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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

4 October 2017

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.



Reference: F-2017-00026

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

In the course of processing your 13 September 2016 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to the **1968 Dugway Sheep Incident**, the Defense Intelligence Agency located two documents and referred them to us on 27 September 2016 for review and direct response to you.

We have reviewed the enclosed documents, which we determined can be released to you in their entirety.

If you have questions regarding our response, you may seek assistance from CIA's FOIA Public Liaison. You may reach the FOIA Public Liaison at:

703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Fong".

Allison Fong
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX958 MCN = 90243/46334 TOR = 902432222
RTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1705 2432223-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R
312223Z AUG 90
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
R
312114Z AUG 90
FM FBIS RESTON VA

TO RUDKMBK/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC//
RUDKFV/FBIS VIENNA AU
RUEBHAA/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA
RUEOACC/CDR PSYOPGR FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
RUEKJCS/DEFINTAGENCY WASH DC
RUDMNOP/NAVOPINTCEN SUITLAND MD
RUFHVOA/VOA MUNICH GE
ACCT FBWA-EWDK
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS 3P

SERIAL: WA3108211790

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

PASS: ATTN BBC PRESS
ATTN 90SV0013A
COPY TO UD

COUNTRY: USSR
SUBJ: TAKE 1 OF 4--BACTERIOLOGICAL ACCIDENT IN 1979 SUSPECTED

SOURCE: MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34, 22
AUG 90 P
12
TEXT:

// (ARTICLE BY NATALYA ZENOVA, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA SPECIAL

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CORRESPONDENT FOR THE URALS: "MILITARY SECRET: REASONS FOR THE TRAGEDY IN SVERDLOVSK MUST BE INVESTIGATED"; ELEMENTS IN SLANTLINES PRINTED IN BOLDFACE))

((TEXT)) "IN THE SPRING OF 1968 IN THE AMERICAN STATE OF UTAH... NOT FAR FROM THE MILITARY EXPERIMENTATION CENTER FOR CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AT DUGWAY, 6,400 SHEEP SUDDENLY DROPPED DEAD.

"MILITARY OFFICIALS DENIED ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THIS EVENT, MAINTAINING AN INNOCENT AIR OVER THE COURSE OF EIGHT MONTHS. UNDER THE PRESSURE OF EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, THEY WERE FORCED TO ACKNOWLEDGE 'A SLIGHT MISTAKE' COMMITTED WHILE TESTING A NEW VARIETY OF WEAPON.

"WIND DIRECTION CHANGED UNEXPECTEDLY,' AN ARMY REPRESENTATIVE STATED, EXPLAINING THAT THE SHEEP HAD ENTERED A LETHAL CLOUD.

"AND WHAT IF THE WIND HAD CARRIED IT IN THE OTHER DIRECTION?' A CORRESPONDENT ASKED. 'THERE COULD BE A CITY THERE!'"

THUS BEGINS A FRIGHTENING FANTASY CONCERNING THE DESTINY OF A FICTITIOUS CITY WRITTEN BY AMERICAN AUTHOR HENRY SATTON. A TRANSLATION OF HIS NOVEL "THUNDER AMIDST CLEAR SKIES" (AMERICAN TITLE--"VECTOR") WAS PUBLISHED BY NASH SOVREMENNİK IN 1977.

YES, THERE COULD BE A CITY THERE ((SUBHEAD))

MAGAZINE BOOK EXCERPTS LIE ON MY DESK, READ AND REREAD WITH PENCIL IN HAND... BUT NOT AT ALL BECAUSE THE NOVEL STAGGERS WITH ITS ARTISTIC SOPHISTICATION--IT LOOKS ADEQUATE FROM THAT POINT OF VIEW, BUT NO BETTER THAN THAT. AND IN NO WAY FOR THE REASON THE EDITORS HAD HOPED FOR, PREDICTING THAT THE NOVEL "WILL ATTRACT THE SOVIET READER'S ATTENTION BY ITS ANTIMILITARIST ORIENTATION," OR THAT IT "TRUTHFULLY REVEALS THE INHUMANITY OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX..."

FOR ME "THUNDER AMIDST CLEAR SKIES" IS NOT SIMPLY A MENACING FUTURISTIC WARNING. AND THE DESTRUCTION OF ITS HEROES IS NOT JUST THE DEATH OF LITERARY CHARACTERS. THE NOVEL DIRECTS MY THOUGHTS FAR FROM "THERE"; ON THE CONTRARY, IT RIVETS THEM TO SOMETHING THAT OCCURRED "HERE."

