

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 01/04/2006

[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted] was interviewed on December 19, 2005, at [redacted] place of employment, Battelle, 505 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, by Special Agents (SAs) [redacted]. Also present during the interview was [redacted] Assistant General Counsel, Battelle. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] was presented with an AMERITHRAX; Major Case-184 Non-disclosure Agreement (NDA). After reviewing the document, [redacted] signed the NDA. At this point, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] indicated that over the past few years scientists at Battelle have isolated two different contaminants from *Bacillus anthracis* (Ba) spore preparations. One contaminant was determined to be *Bacillus pumilus* and the other was determined to be *Bacillus subtilis*. These determinations were made using a 24 hour API strip. [redacted] believes that both of these contaminants were purified from the Ba and may still exist as frozen stocks at Battelle's [redacted] Building. [redacted] stated that [redacted]

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In the course of reviewing documentation related to Battelle's Ba Ames spore preparations labeled BAA177 at Battelle's facility located at 1425 State Route 142, West Jefferson, Ohio, [redacted] noticed a discrepancy between Battelle's documentation and an e-mail sent from [redacted] to Dr. BRUCE IVINS at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). Battelle's "Etiologic Agent Receipt and Inventory Information Sheet," for sample BAA177 indicates that the sample was depleted on 5/6/04. An e-mail from [redacted] to IVINS suggests that Battelle was working with BA177 in January of 2005. At approximately 3:30pm on December 19, 2005, [redacted] was asked about this discrepancy. SA [redacted] was not present during this portion of the interview. [redacted] stated that [redacted] viewed BAA177 and BA178 as being from a single sample. [redacted] considered them to be from the same sample because IVINS indicated to [redacted] that they were the same. [redacted] believes that both BAA177 and BAA178 were contaminated despite that fact that Battelle never actually determined if BAA177 was contaminated and assumed BAA177 was contaminated because BAA178 was shown to be contaminated.

[redacted]

[redacted] 302

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Investigation on 12/19/2005 at Columbus, Ohio.

File # 279A-WF-222936-BATTELLE - 107

Date dictated N/A

by SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]

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The NDA signed by a copy of the "Etiological Agent Receipt and Inventory Information Sheet" for sample BAA177, and a copy of the e-mail correspondence between and IVINS are included in the corresponding 1A envelope.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 01/04/2006

[redacted] Social Security Account Number [redacted] was interviewed on December 19, 2005, at [redacted] place of employment, Battelle, 1425 State Route 142, West Jefferson, Ohio, by Special Agents (SAs) [redacted] and [redacted]. Also present during the interview was [redacted] Assistant General Counsel, Battelle. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] was presented with an AMERITHRAX; Major Case-184 Non-disclosure Agreement (NDA). After reviewing the document, [redacted] signed the NDA. At this point, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] is currently a [redacted] at Battelle and has worked for Battelle for approximately [redacted] years.

[redacted] used *Bacillus anthracis* (Ba) Ames strain sample [redacted] received from Dr. BRUCE IVINS of USAMRIID, [redacted] for some of the fermentor runs performed at Battelle. During these fermentor runs, it became evident that the cultures were contaminated. [redacted] suspected that the cultures were contaminated due to the fact that [redacted] had extra difficulty getting the culture to form spores. The contamination of the cultures was confirmed when [redacted] examined wet mounts made from the cultures under a microscope. [redacted] believes that [redacted] examined the wet mounts at twenty-four (24) and forty-eight (48) hour time points. [redacted] isolated and did some characterization of the contaminant by first growing the culture in tryptic soy broth (TSB) and then streaking it onto sheeps blood agar (SBA) or brain heart infusion agar (BHI). [redacted] believes that the contaminant was mucoid and may have been hemolytic on SBA. Biochemical tests (API strip) performed by [redacted] indicated that the contaminant was *Bacillus pumilus*. [redacted] developed a standard operating procedure (SOP) for enrichment of the contaminant and agreed to provide this SOP to the FBI. [redacted] believes that any purified isolates of the contaminant that may have been generated have probably been destroyed.

[redacted] does not communicate with USAMRIID directly, but does not [redacted]

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Investigation on 12/19/2005 at Columbus, Ohio

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File # 279A-WF-222936-BATTELLE - 109

Date dictated N/A

by SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]

279A-WF-222936-BATTELLE

Continuation of FD-302 of , On 12/19/2005, Page 2

believe that they performed any characterization of the
contaminant.

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The NDA signed by is included in the corresponding
1A envelope.

