually you had offered the alternative of using the vaccine manufacturers' laboratories for this important phase of the vaccination project.

I expressed my immediate preparadness to assist in the appropriate processing and shipment of the sera for testing but asked for time to check on whether some of my friends at NIH, involved in routine large-scale testing of sera for poliomyelitis antibodies, might be in a position to help out. I have just heard from NIH to the effect that everyone is heavily committed during the forthcoming months with other polio work and therefore I am informing the Canal Zone Health Bureau that they should explore the possibility of using the commercial companies facilities as you had suggested in the first place.

The main purpose of this note really is to say that I hope that the vaccine will be used in the Canal Zone which I understand will then bring you to Panama to assure that the program is properly set up. If this occurs, I certainly am looking forward to your visit with us in the laboratories and in our home to become reacquainted and to discuss the many problems of common interest.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely,

Alexis Shelokov, M.D.  
Director