...AT THAT TIME TOO IT WAS SPRING. AND PEOPLE ALSO FELL SICK FOR UNEXPLAINED REASONS. AND THEY TOO DIED IN TORMENT. AND EVEN THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS WAS ABOUT THE SAME.

YES, I AM TODAY FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT IN THE SPRING OF 1979, A DEADLY CLOUD AROSE OVER OUR MILITARY CENTER AND THE WIND CARRIED IT PRECISELY IN THE DIRECTION WHERE NOT ONLY "THERE COULD BE A CITY," BUT WHERE MY NATIVE SVERDLOVSK /WAS./

UNDERSTANDING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SUCH A STATEMENT, I CANNOT WASTE NEWSPAPER SPACE ON EMOTION--I NEED TO USE IT FOR PROOF. FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO EXPERIENCE PSYCHOLOGICALLY EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, I REFER TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED NOVEL OF H. SATTON--EVERYTHING THERE IS "ONE TO ONE," AS MANY OF THE PEOPLE FROM MY REGION BELIEVE.

AND SO, IT WAS APRIL OF 1979. AT FIRST RUMORS BEGAN TO SPREAD OF SUDDEN DEATHS--"MEDICINE DOESN'T HELP AT ALL!" THEN--CONVERSATIONS CONCERNING SOME OLD WOMAN WHO SOLD THE MEAT OF EITHER A SHEEP OR COW

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THAT HAD FALLEN DEAD, ABOUT A DUG-UP CATTLE BURIAL GROUND. AT THE SAME TIME WARNINGS APPEARED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS: CATTLE IN THE URALS HAVE BEEN WEAKENED BY THE DIFFICULT WINTER. THEY ARE PRONE TO INFECTION AND THEREFORE IT IS POSSIBLE--YOU WILL NOTE, JUST POSSIBLE!--THAT THERE WILL BE INCIDENTS OF MALIGNANT ANTHRAX INFECTION. AND NOT A WORD HERE REGARDING OUTBREAKS OF SICKNESS OF ANY KIND AMONG ANIMALS OR PEOPLE.

BUT PEOPLE WERE DYING. PRIMARILY MEN OF HEALTHY AGE, AND BASICALLY FROM THE SAME AREA. AND THE AREA WAS A VERY SUSPICIOUS ONE--CHKALOVSKIY--WHERE THE SO-CALLED 19TH MILITARY INSTALLATION IS LOCATED. WHAT WAS GOING ON INSIDE THE ENTRY GATE OF THIS CLOSED STATION ALONG THE SVERDLOVSK CITY LINE NO ONE HAD A RIGHT TO KNOW; BUT THERE WERE MANY, OF COURSE, WHO KNEW. IN ANY CASE THEY KNEW BACTERIOLOGISTS WERE WORKING THERE. THAT IS WHY, AS SOON AS THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE CENTER WAS REVEALED, THERE WAS AN IMMEDIATE DROP IN INTEREST SHOWN IN THE OLD WOMAN WITH THE SHEEP AND PRECAUTIONARY NOTICES REGARDING MEAT. AND SOMEONE ELSE HEARD "A VOICE FROM OVER THE KNOLL" TELLING OF A "BACTERIOLOGICAL EXPLOSION" IN SVERDLOVSK. SOME PEOPLE SAW WITH THEIR OWN EYES HOW IN CHKALOVSKIY RAYON THEY WERE WASHING DOWN THE SIDEWALKS, ROADS, AND ROOFS WITH SOAP, REMOVING THE TOPMOST SOIL LAYER, RUSHING TO PUT DOWN ASPHALT IN PLACES WHERE ASPHALT HAD NEVER BEEN. IT WAS ALSO NOTICED THAT PEOPLE IN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING WERE TAKING SOME KIND OF SAMPLES NEAR THE INSTALLATION...

A PANIC GREW....

I ADMIT, NONE OF US LOCAL JOURNALISTS RUSHED OUT TO THE RAMPARTS AT THAT TIME. I REMEMBER WELL HOW AT VECHERKA WHERE I WORKED, THE TELEPHONE SUDDENLY BEGAN TO RING WITH ITS DESPERATE, INTERCITY RING, AND OUR OFFICIAL SECRETARY, ALTERNATELY TURNING RED AND GROWING PALE, JUMPED OUT INTO THE CORRIDOR. AT THIS THE ENTIRE EDITORIAL STAFF GATHERED BY THE DOORS, GAZING WITH HORROR AT THE INSTRUMENT BY WHICH A CORRESPONDENT FROM SOME AMERICAN NEWSPAPER HAD JUST GOTTEN THROUGH TO OUR CLOSED CITY. THE TELEPHONE RANG AGAIN, AND THE MOST DESPAIRING AMONG US WARILY TOOK THE PHONE AND SAID, MURDERING THE LANGUAGE: "ALO, WHO'SIS? WELL, AIN'T NO ONE HERE..."

