Dear Joe:

I have just gotten back in town and find a copy of your letter of April 19 addressed to Dr. Rasm on the subject of the MBA antisera. I note you have asked for my comments.

Since I don't have all the background of previous correspondence with MBA, I cannot be too sure about some things but in general all of your suggestions appear to be O.K. insofar as I can determine. However, there are a few points I would like to raise questions concerning.

In paragraph 5 beginning on the bottom of the first page, is the we referred to all members of the Committee who have contributed virus? As far as our laboratory is concerned the tests have already been made and a few more than we have been asked to make. We will send the results on these very shortly.

In respect to the normal rabbit sera pools, it seems to me that there might be some advantage in pooling all of these rabbit sera so as to have an idea as to the antibody experience of the rabbits that MBA uses. However, this could not be applied to rabbits in general and therefore I wonder as to the usefulness of all of these tests against all of the different viruses. Furthermore by pooling all of these normal rabbit sera the original purpose of having pre-immunization sera for each of these specific types would be lost. As I recall it, we felt that these pre-immunization sera would only be needed on rare occasions but on these occasions would be important. If they had been pooled, they would no longer be available as a background picture on the particular rabbit making that particular serum.

I am glad that our serum and antiserum arrived in your hands in good shape and we shall look forward with interest to the results which you have obtained.

Very sincerely yours,

W. McD. Hammon, M. D.

WMH/co
cc: KBRC Virus Committee Members
    Dr. Rasm