

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-08-2009 BY 65179 dmh/baw

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Date of transcription 01/22/2003

[redacted] United States
Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
("USAMRIID"), social security account number: [redacted] date of
birth: [redacted] office telephone: [redacted] was
interviewed by [redacted] United States Postal Inspector,
United States Postal Inspection Service, Washington Division, and
[redacted], Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington Field Office. After Inspector [redacted] and Special Agent
[redacted] showed [redacted] their official identification and explained to
[redacted] the purpose of the interview, [redacted] provided the following:

Although [redacted] is affiliated with the [redacted]
Department at USAMRIID [redacted] is formally assigned to [redacted]
[redacted] began working at USAMRIID
in [redacted] and worked in the [redacted] of the [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] has only used Room [redacted] Building [redacted] as
[redacted] office since [redacted] began working at USAMRIID in [redacted]

While assigned to the [redacted]
[redacted] did
not speak to [redacted] beyond merely exchanging greetings.
[redacted] was only around [redacted] during group meetings, lectures and
seminars. [redacted] vaguely remembers attending group meetings where
[redacted]

The group meetings were held in the [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] cannot remember when [redacted] left USAMRIID.
Nothing stands out in [redacted] mind regarding [redacted]
thought [redacted] seemed down to earth. [redacted] behavior was
ordinary and did not attract [redacted] attention. [redacted] did not

Investigation on 01/15/2003 at Frederick, MD

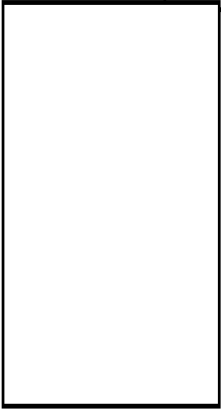
File # 279A-WF-222936; 279A-BA-C101392 Date dictated N/A

by [redacted]

279A-WF-222986- 302

SERIAL # 585

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279A-WF-222936; 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of _____, On 01/15/2003, Page 2

socialize with _____ and did not know _____ immediate co-workers, friends or associates. _____ did not discuss anthrax with _____ and is not familiar with _____

_____ heard rumors about _____

_____ does not know if _____ has friends or associates in the New Jersey area where the anthrax mailings occurred. Likewise _____ did not hear _____ ever

_____ is neither familiar with _____ knowledge of _____ nor familiar with _____ financial status.

_____ does not know what lab _____ used because they worked in different labs. _____ lab is located in Building _____ Room _____ located in the basement. Room _____ is a cold lab which is used for research into _____ anthrax and _____

_____ other researchers share Room _____ with _____

Both _____ and _____ have access to the Ames strain of anthrax for their research. The Ames strain of anthrax is used in research occurring only in the hot labs. _____ believes _____ and _____ obtained the Ames strain of anthrax in the hot labs from Bruce Ivins. Prior to removing the Ames strain of anthrax from the hot labs, they would _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 03/11/2003

GRAND JURY MATERIAL - DISSEMINATE PURSUANT TO RULE 6(e)

On March 10, 2003 [redacted] born [redacted] with
Social Security Account Number [redacted] was interviewed at [redacted]
place of employment, the United States Army Medical Research
Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), Fort Detrick,
Maryland. The interview was conducted by United States Postal
Inspector [redacted] and Special Agent [redacted] of
the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [redacted] who was
already familiar with the identities of the interviewing agents,
provided the following information:

[Large redacted area]

Investigation on 3/10/2003 at Fort Detrick, Maryland

File # 279A-WF-222936 [redacted] ⁶⁰⁵ 302-279A-BA-C101392 Date dictated 3/11/2003

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by SA [redacted]
Inspector [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-08-2009 BY 65179dmh/baw

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 03/14/2003

On March 10, 2003, [redacted] born [redacted] with Social Security Account Number [redacted] was interviewed at [redacted] place of employment, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). The interview was conducted by United States Postal Inspector [redacted] and Special Agent [redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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In [redacted] work with aerosol challenges at USAMRIID, [redacted] does not store *Bacillus anthracis* spores in large quantities. [redacted] has stored small quantities of such material for [redacted]

[redacted] During the [redacted] time-frame, no Ames was kept in [redacted] challenge labs. [redacted] work was in approximately 2001 when [redacted] started working with the Ames strain. [redacted] samples were kept in a refrigerator in room [redacted] of building [redacted] at USAMRIID. Rooms [redacted] and [redacted] in building [redacted] and are used by the [redacted] Division of USAMRIID.

