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| | | Yellow Fever | |
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September 23, 1927.

Dear Doctor Beeuwkes:

Doctor Sawyer and I had a very satisfactory interview with Doctor Simon Flexner and Doctor Noguchi yesterday. Although final decision has not been made it seems probable that Doctor Noguchi will be able to go over in the near future. As soon as his plans are definite we will, of course, write and cable you.

Doctor Noguchi's trip was not considered at the time you put in your estimates for funds. For this reason it does not seem fair to charge the expenses of Noguchi's trip to your budget. We will, therefore, make provision to pay whatever expenses are incurred incident to Doctor Noguchi's visit. You may feel perfectly free to consider this your authorization for turning over to Doctor Noguchi whatever funds or property he may desire. I do not wish to suggest that you set up any additional system of accounting. This is merely to give you authority to ask us to reimburse your funds for any or all of the expenses incident to the visit of Doctor Noguchi.

I feel that it is great good luck that Doctor Noguchi is considering and will probably go to West Africa and that there is nothing too much that we can do to make his visit pleasant, agreeable and profitable. He is, as you

*copied under
eye contact
Noguchi*

know, a unique personality and an indefatigable worker, who has his own methods, his own technique and the imagination of the real research man. Anything that you and I can do to help him in carrying out whatever measures he desires to use, will help along the work, and I know that you feel, as I do, that anything Noguchi wishes will be furnished him.

It is impossible to foresee just how his studies may develop or how much of your facilities he may need for his work. I should say, however, that while he was there it would be well to turn over to him everything that you have, and if his needs for laboratory and animal buildings should interfere with any of the work which is now going on, that you consider putting up such additional buildings for laboratory and for animals and mosquitoes as you may need. About animals we will let you know more definitely later, but it is obvious that you will need room for a large number and it may be desirable for you to begin early with plans for the construction of additional buildings for animals.

You will need, no doubt, additional screening and I am asking Mr. Dean to send you a quantity of screen material. Should this turn out to be in excess of your present needs, it will do no harm since it is not perishable and may come handy sometime in the future.

Doctor Noguchi indicated his desire to stop off on the Gold Coast in order to get clinical cases from which to obtain material for study as the first part of his program. How much

time he will spend on the Gold Coast collecting material it is, of course, impossible to say. It is obvious, however, that he will need a place to live at Accra and facilities for taking care of a considerable number of animals. He mentioned for example the possibility of taking with him forty monkeys, together with a number of rabbits and guinea pigs. I think you might look into the question, therefore, of building an animal house at Accra for his exclusive use. After his visit it will be of service to the commission for similar purposes.

Doctor Noguchi yesterday made one specific request, which I will send by cable, but am explaining in this letter. He wishes whole blood, from cases of yellow fever, which has been citrated, to be collected and to be kept at low temperatures until his arrival. He desires that two or three samples of citrated blood be obtained from as many yellow fever cases as possible and that these bloods be kept at various low temperatures, for example, one at the lowest temperature obtainable, others at temperatures somewhat higher but nevertheless all cold enough to prevent change in the blood. It is of course possible that the virus, whatever its nature, may live under such conditions for an indefinite period.

As to assistance for Doctor Noguchi, he states that he will need chiefly clinical assistants for the diagnosis of cases and for the collection of material. He will without doubt need some technicians in the laboratory and animal house, and it might be wise for you to take on some additional men as soon as possible in order that

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Doctor Henry Beeuwkes

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they might get some experience in that kind of work before Dr.

Noguchi arrives.

With regard to Dr. Bauer's leave Dr. Noguchi does not wish to have his presence interfere in any way with Doctor Bauer's taking a leave. I think it might be well for Doctor Bauer to feel free to take his leave when it is due or whenever he so desires.

At the risk of repetition I might say in brief that Dr. Noguchi is the type of intensive individual worker who knows precisely what he needs or thinks necessary and essential. He is a courteous, delightful gentleman, and of course in laboratory experience far beyond anyone else who has been with the expedition. Although you do not need to be told it, yet it can do no harm to say that he is to be his own master and is to have all the facilities and provisions for his work he asks for, and given without delay. He will make no unjust demands, and yet he may ask for things done which you may not think necessary. But as Dr. Noguchi is the distinguished guest of the Foundation and a most able and eminent worker, there is nothing that he can ask for that should not be granted at once.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Henry Beeuwkes
P. O. Box 148
Lagos, Nigeria
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F. F. RUSSELL

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