LATER EVERYTHING CALMED DOWN. AND FOR MANY YEARS NO ONE DUG UP THIS BURIAL GROUND OF OBLIVION... BUT PEOPLE REMAINED, WITNESSES OF WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE, AND PRIMARILY--DOCTORS.

DOCTORS' TESTIMONY ((SUBHEAD))

/N. BEZRUKOV, ANESTHESIOLOGIST, HOSPITAL NO. 20/

"I WAS IN CHARGE OF A RESUSCITATION DIVISION. SUDDENLY SICK PEOPLE STARTED COMING IN ONE AFTER ANOTHER DIAGNOSED WITH 'PNEUMONIA.' WHEN FIVE OR SIX OF THEM HAD AMASSED, ALL WITH THE SAME CLINICAL PICTURE AND SPEED OF DEPARTURE--TO THE MORGUE, WE BEGAN TO SUSPECT SOME KIND OF ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS INFECTION. YOU UNDERSTAND, THE SYMPTOMS WERE UNLIKE THOSE OF PNEUMONIA--EVERYTHING FLARED UP INSTANTANEOUSLY AND WENT TO EMPHYSEMA. THE PATIENTS DIED ON AN ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATOR, RECEIVING TREMENDOUS DOSES OF MEDICINE.

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/***** BEGINNING OF TAKE 002 *****/

REF: WA3108211790 MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34,
22 AUG 90 P 12 ///DOSES OF MEDICINE.SOURCE: MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34, 22 AUG 90 P
12

TEXT:

"THEN A CULTURE ARRIVED FROM OUR LABORATORY--PROBABLY MALIGNANT ANTHRAX, BUT NOT ABSOLUTELY FOR CERTAIN... WHAT STRUCK US? THE BATCH WAS PAINFULLY THE SAME--MEN SOMEWHERE AROUND FORTY, ALTHOUGH TWO WOMEN ALSO DIED.

"AND HOW WERE THEY BURIED? IN THE CITY THERE WAS TALK OF LEAD CASKETS....

"THE FIRST SIX WERE BURIED IN THE USUAL MANNER--AFTER ALL, WE DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT DIAGNOSIS YET AND WROTE 'BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA.' THE LAST SIX WENT AS 'MALIGNANT ANTHRAX.' THERE WERE NO LEAD CASKETS--THE COFFINS WERE COATED WITH TAR, BLACK.

"NOW WE WAITED--EXPECTING SYMPTOMS TO APPEAR VERY SOON IN OURSELVES. AFTER ALL, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE INFECTION WAS SPREAD BY AIRBORNE PARTICLES. WE DECIDED TO STAY HERE SO AS NOT TO TAKE THE CONTAMINATION HOME. AND EVERYONE STAYED--ALL THE DOCTORS, ALL THE NURSES... THERE WAS EVEN A PREGNANT ONE WHO NEVER LEFT HER POST. THE DAYS PASSED--NO ONE CAME DOWN WITH ANY SYMPTOMS."

"AND WHAT CONCLUSION DID YOU ARRIVE AT?"

"THAT GENETIC ENGINEERING WAS AT WORK HERE, CREATING SUCH EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE BACTERIA THAT WOULD SELECTIVELY STRIKE RESIDENTS OF A CERTAIN AGE, CAPABLE OF CARRYING A WEAPON. AND NO ONE WAS BEING CONTAMINATED BY CONTACT. TO THIS DAY WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF CARRIER IT WAS, BY WHAT MEANS CONTAMINATION OCCURRED. IF IT WERE THE ESOPHAGUS, FAMILY MEMBERS WOULD COME DOWN WITH IT. IF IT WERE AIRBORNE PARTICLES, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTAMINATED."
/N.A., DOCTOR/

"I AM NOT A MICROBIOLOGIST, OF COURSE, BUT IN MY OPINION WE WERE DEALING WITH SOME KIND OF ANTHRAX APPARENTLY MIXED WITH PLAGUE. THE PROPERTIES WERE SIMILAR TO BOTH. AND THEY WERE DEAD-END PROPERTIES--IT WAS NOT PASSED ON ANY FURTHER BY AN INDIVIDUAL IT HAD STRUCK. ONE MUST GIVE IT ITS DUE--IT WAS AN ASTOUNDING THING. IT STRUCK PRECISELY THOSE PEOPLE WHO WERE NEEDED."

