January 23, 1956.

Dr. James H. Hale,
Department of Bacteriology,
University of Malaya,
Singapore 3, Malaya.

Dear Dr. Hale:

I regret very much to have delayed so long in sending you the Sicilian and Naples strains of Sandfly Fever Virus, which you requested. Under separate cover I am sending you today 1 ampule of the Sicilian strain of sandfly fever virus, mouse passage 35, 10% brain in 50% normal rabbit serum, 0.5 ml lyophilized 8-31-54. The ampule of Naples virus represents mouse passage 50, 10% brain in 50% normal rabbit serum, 0.5 ml, lyophilized 9-7-54. Both strains should be passaged intracerebrally in 1 to 3-day old suckling mice. However, both of these strains now are suitable for intracerebral ascensions, in 8 to 10 gram and even larger mice; the titer being only about 0.7 logs lower than in suckling mice.

I regret that the detailed studies on these viruses have not as yet been written up, but you will find the basic data summarized in a paper of mine which was published in the March, 1955 issue of the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Sincerely yours,

ABS/meg

Albert B. Sabin, M. D.

Copy to be enclosed in package.