TO: Drs. T. E. Boyd
    Gilbert Dalldorf
    John F. Enders
    W. McD. Hammon

If Dr. Wenner cannot be present I would agree that the meeting on April 19 had better be postponed, perhaps until the fall.

In regard to the new ECHO antisera (Types 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25), I believe there should be at least a limited amount of re-checking by other members of the Committee before any standardized sera are released for general use. The minimal amount of check-testing that should be done in other laboratories would be:

(1) Wenner's serum should be titrated against the prototype strain using a lot of virus prepared in the laboratory in which the strain was isolated.

(2) Aliquots of Wenner's virus stocks 20-25, which he has used to immunize the monkeys and presumably uses for doing his neutralization tests, should be tested against sera prepared in the laboratory of the original investigators proposing the strain.

Investigators responsible for ECHO viruses 20 and 25 are Rosen and Huebner; for 21, Enders and Kibnick; for 22 and 24, Sabin.

If any of these people are unable to carry out this amount of work, we would be willing to do it here if they would send us the required viruses and antisera. I believe that the enterovirus field was saved from a good deal of confusion because of the time and effort which we spent on cross-checking and standardizing of the earlier strains and antisera. With the much larger number of strains now known, I do not feel that this effort should be abandoned.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Joseph L. Melnick

JLM: ash