



OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
VENEREAL DISEASE RESEARCH LABORATORY
U. S. MARINE HOSPITAL

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK



December 30, 1947

Dr. J. C. Cutler
Apartado 383
Guatemala City
Guatemala

Dear Doctor Cutler:

Mr. Harris arrived on schedule with the material you sent up and a lot of news.

The autopsy material will be sent to Doctor Lillie as soon as weather conditions permit. The autopsy material from the second patient was received but no name was on the container. Please send us the name.

The tools which you requested will be purchased and sent via APO, as will two autopsy knives. The Leica camera, accessories and some film have been shipped via air express collect.

We are not sure just what film order you are referring to. It is suggested that you send a requisition for the photographic supplies which you need at the present time. These will be purchased locally and sent via APO.

I will get in touch with Mr. Van Herpe regarding the financial statement of the unexpended balance. It is believed that there is enough money to purchase the cloth and blankets for hospital use. In purchasing the cloth and blanket material, would it be possible to obtain this material as surplus in Panama? This will also be discussed with Mr. Van Herpe.

It is believed that Doctor Mahoney will not attend the Conference in Guatemala in April but possibly Doctor Heller or Doctor Spoto may come down. It is suggested that the papers which are to be presented at this meeting by your staff be forwarded here or to the Venereal Disease Division for approval.

I read with interest the report on the experiment dealing with reinfection and relapse. The general outline seems to be adequate. You may find that 600,000 units of penicillin may cure approximately 50 percent of the patients treated, hence a cured patient may develop a reinfection that would simulate superinfection.

Dr. J. C. Cutler

December 30, 1947

We are going ahead with the program of studying immunity in the human in an experiment designed to show whether or not passive immunity to syphilis may be transferred from the human to the rabbit. As soon as enough serum samples have been collected the experiment will be conducted. In this experiment we plan to take blood from patients that have been treated and see whether the serum antibodies will prevent the animal from developing syphilis. The serum antibodies may or may not have a relationship to the so called serologic titer.

It was hoped that the gonorrheal studies would soon be completed so that Miss Walker could return as her services are needed in the Bacteriology Laboratory.

The next shipment of rabbits will probably be sent January 6th.

The 25.4" snow fall has disrupted traffic facilities throughout the New York area but things are opening up gradually.

There was a Christmas party at the Laboratory on the 24th and we wished that all of you could have been here for it.

A copy of Doctor Lillie's report is enclosed.

Doctor Mahoney left today on the SS AMERICA and will be gone approximately one month.

Sincerely,



R. C. Arnold
Senior Surgeon
USPHS

RCA:tcf