"WHAT WAS THIS THING THEN IN SVERDLOVSK?"

"THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT--WHAT WE HAD WAS WASTE FROM A BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPON."

"YOU WERE AT HOSPITAL NO. 40 AT THAT TIME?"

"FIRST I WAS AT NO. 20, THEN NO. 40 AS A MEMBER OF AN EMERGENCY ANTI-EPIDEMIC COMMISSION. EVERYTHING BEGAN DURING MY WATCH. FIRST I HAD THREE PEOPLE DIE. THE SAME THING CONTINUED A SECOND DAY... THEN WE STARTED SOUL-SEARCHING AND CONSULTING OUR LEADING EXPERTS... THEY TOOK A CULTURE. LABORATORY RESULTS LED US TO THE IDEA THAT

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CLEARLY SOMETHING WAS WRONG HERE. THEN WE TOOK A MAP OF THE AREA, WIND ROSE ((ROZA VETROV)), LOOKED AND SAW THAT THEY WERE ALL TAKEN FROM THE SAME PLACE ((SENTENCE AS PUBLISHED)). FROM HERE ONE DIDN'T HAVE TO BE A GENIUS--EVERYONE KNOWS WE HAVE THE 19TH MILITARY INSTALLATION.

"THEN CAME CIVILIAN PEOPLE, MILITARY PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH I WAS ON THE EMERGENCY EPIDEMIC COMMISSION, WE HAD NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER. WHEN WE STARTED TO ASK QUESTIONS, THEY LET US KNOW VERY POLITELY, BUT VERY FIRMLY, THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO BE SILENT. I WAS ESPECIALLY STRUCK BY A PROFESSOR FROM MOSCOW. HE WAS AN EXPERT, OF COURSE, AND HAD A VERY FINE MANNER OF SPEAKING, BUT IT IS SIMPLY AMAZING HOW HE WAS ABLE TO CONCOCT SUCH NONSENSE--TO TALK SO PRETTILY AT LENGTH ABOUT NOTHING."

"DO YOU HAVE ANY FIGURES TO OPERATE WITH?"

"NO. I CAN ONLY SAY THAT ABOUT 500 BEDS WERE PREPARED FOR HOSPITALIZATION."

"AND HOW DO YOU RELATE TO HOW CLOSED WE ARE ON THIS SUBJECT?"

"WHAT DO WE HAVE, WHAT DO WE NOT HAVE... EVERYONE PREFERS TO REMAIN SILENT CONCERNING BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. IT IS INDECENT TO TALK ABOUT THIS IN DECENT SOCIETY."

/B. ZISLIN, DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, CHIEF ANESTHESIOLOGIST OF THE REGION/

"AT THAT TIME I WAS CONSULTING IN THE INTENSIVE CARE DEPARTMENT OF HOSPITAL NO. 20. I SAW SEVERAL PATIENTS AT THE SAME TIME WITH THE SAME SYMPTOMS, AND I WAS CONVINCED THAT THIS WAS A SERIOUS CONTAGION WITH WHICH I WAS UNFAMILIAR. IT IMMEDIATELY AFFECTS ALL THE ORGANS--THE LUNGS, THE BRAIN, AND THE KIDNEYS..."

"AND DID THE PEOPLE DIE QUICKLY?"

"ONE WOMAN WAS A LITTLE BETTER OFF AND STILL CONSCIOUS. SHE TOLD ME THAT EVERYTHING BEGAN WITH A FEVERISH CHILL, AND THAT SOON SHE WAS SHORT OF BREATH. THEY QUICKLY PUT HER ON ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION TOO AND, LIKE THE OTHERS, SHE DIED. I FOUND THIS SUSPICIOUS. I IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONED THE REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT. I REQUESTED THAT THE MILITARY REVEAL WHETHER THIS WAS THEIR DOING. A HALF HOUR LATER THEY CALLED ME AND SAID THAT EVERYTHING WAS FINE WITH THE MILITARY..."

"SEVERAL YEARS HAVE PASSED... WHAT IS YOUR OPINION TODAY?"

"THEY WERE OBLIGATED TO SPEAK UP. SECRETS ARE SECRETS, BUT I BELIEVE THAT MORE THAN 70 PEOPLE DIED... PERHAPS THEY MANAGED TO SAVE SOME OF THEM."

"BUT LET US SUPPOSE, GOD FORBID OF COURSE, THAT SOMETHING SIMILAR HAPPENS AGAIN. HOW WILL YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES REACT?"

"IF I SEE SOMETHING LIKE THAT AGAIN, I WILL FIND OUT..."