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When the building was re-done in the 1990s, every room in [redacted] was capable of being qualified as a Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) lab, but only one room was officially made a GLP lab in building [redacted]

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[redacted] no longer works at USAMRIID, and [redacted] transferred all of [redacted] Ames to [redacted] of USAMRIID. There are new rules in effect at USAMRIID now, and lockboxes are used. The aerosol challenge work began in 1991.

The other researchers at USAMRIID bring spores over for each spray. BRUCE IVINS works with Ames, and he usually brings his preparations over for aerosol challenges. Room [redacted] and room [redacted] are the two laboratory rooms, and they connect with a door. Rooms [redacted] and [redacted] contain the Class III hood lines for the aerosol challenges. All of those rooms have keypads. When building [redacted] was closed for renovation, aerosol challenges were done in building [redacted] in suite [redacted]. All of the work is done in [redacted]

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Investigation on 03/10/2003 at Fort Detrick, Maryland

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File # 279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302-279A-BA-C101392 Date dictated 03/14/2003

Insp. [redacted]
by SA A. [redacted]

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279A-WF-222936 [REDACTED] 302, 279A-BA-C101392

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 03/10/2003, Page 2

[REDACTED] is not present in the laboratory areas as much as [REDACTED] were two of the technicians during the [REDACTED] time-frame. Everybody knows everybody, so none of the technicians would think of another employee as someone who should not be present in the lab. [REDACTED] did mention to [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was in the room with them for aerosol challenges [REDACTED] does not recall ever seeing [REDACTED] there. [REDACTED] would not have come to the labs when [REDACTED] was present. The challenge studies are somewhat boring because you do something and then have to wait for the results. If someone like [REDACTED] was in the aerosol challenge labs, they would have to just be "killing time" or "hanging out" because they had no business to conduct there. It is not like there was restricted access to the challenges. The technicians should always do things "by the book".

IVINS would dilute his spore preparations to 10 milliliters and bring them in 15 milliliter tubes [REDACTED]. He heat-shocks his Ames in his own lab on the morning of the aerosol challenge. The Ames spores used in the challenges came from Dugway Proving Ground. Only this year when the Dugway supply ran out did IVINS grow some spores to keep up with the research. All of the spores used in the challenges are broth grown or fermented. The spore concentration used in a spray depends on the animal model being used in the study and on the desired dose. The concentration is normally 2×10^9 to 2×10^{10} . The concentration of 2×10^{10} was only recently used for a mouse study.

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Following a challenge, everything is autoclaved. It is a Class III hood-line lab, so the equipment is autoclaved on the way out. It is then taken out of the lab in red biohazard bags which are left outside the autoclave located in the basement of building [REDACTED]. There are 2 autoclaves. The freezers are in the same open area, but are in the hallway and not the rooms in the basement. Any Ames left over after a spray would be refrigerated, not frozen.

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Typical equipment and supplies used for aerosol challenges includes plates, an impinger which holds 10 milliliters of water for the Ames, and an aerosol chamber with an attached nebulizer which holds the liquid Ames. The plates are used to culture the liquid Ames to get the counts per liter of aerosol used in the spray. Most of the equipment used is made in the USAMRIID workshop. The nebulizers and all-glass impingers (AGIs) are

279A-WF-22293 [redacted] 302, 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/10/2003, Page 3

[redacted]

[redacted] had very few conversations with [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] is not aware of any Princeton or New Jersey connections [redacted] may have had.

[redacted]

[redacted] The only people who run the aerosol challenges are the technicians. The animal used in the studies are very carefully tracked. The extra nebulizers were kept in the lab in an unlocked cupboard. They always knew where every nebulizer was - either being used, washed, or autoclaved. The technicians kept track of the equipment. [redacted] Back during 1997-1999, the group included [redacted] technicians whose identities [redacted] could not recall. [redacted] should be able to obtain the names of [redacted] technicians from that time period.

