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Dr. Hilary Pickles
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Thank you so much for your letter and enclosure. In a way, I think the lack of press comment should be chalked up as a success. It is sad, but I believe true today, that things that are managed well get relatively little press comment. I also believe that your views on the timing of the press conference were clearly correct. The time was really too late to catch the media, and indeed with the help of the opposition spokesman it was further delayed so that the T.V. cameras actually rushed away after a few minutes. I did note that I had a good walking-on part on some news pictures, although somebody since has said that they saw a rather longer presentation which must come, I think, from the interview that was done afterwards.

We must now hope that our assumptions were correct and that there are no untoward developments. I personally will be happier when the number of new cases reported has really stabilised. I suppose we must also watch out for Dr. Holt!

I would be very grateful if you could spare me about five more copies of the report, as a number of professional colleagues have sought copies.

Concorde ensured that I did not suffer from any jet lag and it was a most interesting experience: if it were not for the saving of time, this is certainly not something that I would go out of my way to experience: space is more limited than club class, and at times the ride is quite bumpy. Please don't think I was ungrateful! With renewed thanks for all your help. Keep in touch.

With very best wishes,

Yours ever,

Richard Southwood

TRES:jch

Linacre Professor and Head of Department:
Professor of Molecular Biophysics:
Hope Professor of Zoology (Entomology):
Professor of Animal Development:
Royal Society Professor:
Royal Society Professor:
Royal Society Professor:
Royal Society Professor and Director I.C.R.F. Unit:

Sir Richard Southwood, F.R.S.
Sir David Phillips, F.R.S.
D. Spencer Smith
C. F. Graham, F.R.S.
W. D. Hamilton, F.R.S.
J. R. Krebs, F.R.S.
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