"IF IT IS SOMETHING LIKE THAT. BUT MIGHT YOU SEE SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT?"

"I DO NOT THINK SO. BUT IF... I SUPPOSE THAT THE MILITARY PEOPLE WILL NOT HIDE IT IN THE FUTURE. THEY DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT!"

AN OPEN SECRET ((SUBHEAD))

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"THEY DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT!"...
BACK THEN THE MILITARY DENIED EVERYTHING. AND NOW?

/***** BEGINNING OF TAKE 003 *****/
REF: WA3108211790 MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34,
22 AUG 90 P 12 ///EVERYTHING. AND NOW?

SOURCE: MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34, 22 AUG 90 P
12
TEXT:

THIS SPRING, THE ARTICLE "19TH INSTALLATION" WAS PUBLISHED IN THE
OBLAST NEWSPAPER URALSKIY RABOCHIY. IT BROUGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN
THE MILITARY POINT OF VIEW ON THE EVENTS OF 1979. JOURNALIST S.
PLOTNIKOV VISITED THAT INSTALLATION TOGETHER WITH MEMBERS OF A
REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATION. THIS SPARED ME THE TROUBLE OF FOLLOWING
THAT SAME TRAIL AND ASKING THOSE SAME QUESTIONS. INCIDENTALLY, I
HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE "STIR" AROUND THE LONG-BURIED
SUBJECT BEGAN AFTER THE INTEREST SHOWN IN IT ON THE PART OF THE
LITERATURNAYA GAZETA CORRESPONDENT. BUT THAT IS OFF THE SUBJECT.

THE ARTICLE TALKS ABOUT THE VISIT TO THE MILITARY INSTALLATION
OR, MORE ACCURATELY, THE MILITARY EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTOR OF THE
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MICROBIOLOGY OF THE USSR MINISTRY
OF DEFENSE. YES, THE MILITARY ADMITS, EARLIER "THE INSTITUTE
STUDIED THE TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION OF VACCINATIONS FOR THE
PROTECTION OF SERVICEMEN AND THE POPULATION FROM A NUMBER OF
DANGEROUS INFECTIONS." TODAY THE CENTER IS ON A COST ACCOUNTING
BASIS, AND AS A RESULT IT IS QUITE INTERESTED IN COOPERATING WITH
"CIVILIANS": IT HAS COMMUNICATED FACTS IN DETAIL IN THE AREAS WHERE
IT WAS POSSIBLE. SUCH FACTS, OF COURSE, ARE IMPORTANT. BUT I
IMAGINE THAT THE RESIDENTS OF SVERDLOVSK WERE CHEERED UP MOST OF ALL
BY THE NEWS THAT PRODUCTION OF VACCINATIONS "FOR DEFENSE OF TROOPS
AND THE POPULATION" CEASED HERE IN 1986...

BUT WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE PREVIOUS WORK WAS STILL IN FULL SWING?
COLONEL A. KHARECHKO, CHIEF OF THE MILITARY EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTOR,
GIVES AN EXPLANATION. I QUOTE:

"THE RUMORS WHICH WERE GOING AROUND THE CITY IN THE SPRING OF
1979 TO THE EFFECT THAT AN EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE ON THE TERRITORY OF
OUR INSTITUTION AND THAT THE ANTHRAX PATHOGEN WAS DISCHARGED INTO
THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT DO NOT HAVE ANY REAL BASIS. PRIMARILY
BECAUSE WE HAVE NEVER HAD ANY EXPLOSIONS OF ANY SORT."

BUT WHAT ABOUT DISCHARGES?... THEY HAPPEN ON A REGULAR BASIS EVEN
TO THIS DAY. A FEW PARAGRAPHS LATER IT IS STATED THAT "ALL
DISCHARGES INTO THE AIR AND SEWAGE ARE FILTERED AND MONITORED."
WHAT GOOD IS CORRECTING THE TERMINOLOGICAL INACCURACIES? IN THE
END, WHAT IS THE MAIN SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE AFFECTED REGION OF THE
MEANS BY WHICH THE MISFORTUNE OCCURRED--EXPLOSION, DISCHARGE, OR
EXHAUST?

BUT THE COLONEL DID NOT PRODUCE ANY FURTHER TESTIMONY, AND

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INSTEAD OF ARGUMENTS HE SUBSTITUTED THE FOLLOWING PSYCHOLOGICAL OBSERVATION: "I BELIEVE THAT THIS ABSURD STORY HAS CIRCULATED BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE ARE MORE READY TO BELIEVE IN FANTASTIC THINGS THAN IN REAL AND NATURAL EXPLANATIONS."