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Everyone in the building knew that the [redacted] code could get you in any key card access door. There was a log book in room [redacted] for the toxin work, but not in the hot side of [redacted] They did not keep track of everyone present at aerosol challenges.

Gloves, a mask, and eye protection were used during the challenges. Either a face shield or glasses were used for work with the non-human primates. The technicians and others present did not always wear masks or eyewear. Tyvek suits were used only

279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302, 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/10/2003, Page 4

be the people actually handling the animals, not by observers or the technicians running the experiment.

Fermenter production increases the quantity of Ames produced for the challenges. To the best of [redacted] knowledge, none of the aerosol material [redacted] has used in the last [redacted] years was agar-grown. [redacted] does not grow any of the material used in the challenges. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] IVINS tried to purify the bad batch of spores during this year.

[redacted] has never seen the anthrax letters and did not work with any sub-samples of the powder as far as [redacted] knows.

[redacted] printed three color digital photographs of the aerosol challenge equipment and provided them to the agents during the interview. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Said items are maintained in the 1A section of the file.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 01-14-2009 BY 65179 dmh/baw

Date of transcription 02/28/2003

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On February 24, 2003, [redacted] date of birth [redacted] social security account number [redacted] was interviewed at [redacted] place of employment, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), Fort Detrick, Maryland, telephone [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing investigators and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

The Daschle letter was brought into suite [redacted] because those working on it wanted to know what the spore concentration was. BRUCE IVINS is a *Bacillus anthracis* (B.a.) expert who does colony counts all the time, and [redacted] thinks that IVINS asked to do the colony count for the Daschle letter. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] thinks that IVINS had written in the report that the work was done in suite [redacted] advised that those who reviewed the results should know that the work was done in B3, as B3 is the only hot suite that IVINS has lab space in. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] does not think that it is possible that [redacted] do not know that the Daschle letter was brought into B3.

[redacted]

Y/N

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Investigation on 02/24/2003 at Fort Detrick, Maryland

File # 279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 02, 279A-BA-C10139 Date dictated N/A

SA [redacted]
by USPI [redacted]

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279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302, 279A-BA-C10139

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Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 02/24/2003, Page 2

[redacted] did not know if any of the letters besides the Daschle letter were re-bagged into new ziplocs after being processed. [redacted] thinks that either [redacted] or [redacted] retrieved the ziplocs that were used to re-bag the Daschle letter from the B3 store room or from the animal change cart in the B3 hallway.

[redacted] is concerned because there are a lot of inconsistencies in what is being said about the handling of the letters and that people are being called liars. [redacted] thinks that the FBI has a copy of the notebook page with the handwritten chain of custody for the Daschle letter. Although [redacted] does not think that this has anything to do with who mailed the letters, [redacted] thinks that this is still important. People had been called liars ever since IVINS' swabbing incident and IVINS has been getting "a bad rap" for this.

The building and staff were not equipped to handle the letters, therefore a lot of bad decisions were made. Some people are trying to look out for themselves and could be covering up the truth. For example, [redacted]

[redacted]

People at USAMRIID know about the [redacted] controversy, and other people in the Bacteriology Division know that the Daschle letter went into B3.

[redacted] did not physically see the Daschle letter opened

[redacted] sent an email in late October or early November to most people telling them to go to "the ward" because of a possible safety breach. [redacted] advised that this was to prevent anyone

279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302, 279A-BA-C10139

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 02/24/2003, Page 3

from getting sick. [redacted]

[redacted]

After the contamination issue for which IVINS conducted his swabbing, the Army did a big investigation. [redacted] never heard about the results of the investigation. [redacted] advised that IVINS tends to take things to heart, and feels like he did something wrong by conducting his swabbing project. IVINS is a principal investigator (PI) [redacted] He has had his lab space in B3 for a long time.

