



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546



April 9, 1974

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

MM

Charles A. Berry, M. D.
President
University of Texas Health Science
Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20036
Houston, TX 77025

Dear *Chuck*
~~Chuck~~:

As you asked, I did talk to Dr. Gurovskiy on the proposed June visit and the Skylab symposium during my visit. I will attempt to summarize his feelings below:

First, he cannot receive you during May or June for the visit to examine the tissues. Sometime in the last half of July is the earliest date for this meeting. He and all of Gazenko's staff will be out of Moscow in May and June and perhaps early July (i.e., I get the feeling it is for a long duration flight). He has cleared all Soviet problems regarding the visit by you and the pathologists. He will advise you of all of this by letter in the near future.

Second, I started the discussion of the Skylab symposium and he immediately shifted to discussing the symposium in terms of having an associated working group meeting to be held in Houston. He stated that he had fully expected to have the next working group meeting in the Soviet Union and was examining some rather interesting sites outside of Moscow for the visit, i.e., Yerevan, etc. However, the Skylab symposium offered an almost unique and timely event around which the next meeting could be planned. He also noted that he considered the tissue examination visit as not serving as a working group meeting; therefore, both you and he would have to obtain special agreement of "our bosses" to have two consecutive meetings in the U.S. After posing all of this, he seemed to assume that this was the course he preferred and asked for the opportunity to think this over for a couple of days.

We met again on Friday, April 5. He again emphasized that he wanted to assure you that he and a rather large delegation would like to

attend the Skylab symposium. The invitation would need to come officially to Intercosmos to Academician Petrov, with a copy to him for information. Next, he again emphasized the desirability of having a connected working group meeting with the symposium.

He had obviously discussed this with his superiors. This discussion had also addressed the issue of two consecutive meetings within the U.S. because, he added, even though the Soviets might have additional flight data by that time, there would be insufficient time to analyze the data for a presentation. Thus, subsequent presentation of the data at later meetings would be appropriate.

He suggested that he would like to receive a letter of invitation for a Soviet delegation to attend the Skylab symposium at the earliest date possible, since this would permit him to formally seek funds from the budget people at their mid-year reprogramming meeting. Early address of this money issue would permit him to have a rather large delegation attend. At the same time, if you agree with the proposal to have the joint symposium-working group session, he would also like to have this thought included with the letter of invitation. He felt that this would strengthen his case before the budget people. He also suggested that it would be helpful to have you acknowledge that you realize that this will mean two consecutive meetings of the working group within the U.S. Having your statement on this would allay any anxiety with his superiors on this matter.

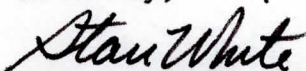
Additional topics of interest to you: All were interested in your new venture at Houston and wish you well. They were pleased that you would continue as the Chairman of the Working Group, since they felt comfortable with the people they have been dealing with and also feel that the progress that has been achieved is related to the personalities that have made up the delegation.

As I noted above, the Soviets will not be available in May and June. Therefore, none of the usual medical operations team, as well as Gzenko, will be at the ASMA meeting. The only people that I am aware are coming are Paul Simonov and Gene Ilyen. I did get the idea that 6 to 8 would be attending.

I am sending under separate cover a small plaque for you for this last Editorial Board Meeting.

Hope you and Dell had a marvelous trip.

Sincerely,



NASA Assistant Director for Life Sciences
for Scientific Activities