

August 2, 1949

Dr. Ricardo Vazquez-Gamboa  
Boedo 248  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dear Ricardo:

It is very difficult indeed for me to write this letter, because you are such a nice person, and it is difficult to have to say unpleasant things to one like yourself. You can imagine my disappointment when your cable arrived this morning, indicating that you could not return before my departure. At first, I expected you on July 12, then on August 1, and now it would appear that things are still indefinite. I realize that you must be having a good deal of difficulty making the necessary arrangements at home -- otherwise, you would undoubtedly have been here on July 12, as you promised. If we could have discussed in great detail the work to be done this summer, then I would not have hesitated to have you carry it on during my absence. This type of work cannot be done as if by machine and too much is involved in the proposed monkey work that I had in mind for this summer to have it carried out without such consultation. Since your departure, Dr. Buescher has come here to work and a rather large experiment is now in progress in mice testing the effects of the newly prepared isoplasmocid given in the diet and simultaneously, also, pentaquine.

I must confess that as much as I would like to have you <sup>here</sup> I am not certain that it is either to your own best interests or in the best interests of the work for you to return here. Obviously, you are having a good deal of difficulty at home, and I must have someone associated with me in this work upon whom I can rely for a longer period. I would suggest that you consider carefully the advisability of your returning here. I would say that if coming back here means a great deal to you personally and if that is what you want to do more than anything else, then come back and we shall work things out. Otherwise, it may be better for you and for me if you could plan for your future activities in another way.

We are leaving Cincinnati tomorrow, August 3, and if you wish to write to me, air mail, your letters might reach me at the following places during the following periods:

August 14 - August 19 -- care of The Grand Hotel, Stockholm Sweden

August 20 - August 26 -- care of the Hotel D'Angleterre, Copenhagen, Denmark

September 2 - September 9 -- care of the Hotel Lutetia, 43 Boulevard Raspail,  
Paris, France

September 10 - September 20 -- care of Berners Hotel, Berners Street, London,  
England

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I would suggest that you send a carbon copy of any letter that you write to Cincinnati just in case it should miss me in Europe.

I was not quite clear what you meant in your cable when you said "appreciate urgent cable magazine and publication date our B paper DeRobertis." If by this you refer to the paper that DeRobertis might write on the work with the B virus, the material for which we sent him, I have no idea what his plans for publication are, and it was certainly not my intention that we would be co-authors on that paper. It is my view that we supplied the material to Dr. DeRobertis as a courtesy to a colleague. Furthermore, I am not in agreement with the interpretations that Dr. DeRobertis puts on the electron microscope photographs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for Sylvia and myself for the exquisite piece of Doulton china that you so kindly sent us before your departure. We have it in a place where we see it all the time, and it will always remind us of our pleasant association with you. Perhaps I should also take this occasion to mention an inexplicable letter that Mrs. Sabin got from Saks-Fifth Avenue. This letter stated that she had a credit in the store in New York for something like seventeen dollars, with reference to a certain blouse about which she seems to know nothing. However, in view of the fact that Miss Clark was the recipient of so beautiful a blouse from Saks-Fifth Avenue, it is possible that some misunderstanding was created at the store by your activities, and that they owe you something like seventeen dollars. Accordingly, we shall write to Saks-Fifth Avenue and tell them that the money is probably yours, and that they should send you a check for it.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Albert B. Sabin, M.D.

ABS:mjc