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March 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: JACK MARSH

If the President decides to go with a nationwide inoculation to avert a possible epidemic of swine influenza, I am of the view there should be developed a careful plan and concerted briefing program for the Members of Congress.

Some of the elements would include:

1. Letter and fact sheet to every Member.
2. Presidential briefing for Mansfield, Scott, Albert, O'Neill and Rhodes at a minimum.
3. Pre-public briefing by experts from HEW of jurisdictional committee leadership to include Appropriations Subcommittee with ex officio Members and the leadership of the Budget committee.
4. A general forum briefing in the Caucus Room conducted by experts. This would occur after the pre-notice briefing.

I would recommend that Kurzman be alerted to this possible briefing requirement and that he be tasked to prepare a briefing plan that incorporates the above guidance together with your recommendations and his own.

This should be done on a close-hold basis and he should review the plan with you and Members of your staff. It must be emphasized that it is a contingency plan based upon what decision the President makes.

JOM/dl



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SENSITIVE/
EYES ONLY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: BILL BAROODY

FROM: JACK MARSH 

It may be that the President may announce within the next 48 hours a national inoculation program to avert a possible influenza epidemic described as "swine influenza." This is a particularly virulent strain of virus which if contacted by humans, is likely to result in a fatality.

Should the virus occur in the wide spread manner of other types of influenza next Fall and Winter, projections of U. S. fatalities have been made of possibly one million.

If medical evidence points to an epidemic of swine influenza, it is expected there will be announced an effort to mass produce the vaccine which has been developed, and secondly, a nationwide inoculation program. There has been speculation in the press on this subject. Thus far there has been no White House confirmation of the problem. Therefore, it is essential you treat this memo with greatest sensitivity and I would request that you not disclose its contents to anyone other than Ted Marrs. His medical background should be of great help in this situation. The principal White House responsibility is focused on Jim Cannon of the Domestic Council, and I would appreciate your not taking any action, except of a contingency planning nature, without coordinating with Jim. No affirmative action should be taken until there has been a Presidential decision.

However, in the meantime I would be grateful if you would address the subject from the standpoint of developing a plan of action whereby



your operation could be of assistance in the near-term and the long-term, in the event the program is launched. In this regard, please touch base with Jim Cannon who is working closely with HEW and through that resource, interfacing to the medical and scientific communities. It is my view you have resources which could be of assistance and if you concur, I would like for you to draft a one or two page memo of how that assistance might be utilized.

cc: Jim Cannon
Dick Cheney
✓ Jim Connor

SENSITIVE/
EYES ONLY



THE WHITE HOUSE

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY



JIM CONNOR

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

DICK CHENEY

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

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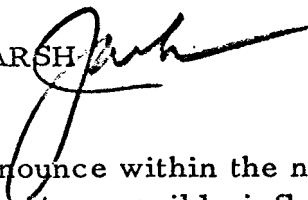
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SENSITIVE/
EYES ONLY



THE WHITE HOUSE

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

JIM CANNON

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

opened
6/19/71
M/T



SENSITIVE/
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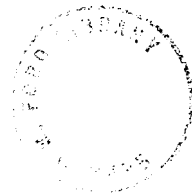
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THE WHITE HOUSE



RUSS ROURKE

SENSITIVE/
EYES ONLY

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JOM/dl



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SENSITIVE/
EYES ONLY

JOM/dl



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 3/25

To: Mr Marsh

From: Spencer C. Johnson

Handwritten initials

 FYI

 For Appropriate Action

Handwritten initials

Comments:

*For approval /
Comment*

Spence Johnson



X6722

(Recd)

*Called
3/25
1:31*

3/25/76
DRAFT MESSAGE

SWINE INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

OK
The nation faces a serious potential public health threat this winter from a ~~certain~~ strain of virus known as swine influenza.

One month ago this strain of influenza was discovered and isolated among Army recruits at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. The appearance of this strain has caused concern within the medical community because this virus is very similar to the one that caused a widespread and very deadly flu epidemic late in 1918-19. Some Americans will recall that 548,000 people died in this country during that tragic period -- and 20 million people worldwide.

I have consulted with members of my Administration, ~~Secretary Matthews and Dr. Cooper~~ and leading members of the health community and public officials about the implications of this new appearance of swine flu. I have been advised that there is a very real possibility that unless we take effective counter-action, there could be an epidemic of this dangerous disease next fall and winter here in the United States.