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DATE: 12-09-2008
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 C BAW/RS/VCF
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 12-09-2033

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Date of transcription 10/15/2004

During the time period from September 27, 2004, through September 30, 2004, the Washington Field Office (WFO) Amerithrax squads, with assistance from the Hazardous Materials Response Unit (HMRU) and Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) members from WFO and other divisions, executed a search warrant at Battelle, West Jefferson Facility (WJF), 1425 Plain-City Georgesville Road, West Jefferson, Ohio, (hereinafter referred to as Battelle).

Laboratory areas searched included the [redacted] laboratory suites in buildings designated as [redacted] and [redacted] as well as a [redacted] laboratory suite in [redacted]. The purpose of the search was to [redacted]

[redacted] as required by a prior Federal Grand Jury subpoena.

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[redacted]

The search team included the following people:

Amerithrax Task Force Members:

[redacted]

- Inspector In Charge
- Assistant U.S. Attorney
- Supervisor
- Case Agent
- Search Coordinator

- Security Team Leader
- Security
- Security
- Security
- Scheduling Team Leader
- Supplies Team Leader
- Transport, Food Team Leader
- Scheduling Team/Intelligence Team
- Security
- Command Post Team Leader
- HMRT Team Leader
- Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA)
- Intelligence Team Leader
- Evidence Collection Team
- Security
- Intelligence Team

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Investigation on 9/27-9/30/04 at Battelle, West Jefferson, Ohio

File # 279A-WF-222936-Battelle - 817 Date dictated N/A

by SA [redacted]
05 [redacted] 0061.wpd

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

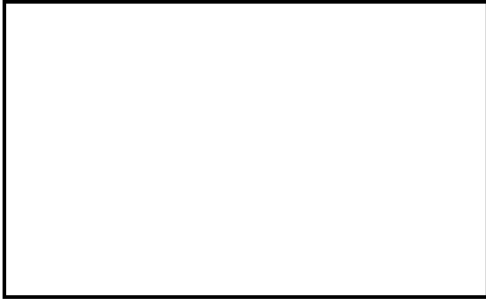
Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 2



HMRT Team Leader
Security
Command Post
HMRT Team Leader
Security
Logistics Team Leader
Evidence Collection Team
Evidence Collection Team Leader

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HMRT Team Members:



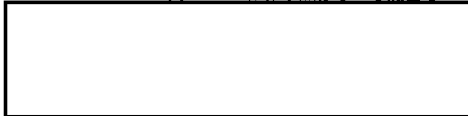
Detroit HMRT
Detroit HMRT
Detroit HMRT
Pittsburgh HMRT
Pittsburgh HMRT
Pittsburgh HMRT
Pittsburgh HMRT
Pittsburgh HMRT
Kansas City HMRT
Kansas City HMRT

HMRU, Laboratory Division:



Laboratory, Microbiologist
Laboratory, Hazardous Materials Officer
Laboratory, Hazardous Materials Officer
Laboratory, Hazardous Materials Officer
Laboratory, Supervisor, HMRU
Laboratory, Hazardous Materials Officer

Technology Response Unit (TRU):



TRU
TRU
TRU

For the duration of the search all Battelle personnel were denied access to the search scene unless escorted by FBI Search personnel. Battelle personnel who requested access to the search scene during the FBI search provided SA [redacted] with times, dates, locations, and purpose of required entry. SA [redacted] then coordinated with HMRT Team Leader [redacted] to appropriately schedule FBI HMRT personnel to escort the Battelle personnel at time requested into the search scene.

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A time line of the search containing approximate times is as follows:

September 27, 2004:

