Dear Dr. Sabin,

Many thanks for your letter of November 15 and your interesting comments on the mass oral polio vaccine campaign in Belgium. The cases clinically reported as poliomyelitis are investigated by a special department of the Ministry of Health, clinically as well as virologically. Until now, I have not been able to collect the complete data about the cases reported since the beginning of the campaign. However, from the preliminary data it would appear that the low percentage of vaccination did not prevent some dissemination of virulent strains into the community, as you suggested in your letter. It might interest you to know that not a single case of poliomyelitis was reported among the vaccinated.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. Prinzie, M.D.