Prior to conducting his swabbing project, IVINS asked [redacted] and [redacted] whether he could conduct the study. They both told IVINS that he should not do any swabbing. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

The other hot areas that IVINS found were: the men's shower in the B3 change room, IVINS' keyboard, outside the passbox to B3, the switch next to the B3 passbox, and the top of the

279A-WF-222936-302, 279A-BA-C10139

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Continuation of FD-302 of , On 02/24/2003, Page 4

lockers in B3. does not know if a morphological comparison was done of the B.a. that was found.

and said that B.a. got onto the B3 passbox because of this spill. advised that the B.a. on the passbox was not mutant.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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DATE 01-14-2009 BY 65179 dmh/baw

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Date of transcription 04/28/2003

On April 23, 2003, [redacted] date of birth [redacted] social security account number [redacted] was interviewed at [redacted] place of employment, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), Fort Detrick, Maryland, telephone [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the agents and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] started working in BRUCE IVINS' lab in [redacted] and was granted access to the hot suites in [redacted] moved from the [redacted] Division to [redacted] Division [redacted] in [redacted] where [redacted] works with [redacted]



Piggybacking through doors around the institute is frequent, however there is not any piggybacking into hot suites because a key code is needed to enter them.

[redacted] does not know [redacted] has never met [redacted] nor has [redacted] ever spoken to [redacted] saw [redacted] around the institute, but [redacted] did not know [redacted] name at the time. [redacted] saw [redacted] using the photocopier located near the back door of Building [redacted] never saw [redacted] in Building [redacted] or anywhere else around the institute.

[redacted] left USAMRIID [redacted] [redacted] did not know of any association that [redacted] may have had with New Jersey or with Princeton University. [redacted] never heard [redacted] make any comments about Senator Tom Daschle, Senator Patrick Leahy, Tom Brokaw, or the New York Post.

[redacted] had no knowledge of [redacted] discussing anthrax with anyone. [redacted] probably accessed the internet from [redacted] office at USAMRIID, and [redacted] did not know where [redacted] office was located.

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Investigation on 04/23/2003 at Fort Detrick, Maryland

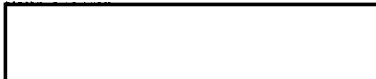
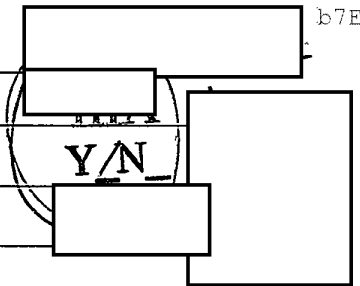
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279A-WF-222936 [redacted] B02-743

File # 279A-WF-222936-USAMRIID 279A-BA-C101392 Date dictated

N/A

by SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]



279A-WF-222936-USAMRIID, 279A-BA-C101392

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Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 04/23/2003, Page 2

[redacted] did not know where [redacted] worked while at USAMRIID, nor where [redacted] stored [redacted] work materials.

The only lyophilizer at USAMRIID that [redacted] knows of is located in the hallway of Suite [redacted] has never used that lyophilizer, and [redacted] does not know how to operate it. It is used approximately one time per year. [redacted] did not know if the lyophilizer had ever been in a hot suite. Anyone with access to Suite [redacted] which would be everyone in the [redacted] Division, has access to the lyophilizer. [redacted] does not know of anyone outside the division who has access to the lyophilizer.

During the spring of 2001, Suite [redacted] was shut down for renovation. [redacted]

[redacted]

The materials, including the original Ames slant, were moved to the Suite [redacted] cold room.

[redacted] has made a lot of B.a. Ames spore preparations.

[redacted]

[redacted] provided the following description of how [redacted] made Ames spore preparations:

[redacted]

[redacted]

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279A-WF-222936-USAMRIID, 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of

[Redacted]

, On 04/23/2003

, Page 4

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b7C

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Spores were transported from Building [Redacted] to Building [Redacted] via a metal transport box that was decontaminated by bleach and ultraviolet light. IVINS transported the spores, and this was usually done [Redacted] as IVINS came in early to heat shock the spores.

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[Redacted]

[Redacted] and [Redacted] would handle any shipments of Ames outside of USAMRIID. A Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Safety Regulatory Form EA101 would be filled out and signed by the chain

279A-WF-222936-USAMRIID, 279A-BA-C101392

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Continuation of FD-302 of

[Redacted]

, On 04/23/2003

, Page 5

of command at USAMRIID for shipment outside of USAMRIID. For movement inside USAMRIID, an internal document needed to be completed. B.a. could be shipped in either liquid or frozen form and [Redacted] had no knowledge of samples being lyophilized and shipped outside of USAMRIID.