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

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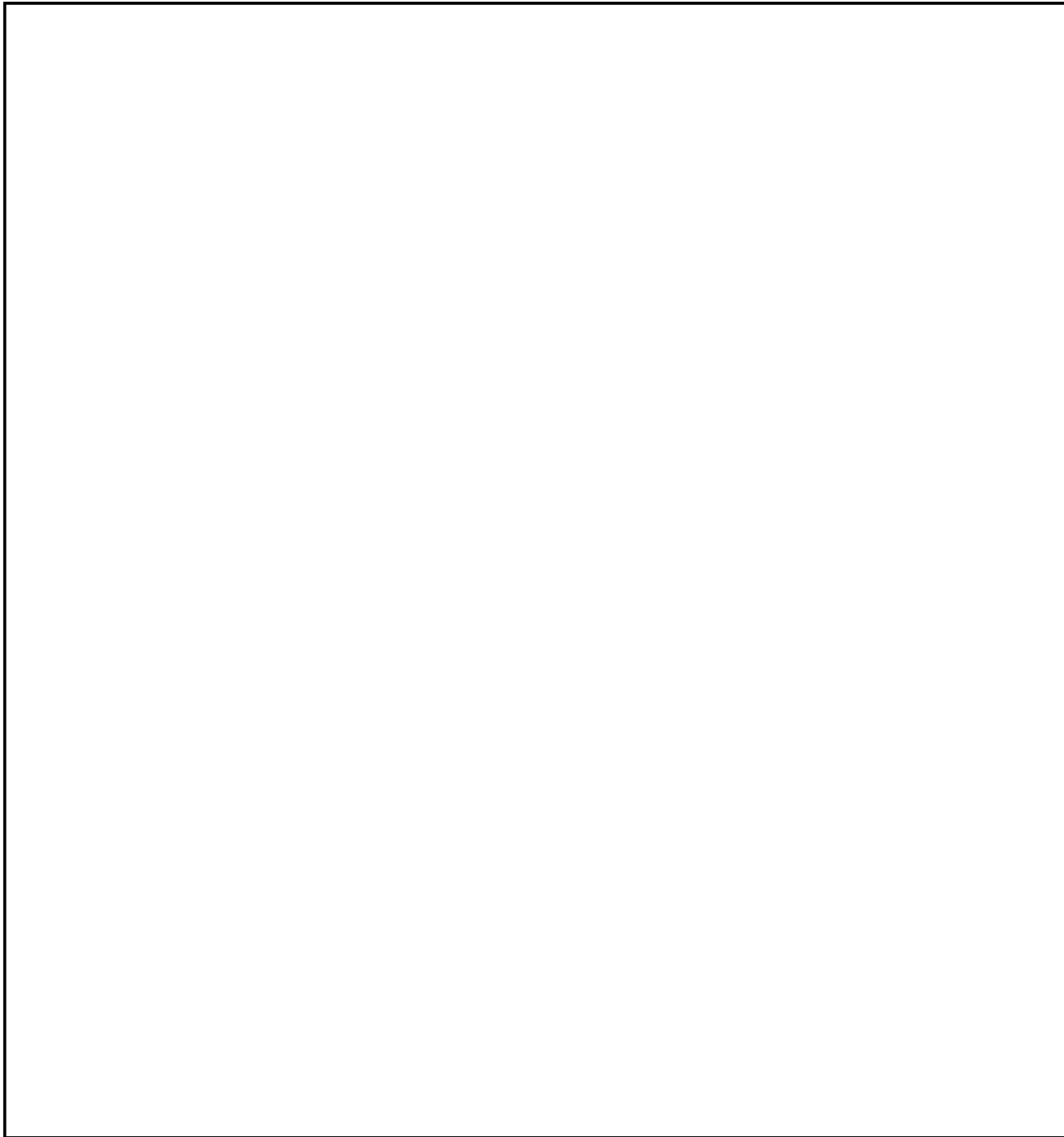
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Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 4