The facts that have been presented to me in the last few days have come from many of the best medical ~~men~~ ^{authorities} in this country. These facts do not suggest there is any cause for alarm. The scientific community ~~essentially~~ understands what we are dealing with and they have developed a vaccine that will be effective in combatting it.



The facts do suggest, however, that there is a need for action now -- action by the Government, action by industry and the medical community, and most importantly, action by all of our citizens.

Although no one knows at this time exactly how serious this threat could be, we cannot afford to take chances with the health of our people. Accordingly, I am taking the following action.

I am asking the Congress for a special supplemental appropriation of \$135 million -- prior to their April recess -- ^{to insure} ~~for~~ the production of sufficient vaccine to inoculate every man, woman and child in the United States.

I have directed HEW Secretary David Mathews, and the Assistant Secretary for health, Dr. Theodore Cooper, to develop and implement plans that will make this vaccine available to all Americans.

Finally, I am asking each and every American to make certain he or she receives the vaccine this fall. Inoculations are to be available at schools, hospitals, physicians' offices, and public health facilities.

Extraordinary measures are necessary because of the short time period available to assure adequate vaccine production and to mobilize the nation's health care delivery system. An extensive immunization program must be in full-scale operation



by the beginning of September and should be completed by the end of November, 1976.

I urge the Congress to act immediately to pass this special supplemental ^{2/}appropriation separately. This \$135 million appropriation, if acted on immediately, will be a key factor in putting this threat behind us before next winter.



MAR 24 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH

SUBJECT: Congressional Notification of
the President's Program on Swine
Influenza Immunization

On Monday the President met with Secretary Mathews and others about a possible outbreak of swine influenza this coming winter. The President, concerned with the potential seriousness of this situation, has convened a panel of influenza experts, medical professionals, public health officers, pharmaceutical executives, and public officials to discuss his plans for a Federal initiative to immunize all Americans against the swine influenza.

The meeting will take place in the Cabinet Room at 3:30 p.m. today. Following his discussion with the group, the President will announce his decision. You may want to notify key members of the Health Authorization and Appropriation Committees of the President's decision at 4:00 p.m. this afternoon. The members include Congressmen Rogers, Carter, Flood, and Michel, and Senators Kennedy, Schweiker, Magnuson, and Brooke.

TALKING POINTS

1. I am calling to inform you that the President and Secretary Mathews are now meeting with influenza experts, medical professionals, public health officials, pharmaceutical executives, and public officials to discuss a possible swine influenza epidemic next winter.
2. This meeting is a result of a briefing on Monday by HEW detailing the potential seriousness of this situation.
3. The President will announce his decision to give the go-ahead to industry to produce enough vaccine to immunize every American.



4. The President will send up a \$134 million supplemental appropriation request for the FY 1976 budget to support this necessary effort.

cc: Jack Marsh



Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

Washington Post

Thursday, March 25, 1976

Ford Asks Nationwide Flu Shots'

By Stuart Auerbach

Washington Post Staff Writer

President Ford announced a government program yesterday to protect every American against the "very real possibility" of an epidemic next fall of swine flu.

to cover the cost of the vaccine. State and local governments, hospitals and private physicians will provide the shots, he said.

Drs. Jonas Salk and Albert B. Sabin, who devel-

raised up an image of potential seriousness that was not created, for example, by the viral influenza that caused a lot of disease this year. It has a bad history. Now just because it was bad in 1918

pay for this vital protection."

An outbreak of the swine flu appeared in February among Army recruits at Fort Dix, N.J., triggering concern among doctors that it would reach epidemics.

MAR 26 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH
THROUGH: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *mf*
FROM: BOB WOLTHUIS *RW*
SUBJECT: Swine Flu Legislation

Steve Kurzman called and alerted us to a possible phone call from Congressman Paul Rogers to the President concerning the swine flu legislation. Rogers wants to add the Swine Bill authorization to HR 12678, a bill that would extend communicable disease authority. HEW opposes that legislation and Kurzman thinks they have brought Doc Carter around but it's their understanding Rogers won't budge and he said he may call the President on the matter.



JUL 22 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: BILL NICHOLSON

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *m.f.*

SUBJECT: Swine Flu

Congressman Paul Rogers (D-Fla.) Chairman of the House Commerce Health Subcommittee which has jurisdiction over the President's Swine Flu vaccination program, called this afternoon with the following recommendations.