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Date of transcription 03/19/2003

[redacted]
[redacted] social security account number: [redacted] was interviewed at [redacted] place of employment, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), Fort Detrick, Maryland, telephone: [redacted] by [redacted] Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington Field Office and [redacted] Postal Inspector, United States Postal Inspection Service. After Special Agent [redacted] and Postal Inspector [redacted] showed [redacted] their official identification and advised [redacted] of the purpose for the interview, [redacted] provided the following:

The personnel working on the aerosol challenges in Building [redacted] Room [redacted] at USAMRIID did not maintain sign-in logs. However, they did maintain logs, recording the different types of biological agents (aerosols) they tested. [redacted]

[redacted] should have the logs for these aerosol tests. USAMRIID personnel did not maintain sign-in logs for the "hot" side of Building [redacted] because they had to use access badges to enter those areas. Use of access badges is automatically stored in a security database.

[redacted] the following personnel were also present during the aerosol challenges: [redacted]

[redacted] Dr. Bruce Ivins; [redacted]

Ivins cultured the aerosol samples and plated them in Room [redacted]

During the period from September 1997 to September 1999, the [redacted] conducted aerosol challenges of *Bacillus*

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Investigation on 03/19/2003 at Frederick, Maryland

File # 279A-WF-222936 [redacted] -813 302; 279A-BA-C10139 -968 Date dictated N/A

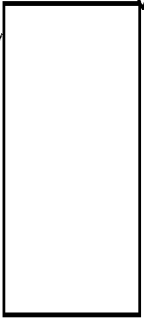
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by [redacted]

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279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302; 279A-BA-C101392

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Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/19/2003, Page 2

anthracis (Ba) every three months. [redacted] is not sure of the total number, [redacted]

A typical aerosol challenge lasted three days, and used thirty rabbits per day for a total of ninety rabbits. The rabbits were monitored for a two-month period following the aerosol challenge to check the antibody levels of particular assays or tests. The researchers drew blood from the rabbits and spun it into serum to measure the antibody titers or levels of concentration.

The researchers expected to see a spike in the antibody titers of the rabbits which had been vaccinated. Typically, the researchers would find a spike within three to seven days. For the next two months, the researchers would monitor the animals' antibody titers to determine the length of time it took for the antibody titers to fall. The researchers generally used the Vollum and Sterne strains of Ba to make the vaccinations because these strains were comparatively less pathogenic than the more virulent Ames strain used for the challenges.

The starting concentration of the Ames strain of Ba used in the aerosol challenges ranged between 10^9 (one billion colonies per one milliliter) to 10^{10} (ten billion colonies per one milliliter). The researchers needed concentrations this high due to the 1000 to 10,000 - fold reduction, resulting from dilution in the air when the sample was sprayed from the nebulizer into the animal chamber. The Ba concentrations the rabbits actually received in the aerosol challenges ranged from 10^5 to 10^6 per milliliter.

The Ames strain of Ba used in the aerosol challenges was cultured in Building 1425, Suite B-3 at USAMRIID. Either the same day or day before an aerosol challenge, the researchers brought the Ames Ba culture to Building 1412. The researchers divided the Ames Ba culture into ten milliliter samples and distributed it into 50 milliliter conical tubes. Each tube had a label listing the titer of the Ames Ba sample contained inside; e.g., 10^9 or 10^{10} per milliliter.

The researchers plated the Ba prior to the aerosol challenges. They diluted each plate to the appropriate concentration before starting a particular challenge. During an aerosol challenge, the researchers sprayed the Ames Ba and collected it in an All Glass Impinger (AGI). The AGI's contained

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279A-WF-222936 [redacted] 302; 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/19/2003, Page 4

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[redacted] Bruce Ivins primarily prepared the plates; however, [redacted] also helped with the plating. Bruce Ivins could identify the auger used to plate the Ames Ba spores tested in the aerosol challenges.

[redacted] Ivins probably ordered the auger from the [redacted] Department, a sub unit of the [redacted] Department. The following employees work in the [redacted] Department:

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[redacted]

The researchers used the hood line in Room [redacted] to conduct the Ames Ba aerosol challenges. The shortcut most people used to access Room [redacted] was to walk through Room [redacted] Room [redacted] was also accessible through an adjacent hallway.