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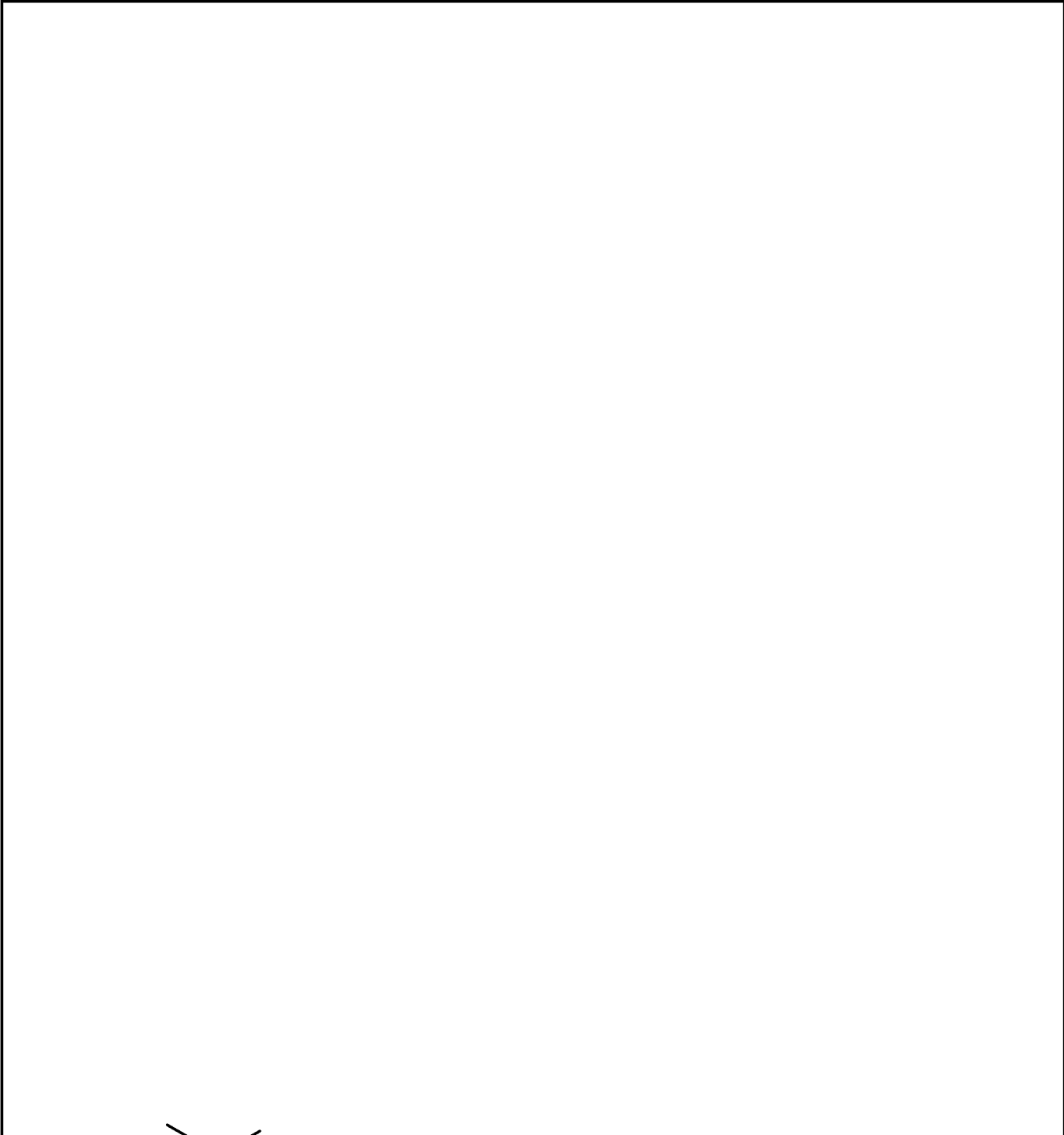
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Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 5



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4:05 p.m. Battelle search operations complete. All search personnel have left the search scene.

Command Post Logs, administrative search notes were placed in an FD-340 and was submitted to the 1A section of the file. Inventory Logs, Evidence Collection Logs, and CD's containing digital images were placed in a separate FD-340 and submitted to the 1A section of the file.

Times listed above are approximate times. HMRT members and the Evidence Collection Team documented their role in the search on a separate FD-302. The above listed times may not exactly match times listed in documentation written by HMRT, the Evidence Collection Team, or on the Command Post logs. Individual people may have recorded a time at the start of an event, while others may have recorded a time at the completion of the same event. Not all members of the search team were privy to all aspects of the search.

A total of 142 items and 1 control pipet were seized from Battelle. A complete list of the items collected is as follows:

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Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 8

Item #	Description of Item (Sample Label)	Collected Amount & Container	Location of Item
3B			
3C			
4			
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7			
8			
8A			
9			

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

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C1	
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Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 11

60A	
60B	
60C	
60D	
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60G	
60H	
60I	

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60J	
60K	
60L	
60M	
60N	
60O	
60P	
60Q	
60R	

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60S	
60T	
60U	
60V	
60W	
60X	
60Y	
60Z	

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61A	
61B	
61C	
61D	
61E	
61F	
61G	
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61I	
61J	
61K	
61L	

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

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61M	
61N	
61O	
61P	
61Q	
61R	
61S	
61T	
61U	
61V	
61W	
61X	
61Y	

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62A	
62B	
62C	
63A	
63B	
63C	
64A	
64B	
64C	
64D	
65A	
65B	
65C	
65D	

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

Continuation of FD-302 of Battelle Search, On 9/27-9/30/04, Page 17

65E	
65F	
66A	
66B	
66C	
66D	
66E	
66F	
66G	
66H	
66I	
66J	
66K	
66L	
66M	

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66N	
66O	
66P	
67A	
67B	
67C	
67D	
67E	
68A	
68B	
69A	
69B	
69C	