That the President meet as soon as possible, hopefully Thursday, with the four leading drug manufacturers and about 13 of the appropriate insurance executives to urge that the impasse be broken regarding liability insurance for the swine flu program.

Rogers believes that the insurance companies are being intransigent in not underwriting the liability policies and that the President could resolve the controversy if he got these people together and insisted the insurance companies cooperate as a public responsibility.

Rogers indicated that he believes the insurance companies are now ready to go about \$20 million in coverage and he indicated that he would support some legislation to back up the insurance companies if they would show movement at this time.

I understand Secretary Matthews would support such a meeting and I would defer to the Secretary and Jim Cannon to the substantive desirability of such a meeting at this time.

However, Rogers indicated that if the President does not intercede he intends to hold hearings on Friday pertaining to this matter. He said it was his desire not to have the hearings and he would just as soon the White House take action without necessitating his committee holding hearings.

cc: Jim Cannon, Jim Cavanaugh, Jim Lynn, Paul O'Neill, Jack Marsh
Phil Buchen



August 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:

DICK CHENEY

FROM:

JACK MARSH

For your information, I am sending you two summary reports on the status of the swine flu program.

Attachments

JOM/d1



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Here is the copy -
President's
Don't ask me why
it landed here --
(this is about the
2nd time this
has happened)



Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8/19/76

TO: JAMES CAVANAUGH



RDL

Robert D. Linder



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

AUG 18 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: **Biweekly Status Report on the National Influenza Immunization Program (NIIP), for the Period Ending August 15, 1976**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. On August 12, 1976, the President signed P.L. 94-380, The National Swine Flu Immunization Program of 1976, to enable the resolution of the liability issue through the utilization of the Federal Torts Claim Act.
2. Public information materials, including television and radio spots, posters, and billboards, have been developed in prototype with distribution scheduled to begin in mid-August.
3. Requisitions for influenza vaccines with guidelines for ordering quantities of vaccines have been distributed to grantees.
4. All jet injector devices ordered for the mass immunization program have been shipped to grantees. Manuals of instruction for the operation, repair, and maintenance of jet injector devices have also been distributed.

PROBLEMS

1. Finalize the written information/registration form as mandated under the provisions of P.L. 94-380. "The National Swine Influenza Immunization Program of 1976".
2. To negotiate the vaccine contract with manufacturers.

ACTIONS TAKEN TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS

1. Consultation with the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research is scheduled for August 17, to approve the information/registration form.
2. We have requested the drug manufacturers to submit new distribution and price schedules.

(Signed)
William A. Merrill

AGL:lm Secretary





THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

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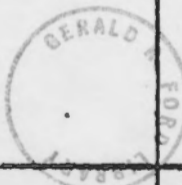
(Signed)
William A. Morris

AGL:DW

FEDERAL EFFORT

CDC

BIWEEKLY DATES	VACCINE CONTRACT AWARDS			NO. OF DOSES OF VACCINE PURCHASED AND DISTRIBUTED			APPROVAL OF STATE PLANS AND AWARD OF GRANTS TO STATES			NO. OF EMPLOYEES		
	TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET	
		YES	NO		YES	NO		YES	NO		YES	NO
APRIL 30												
MAY 14												
MAY 28	4		X				32		X	8		X
JUNE 11							31		X	5		X
JUNE 25								X		10		X
JULY 9				8,000,000		X				16		X
JULY 23										5		
AUG. 6			X			X		X				X
AUG. 20												
SEPT. 3				120,000,000								
SEPT. 17												
OCT. 1												
OCT. 15												
OCT. 29				200,000,000								
NOV. 12												
NOV. 26												
TOTAL	4			200,000,000			63			44		



BIWEEKLY DATES	FDA					NIN						
	NO. OF EMPLOYEES			NO. OF LOTS OF VACCINE CERTIFIED			NO. OF EMPLOYEES			NO. OF CONTRACTUAL ACTIONS		
	TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET	
YES		NO	YES		NO	YES		NO	YES		NO	
APRIL 20	X	X										
MAY 14	3	X				1	X					
MAY 29	4	X				1	X					
JUNE 11	5	X				1	X		7	X		
JUNE 25	2	X				2	X		3	X		
JULY 9	2	X		32		3	X		3	X		
JULY 23	2	X		80			X		1			
AUG. 6	1	X		80			X		1			
AUG. 20				80								
SEPT. 3				80		1			1			
SEPT. 17				64								
OCT. 1				48								
OCT. 15				48								
OCT. 29				48								
NOV. 12				48								
NOV. 23				22								
TOTAL	20			630			9			16		