I DID NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THE DOCTORS WITH WHOM I HAD TALKED WERE SO READY TO BELIEVE IN THE FANTASTIC--QUITE THE OPPOSITE, IN FACT.

ON BEHALF OF THE EDUCATED MINORITY WITH EXPLANATIONS, B. MIKHAULOV, SECTOR SPECIALIST, ADDRESSES THE FANTASIZING MAJORITY: "IN REALITY--AND THIS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED--THE OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX ILLNESSES AMONG PEOPLE WAS CAUSED BY A PREVIOUS OUTBREAK OF THIS DISEASE AMONG AGRICULTURAL LIVESTOCK IN MANY POPULATION CENTERS OF THE SOUTHERN PART OF SVERDLOVSK OBLAST. PROFESSOR I. BEZDENEZHNYE AND V. NIKIFOROV WROTE AN ARTICLE ABOUT THIS WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN 1980 IN ZHURNAL MIKROBIOLOGII, EPIDEMIOLOGII I IMMUNOBIOLOGII..."

I LOOKED UP THE ARTICLE HE HAD NAMED, NOT WITHOUT THE SHUDDER OF A DILETTANTE: THE JOURNAL IS HIGHLY TECHNICAL. BUT THE ARTICLE BY I. BEZDENEZHNYE AND V. NIKIFOROV--THE FORMER CHIEF INSPECTOR OF THE RSFSR ((RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC)) WHO CAME AT THAT TIME FROM MOSCOW TO THE VERDLOVSK EXTRAORDINARY EVENT AND HEADED THE COMMISSION THAT WAS CREATED (ITS MEDICAL UNIT--SEEMED ABSOLUTELY READABLE. MOREOVER, IT SEEMED THAT IT WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR SPECIALISTS--IN VIEW OF THE SCARCITY OF FACTS.

I PERSONALLY HAD QUESTIONS FOR THE AUTHORS, AND MANY OF THEM.

FOR INSTANCE, I READ, "SPORADIC ILLNESSES OF ANTHRAX IN ONE OF THE AREAS OF SVERDLOVSK PRECEDED THE OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX AMONG AGRICULTURAL LIVESTOCK ON INDIVIDUAL FARMS OF THE ADJOINING REGIONS... AT THAT SAME TIME ISOLATED INSTANCES OF ANTHRAX ILLNESSES AMONG PEOPLE WERE REPORTED..."

HOW WERE THEY ISOLATED? WHAT ABOUT THE (APPROXIMATELY) 500 HOSPITAL BEDS THAT WERE READIED? AND THE (APPROXIMATELY) 70 PEOPLE WHO DIED? LET US RECALL THAT 12 DIED ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY IN HOSPITAL NO. 20. WE WILL ADD THE 42 POST-MORTEMES WITH THE SAME DIAGNOSIS IN HOSPITAL NO. 40 (F. ABRAMOVA, A PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMIST WHO ATTENDED ALL THESE POST-MORTEMES, GAVE THIS FIGURE). WE WILL ALSO ADD SEVERAL CASES WHICH OCCURRED AT OTHER MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS. AND THESE ARE ALL ISOLATED ILLNESSES?

"... AND THERE WERE SKIN AND INTESTINAL FORMS OF THE INFECTION." WHY ONLY SKIN AND INTESTINAL? WHAT ABOUT PULMONARY?

I QUOTE THE ARTICLE AGAIN: "THAT THE DISEASE IS RELATED TO ANTHRAX WAS CONFIRMED BY THE RESULTS OF LABORATORY TESTS OF SICK PEOPLE AND ANIMALS. THE PATHOGEN OF ANTHRAX WAS ISOLATED FROM MEAT TAKEN FOR TESTS FROM TWO FAMILIES OF PATIENTS. IN BOTH CASES THE MEAT HAD BEEN PURCHASED FROM PRIVATE PERSONS. THE STRAINS OF THE ANTHRAX PATHOGENS ISOLATED FROM THE MEAT WERE NOT DISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE STRAINS ISOLATED FROM THE PATIENTS."

BUT DOES THIS PROVE THAT THE EVENTS THAT ARE MENTIONED ARE PART OF THE SPECIFIC CHAIN OF TERRIFYING EVENTS THAT SHOOK THE CITY BACK THEN? ARE THERE REALLY NO GROUNDS TO SUPPOSE THAT THEY EXISTED PARALLEL WITH THEM?