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279A-WF-222936-Battelle

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69D	
69E	
70A	
70B	
70C	
71A	
71B	
71C	
71D	
71E	
71F	
72A	
72B	

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72C	
72D	
72E	
72F	
72G	
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 09/14/2004

To: Counterterrorism
Inspection
Washington Field

Attn: WMDOU, SSA [redacted]
Attn: IIC [redacted]

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From: Washington Field
Amerithrax 3
Contact: SA [redacted]

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Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

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Case ID #: 279A-WF-222936-BATTELLE (Pending) -91

Title: AMERITHRAX;
MAJOR CASE 184

Synopsis: To report on the genealogy of the Ames strain of *Bacillus anthracis* at Battelle.



Enclosure(s):

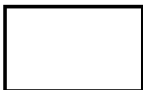
Attachment A: Chart titled "Shipments of B.a. Ames to Battelle's [redacted]"

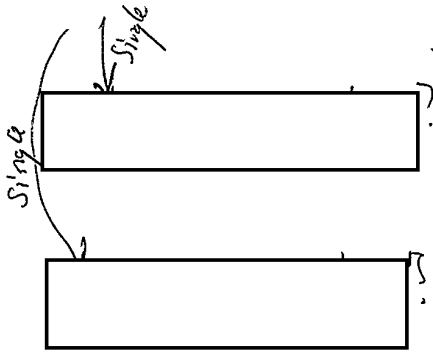
Attachment B: Chart titled "Shipments of B.a. Ames to Battelle's [redacted]"

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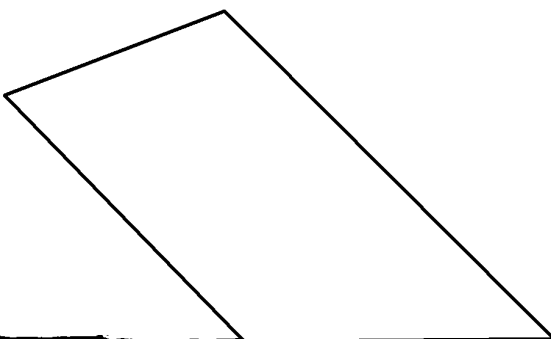
Attachment C: Chart Titled "Internal Transfers of B.a. Ames from [redacted]"

Details: Between October 1994 and September 2001, a total of seven shipments of the Ames strain of *Bacillus anthracis* (B.a.) were received at Battelle in Columbus, Ohio (see Attachments A and B). The laboratory at Battelle's [redacted] was the recipient of the first three cultures of B.a. Ames, while the latter isolates were sent to laboratories within Battelle's [redacted] [redacted] also known as the [redacted]. Four of the seven shipments derived from the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). Additionally, one shipment of B.a. Ames was sent from each of the following: IIT Research Institute (IITRI), Dugway Proving Grounds (DPG), and the





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To: Counterterrorism From: Washington Field
Re: 279A-WF-222936-BATTELLE, 09/14/2004

[REDACTED]

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During an interview dated 6/14/2004, [REDACTED] explained that Battelle was contracted by sponsors to conduct bioforensic analysis of environmental samples collected in the field (279A-WF-222936-Battelle Serial 6). Trace analyses for the presence of biological agents were performed in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] laboratory. Stocks of *B.a.*, to include the Ames strain, were maintained for use as positive controls in sample spiking. The positive controls were used in projects titled [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

According to [REDACTED] the predominant use of *B.a.* Ames in [REDACTED] related to these projects (279A-WF-222936-Battelle Serial 17).

In addition to the four isolates of *B.a.* Ames transferred from outside institutions, Battelle's [REDACTED] also received *B.a.* Ames from [REDACTED]. Eight internal transfers of *B.a.* Ames spores or cultures from [REDACTED] to the [REDACTED] were documented (see Attachment C). *B.a.* Ames was employed in a variety of client-based studies in the [REDACTED] including vaccine challenge experiments.

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The genealogy of *B.a.* Ames at Battelle, presented herein, was derived from interviews and Battelle documents, to include Laboratory Record Books (LRBs), program study binders, inventory logs, material receipt forms, sample transmittal forms and EA101s. Unless referenced otherwise, copies of all documentation were placed in two ring binders labeled

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] These binders are maintained in the 1A section of the case file. The original documents were those provided by Battelle in response to Grand Jury subpoenas, or obtained during site visits to Battelle in June and July of 2004.

[REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 23

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