BIWEEKLY DATES	VACCINE PRODUCTION		JET INJECTOR GUNS DELIVERED			
	TARGET	ON TARGET		TARGET	ON TARGET	
		YES	NO		YES	NO
APRIL 30						
MAY 14						
MAY 28						
JUNE 11					600	X
JUNE 25						
JULY 9	8,000,000		UNKNOWN		600	X
JULY 23						
AUG. 6			UNKNOWN		600	X
AUG. 20						
SEPT. 3	120,000,000					
SEPT. 17						
OCT. 1						
OCT. 15						
OCT. 29	200,000,000					
NOV. 12						
NOV. 26						
TOTAL	200,000,000				1800	



STATE AND LOCAL EFFORTS

BIWEEKLY DATES	NO. OF STATE PLANS SUBMITTED			NO. OF DOSES OF VACCINE DISTRIBUTED			NO. OF PEOPLE IMMUNIZED		
	TARGET	ON TARGET:		TARGET	ON TARGET:		TARGET	ON TARGET	
		YES	NO		YES	NO		YES	NO
APRIL 30									
MAY 14	32	X							
MAY 28	30	X							
JUNE 11									
JUNE 25									
JULY 9				8,000,000		X	4,000,000		X
JULY 23									
AUG. 6						X			X
AUG. 20									
SEPT. 2									
SEPT. 17				120,000,000			75,000,000		
OCT. 1									
OCT. 15									
OCT. 29									
NOV. 12				200,000,000			200,000,000		
NOV. 26									
TOTAL	62			200,000,000			200,000,000		



1947	13		300'000'000		230'000'000	
1948						
1949			300'000'000		300'000'000	
1950						
1951						
1952						
1953			730'000'000		12'000'000	
1954						
1955						
1956						
1957			6'000'000		4'000'000	
1958						
1959						
1960						
1961						
1962						
1963						
1964						
1965						
1966						
1967						
1968						
1969						
1970						



976 AUG 20 PM 2 49

1971	13		300'000'000		230'000'000	
1972						
1973						
1974						
1975						
1976						
1977						
1978						
1979						
1980						
1981						
1982						
1983						
1984						
1985						
1986						
1987						
1988						
1989						
1990						

OCT 13 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 10-12-76

TO: Jack March

FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf

For Your Information ✓

Please Handle _____

Please See Me _____

Comments, Please _____

Other _____



Remember our
concern on this
program from the
START?

A203

R A

PM-FLU 1STLD-WRITETHRU A088 10-12
BY SCOTT MACLEOD

PITTSBURGH (UPI) -- MEDICAL DETECTIVES FROM THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL IN ATLANTA AND LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES TODAY INVESTIGATED THE DEATHS OF THREE ELDERLY RESIDENTS WHO RECEIVED SWINE FLU INOCULATIONS WITHIN ONE HOUR OF EACH OTHER MONDAY AND DIED LATER IN THE DAY.

OFFICIALS SAID THE VICTIMS DIED OF HEART ATTACKS.

DR. CYRIL WECHT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY CORONER, SAID STRESS AND BAD VACCINE WERE "AMONG OTHER MAJOR POSSIBILITIES" BEING EXAMINED.

WECHT SAID HE DID "NOT WANT TO ALARM ANYBODY," BUT WAS "NOT IGNORING THE OBVIOUS SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES."

DON BARRETH, A CDC SPOKESMAN IN ATLANTA, SAID THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THE STRESS OF TAKING THE FLU SHOTS MIGHT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEATHS. BUT HE SAID FOR PEOPLE IN THAT AGE FACTOR "THERE ARE DEATHS THAT OCCUR EVERYDAY WHETHER A FLU SHOT IS INVOLVED OR NOT."

HE SAID FOR PERSONS IN THE 65 TO 75 AGE BRACKET, "YOU CAN EXPECT 11.6 DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION EVERY 24 HOURS."

ALLEGHNEY COUNTY HAS SUSPENDED THE VACCINATION PROGRAM UNTIL FINDINGS ARE MADE. WECHT SAID THAT IT MAY BE A COUPLE WEEKS IF THE PROBLEM IS BAD VACCINES. THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE MANUFACTURER OF THE VACCINE.