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[redacted]

[redacted] In deed, [redacted] could have taken the shortcut through Rooms [redacted] and [redacted] to access Room [redacted]. Accordingly, [redacted] access to Rooms [redacted] and [redacted] would not have raised any questions among the other scientists. As long as the researchers had the required vaccinations to work in Building [redacted] each of them had access throughout Building [redacted].

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279A-WF-222936-302; 279A-BA-C101392

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Continuation of FD-302 of , On 03/19/2003, Page 5

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does not recall whether Ames Ba was stored in the refrigerator in Cold Storage Room recalls elisa enzymes, antibodies, growth medium and sterile water were stored there. Likewise, does not recall whether stored anything in Room Room was the cold

279A-WF-222936- [redacted] 302; 279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/19/2003, Page 6

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storage room for the [redacted] Department. [redacted] does not believe that [redacted] ever used Room [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] was present during another aerosol challenge that tested [redacted]. However, during the time frame of September 1997 to September 1999, the primary aerosol challenges tested Ames Ba.

The plates used in the Ames Ba aerosol challenges were disposed in biohazard bags. The researchers were supposed to place these biohazard bags into another plastic bag and deposit them into steel garbage cans located in Room [redacted] Building [redacted]. It was possible that viable colonies of Ames Ba could have remained on the plates in the garbage bags for several weeks until disposed into the autoclave in the basement of Building [redacted]. The autoclave was a giant sterilization device. The garbage bags were decontaminated for several hours prior to their ultimate destruction in an incinerator at Fort Detrick, Maryland. The liquid in the AGI's was poured into pans with a 2% bleach solution for decontamination. The AGI tubes should also have been sterilized with bleach before being put into the garbage bags and sealed; however, the researchers often threw everything into the autoclave. The AGI tubes had screw on caps. The scientists knew the risks if the devices were not bleached, however, their concern over leaks was minimal and they all had vaccinations.

Regarding the plates disposed in the biohazard trash, an expert could distinguish between colonies of Ames Ba, E. Coli, and Brucella occupying the same plate. However, if a plate contained only one agent it would be more difficult to determine the type of agent without a means of comparison. The label on the plate would only identify the dilution, so one would still need to know the particular aerosol challenge run which it came from to determine the agent. However, during the period between September 1997 to September 1999, the aerosol challenge runs were either Ames Ba or Brucella. One could assume the agent on the plate was Ames Ba during this period because it was the agent run through 98 to 99 percent of the aerosol challenges. Furthermore, anyone could simply identify the agents on plates disposed in the biohazard

279A-WF-222936-[redacted]302;279A-BA-C101392

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 03/19/2003, Page 7

b6
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trash at the end of the day by simply reading the sign posted outside the lab. The sign identified which agent was run through the aerosol challenges on that particular day.

If a person were to remove a plate from the trash with Ames Ba colonies, then that person could culture the Ames Ba as follows: the person would streak a plate with the colony and seed it in a nutrient broth. After a 48-hour period, the growth of the colony would yield a mass quantity; e.g., liters of Ames Ba. The next stage would involve drying and concentrating it; i.e., to precipitate the Ames Ba out of solution from liters into one milliliter. A high speed centrifuge could spin the Ames Ba down and concentrate it into a pellet or band. Next the person would pour off the liquid and resuspend the pellet in a small volume of solution or broth to increase the concentration. This person would need a fermentor to grow huge quantities. [redacted]

[redacted] at USAMRIID could explain the process in finer detail.

[redacted] examined the first and second floor plans of Building [redacted] and identified the "hot" and "cold" areas in use during the period from September 1997 to September 1999. [redacted] and [redacted] used the lab in Room [redacted]. This room was on the "hot" side. During this same period, the following rooms in Building [redacted] were also on the "hot" side: [redacted] and [redacted]. On the "cold side: were Rooms [redacted] and [redacted] when not being utilized for aerosol challenges.

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Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 10

Page 7 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 8 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 9 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 10 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 11 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 12 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 13 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 14 ~ b3, b6, b7C

Page 33 ~ b6, b7C, b7F

Page 44 ~ b6, b7C, b7F