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I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO THE CEMETERY, VISIT THE HOUSES, AND RESORT TO THE ARCHIVES OF THE REGISTRY OFFICE--AND I ESTABLISHED THAT THE FIRST PATIENTS DIED AT HOSPITAL NO. 20 ON 9 APRIL. AND THE FIRST ARTICLES ABOUT WEAKENED LIVESTOCK AND THEIR POSSIBLE INFECTION APPEARED IN THE LOCAL PRESS ON 13 APRIL. WHICH PRECEDED WHICH? DOES NOT THE CONCLUSION SUGGEST ITSELF THAT THE PEOPLE DIED FIRST AND THEN AS A RESULT OF THEIR DEATHS PREVENTIVE WARNINGS WERE "SUPERIMPOSED"?

/***** BEGINNING OF TAKE 004 *****/

REF: WA3108211790 MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34,
22 AUG 90 P 12 ///WARNINGS WERE "SUPERIMPOSED"?

SOURCE: MOSCOW LITERATURNAYA GAZETA IN RUSSIAN NO. 34, 22 AUG 90 P
12

TEXT:

WHY? I EVEN POSE THIS QUESTION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SCHOLARLY ARTICLE I QUOTED. WHY, IF IT WAS "SIMPLY" ANTHRAX IN SVERDLOVSK, DID PEOPLE IN MILITARY UNIFORMS PLAY FIRST VIOLIN IN THE INVESTIGATION OF FACTS? WHY WAS THE WHOLE STORY OF THE ILLNESS ELIMINATED ALONG WITH ALL RECORDS AND ALL DOCUMENTATION FROM "CONCERNED" INSTITUTIONS? WHY NOW, 11 YEARS AFTERWARD, ARE OFFICIALS AGAIN VISITING HERE AND THERE ON INVESTIGATIONS? IS ANY OTHER ANSWER POSSIBLE?..

I HUNTED DOWN A PRIVATE HOME IN THE SUBURB OF THE CITY WHERE A WOMAN WHO DIED IN HOSPITAL NO. 20, ONE OF THE FIRST, HAD ONCE LIVED. I HELD IN MY HANDS HER DEATH CERTIFICATE, WHICH GAVE "BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA" AS THE CAUSE. SOME PEOPLE HAD COME FOR THAT CERTIFICATE AND WISHED TO TAKE IT AWAY, BUT THE FAMILY WOULD NOT GIVE IT UP: "IT IS OURS. IT IS ALL THAT IS LEFT TO US."

I VISITED ANOTHER HOUSEHOLD WHOSE HEAD, A WORKER AT A CERAMIC FACTORY, HAD DIED WITH THE SAME DIAGNOSIS.

... I PERSONALLY HAVE AN ANSWER FOR ALL THOSE "WHYS"--I DECLARED IT OPENLY AT THE VERY BEGINNING. BUT HOWEVER WELL-ARGUED IT SEEMS TO ME, I RECOGNIZED THAT IT IS ONLY A PRIVATE OPINION AND ONLY A PRIVATE INVESTIGATION. OFFICIAL CONCLUSIONS ARE NEEDED. QUICKLY.

/IF THERE WAS A TRAGEDY, IT SHOULD BE CALLED A TRAGEDY, AND THE GUILTY SHOULD BE CALLED GUILTY. AND TO THE DEGREE THAT THE INFORMATION PRESENTED HERE IS GROUNDS FOR A PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATION, ON BEHALF OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD THE AUTHOR REQUESTS THAT OUR PARLIAMENT CREATE SUCH A COMMISSION./ OTHERWISE WE CANNOT ENSURE THAT LIGHTNING WILL NOT STRIKE FROM A CLEAR SKY AGAIN TOMORROW.

ADMIN

(ENDALL) PMC/CD/IRELAND 31/2135Z AUG

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Approved for Release: 2017/09/27 C06628898

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ENVELOPE

RTAUZYUW RUEKJCS9766 1511336-UUUU--RUEALGX.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R
301336Z MAY 00
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
R
301327Z MAY 00
FM FBIS RESTON VA

TO RUQVKEW/AFIWC KELLY AFB TX//OSKC//
RUDKPN/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN//FOR REGIONAL AFFAIRS//
RUEPPOG/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
RUEPPOG/CDR4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOCP-POG-SB//
RUEOAYA/CDRNGIC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASHINGTON DC//DIS//
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N2//
RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J-2//
RUWGTCG/COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA//PI//
RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC
RUEADWD/DA WASHINGTON DC//DASG-MIR//
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//
RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON DC//S-60//
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RAYWBBK/DIO CANBERRA AS
RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//
RUCXNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINSERV WASHINGTON DC
RUEPMA/GISA FT BRAGG NC
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK
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RHEFJWC/JWAC DAHLGREN VA
RUCXQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA
RUEDAEA/NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH
RULSADT/NATIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE CENTER JOHNSTOWN PA
RUETIAA/NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//
RHDLONR/ONREUR LONDON UK
RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
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RUFGAID/USCINCEUR INTEL VAIHINGEN GE
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RHFJUSI/USCS AIU LONG BEACH CA
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WARNING: UNIQUE_ID: CEP20000530000152