THE VICTIMS WERE IDENTIFIED AS JULIA BUCCI, 75, CHARLES GABIG, 71, AND ELLA MICHAEL, 74, ALL OF PITTSBURGH. THEY WERE INNOCULATED AT A SOUTH SIDE CLINIC MONDAY BETWEEN 10:30 AND 11:30 A.M.

ALL THREE, WHO DIED WITHIN HOURS OF THE SHOTS, HAD HISTORIES OF HEART CONDITIONS, AND MRS. BUCCI ADDITIONALLY HAD HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND MRS. MICHAEL EMPHYSEMA.

"WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW AT THIS TIME IS WHETHER THERE IS A DIRECT OR INDIRECT CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INOCULATION AND THE COLLAPSE AND SUBSEQUENT DEATHS OF THESE PEOPLE," WECHT SAID.

TWO OTHERS WHO RECEIVED IMMUNIZATION AT THE SOUTH SIDE CENTER EXPERIENCED NEGATIVE REACTIONS, BUT HAVE "CHECKED OUT OKAY," ACCORDING TO WECHT.

COUNTY OFFICIALS SAID MORE 11,000 WERE INOCULATED HERE MONDAY.

THE SWINE FLU VACCINATION PROGRAM IS PART OF A \$135 MILLION, FEDERALLY SPONSORED EFFORT TO PROTECT MORE THAN 200 MILLION AMERICANS AGAINST A POSSIBLE OUTBREAK OF SWINE FLU THIS FALL AND WINTER.

(INCLUDES PREVIOUS)

UPI 10-12 12:41 PED



a209

u a bylczcqyv
PM-Flu Clinic, 3rd Ld, a202, 350

URGENT

By JOHN BRONSON

Associated Press Writer

PITTSBURGH AP - Allegheny County shut down all 13 of its swine flu inoculation clinics today after the deaths of three elderly persons just hours after they received swine flu shots at a Pittsburgh clinic.

No links directly relating the deaths to the flu shots were established, health officials said, and the closing of the clinics was described as a precautionary measure.

"At the same time, we are talking about three deaths involving the same facility within hours after inoculation, and the odds of that happening are formidable," said County Coroner Cyril Wecht.

All three of the people who died had chronic heart conditions, Wecht said, and the stress of getting the shots may have contributed to their deaths.

A spokesman for the federal Center for Disease Control in Atlanta said there were no plans to curtail the nationwide program aimed at immunizing up to 200 million Americans against swine flu. The center is administering the program.

A spot check with state health departments across the country indicated no immediate plans to discontinue or cut back local programs.

Two doctors from the Disease Control Center were dispatched to Pittsburgh to investigate the deaths. Wecht said the federal doctors and local health investigators would look into the possibility of a bad batch of vaccine as well as the procedures used to inoculate.

In Washington, the national director of the swine flu program, Dr. W. Delano Meriwether, said, "We have absolutely no reason to believe there is a specific problem with the vaccine."

And in Michigan, state health officials said some swine flu vaccine distributed there came from the same lot as the vaccine given to three persons who died in Pittsburgh. They said there have been no reports of ill effects among some 6,000 Michigan residents who already have been inoculated.

Dr. Frank Clack, director of the Allegheny County Health Department, said the inoculation program there would resume once it gets the go-ahead from Wecht and the federal authorities.

The CDC spokesman, 5th graf

1323pED 10-12



November 13, 1976

*Suena
flu*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH
FROM: JACK MARSH

When the President returns, I think it might be helpful to bring to his attention the status of the vaccine program for all diseases.

There was a story on this which you may have seen in the Saturday Washington Post (attached). It seems to me it would be helpful if ~~he~~ could make some public mention of this, and perhaps include a recommendation as to what should be done about it.

JOM/dl



Washington Post

Saturday, November 13, 1976

Public Apathetic and Industry Fearful

All Vaccine Drives Falter



By Victor Cohn

Washington Post Staff Writer

Not only the swine flu campaign but all the nation's programs to prevent disease by vaccination are in severe danger, leading medical authorities agreed yester-

nearly 200 million Americans that federal health officials originally saw as their target. Next week the government may decide not to try to vaccinate the 40 million children aged 3 to 18 who have been left out so far. That decision alone would remove nearly 20 per cent of the population—and one of the most

tal deaths of three elderly persons who had received swine flu shots at a Pittsburgh clinic, have hampered the program.

Now it is picking up again, officials said. During the week that ended Oct. 30, 3,897,000 shots were given, and 4,355,000 were given during the follow-

Some 141 million people