WARNING: TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH,
TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM

SERIAL: CE0005300152

BODY

COUNTRY: RUSSIA, UNITED STATES
SUBJ: US Invests in Guarding 'Dangerous' Russian Virus Stocks
SOURCE: Moscow Izvestiya in Russian 27 May 00 P 2
TEXT:

Report by Sergey Leskov: "Vivarium Is Lure for
Terrorist. United States Allocates Money To Guard Strains of
Dangerous Infections Kept in Russian Laboratories"

FBIS Translated Text The State Scientific Center for Applied
Microbiology in Obolensk has signed a contract with U.S. partners
worth a total of \$1.2 million, the lion's share of which will be
spent on creating a security system for the Russian collection of
strains of particularly dangerous viruses. "The Americans fear
terrorists," Vladimir Volkov, the center's deputy director, told
Izvestiya.

Bacteriological weapons are the most mysterious of all the
types of weapons of mass destruction. International agreements,

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starting with the 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of Bacteriological Weapons, prohibit their development. But research of a defensive nature is permitted. This is an axiom of medicine: In order to test a vaccine, first it is necessary to produce harmful agents. Unlike the agreements on nuclear weapons, none of the documents relating to bacteriological weapons mentions the exact criteria for the quantities that may be produced in laboratories and not violate the convention....

The State Scientific Center for Applied Microbiology was founded in 1975, at the time of so-called "detente." The center is situated next to the ancestral estate of the Princes Obolenskiy, hence the name of the new city. The secret installation was part of the Biopreparat Association, which had plants and proving grounds all over the country. The center at Obolensk was entrusted with producing the strains of plague and anthrax needed for experiments. The most scandalous officially registered incident in the history of bacteriological weapons was associated precisely with anthrax. In 1979 a virus of this disease was released from a military laboratory in Sverdlovsk, with the result that 69 people died within a matter of hours. Incidentally, Obolensk is on the territory of the Oka National Park, in one of the most densely populated rayons of Moscow Oblast.

Some 40 tonnes of dry biological preparations a year are now produced in Obolensk, and they meet 50 percent of the requirements of the Russian State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision. Research is conducted into pathogens of anthrax, plague, glanders, Legionnaires' disease, and, particularly actively, tuberculosis.

Like all our centers, the formerly supersecret Obolensk has acquired partners in the West in recent years. Its scientific potential is such that clients were not slow to make themselves known. A recent example is provided by its \$350,000 April contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to create a vaccine against the mysterious "campylobacteriosis" disease, which cuts down broiler chicks.

But Obolensk had not had million-dollar contracts before. The underlying reason for the agreement is instructive. Some \$310,000 has been allocated to the creation of a vaccine against "hog black ear" disease, which U.S. virologists are unable to decipher. The darkening of the ears is an outward sign: The disease strikes the animal's internal organs, and the meat ends up being poisonous. But far more -- \$950,000 -- has been allocated to creating a physical and biological security system, which will guarantee against the penetration of collections of strains of infectious diseases by undesirable elements.

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Vladimir Volkov, deputy director of the State Scientific Center for Applied Microbiology, told Izvestiya that the system will be built according to the banking principle with safe locks, video recording, and magnetic access to the vivarium. The question of why such a need has arisen and whether there are grounds to fear a biological Chernobyl went unanswered.

Apart from the tragedy at Sverdlovsk, several other instances of bacteriological accidents are known. In 1982, following a release of brucellosis bacteria from a Moscow Veterinary Institute laboratory, 15 people were admitted to intensive care. In 1968 6,400 sheep died as the result of a leak of toxins at Dugway Proving Ground (United States). In the fifties instances of lethal infection of personnel with anthrax were recorded at the U.S. Fort Detrick base. Tests of biological weapons on Gruinard Island Scotland rendered it uninhabitable for 45 years. In areas adjacent to the Soviet proving ground on Vozrozhdeniya Island in the Aral Sea mass pestilence among fish and murrain among saiga antelopes were noted for decades. Ecologists still regard those places as unsuitable for grazing sheep.

Description of Source: One of Russia's most prominent dailies, now controlled by Vladimir Potanin's Oneksimbank.

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