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Notes	
Publ as	

As I looked at the program and saw high on the list a paper dealing w C.F.S. (I'm sorry I had to miss it) with many of being asked to deal with a subject, biological weapons threat - you will understand why I had a sense of déjà vu all over again as Yogi Berra would put it.

My inaugural to AES occurred in 1957. The subject was a strange epidemic in Porto Cordero Fla which we were to call epidemic neuromyiasis. There was no question but that it was epidemic - it affected the nervous system and there was weakness. David Askenberger a fellow EB officer and Charles Kunkle then known of neurology at Duke produced the whole mysterious outbreak with its group of obviously acutely ill victims & various cent physical findings, 5 evident laboratory abnormalities and a number who, in the absence of an epidemic, were indistinguishable from those w psychoneuroses.

Also sponsored the paper. It was scheduled for a 1st paper in the morning, ^{Agatha's intervention} Alex was called away to other duties and there I was a 25 year old neophyte ^{feeling} with an venerable audience - critical, skeptical and probing. ^{There was no doubt as to whether I could} I recall, questioning continued for nearly 2 hours - it only seemed like 8 hours.

Eventually, this led to an NESM Medical Progress Review which Alex's Shalek and I wrote. ^{over Warren} ^{if they had not intervened on epidemic illness} But this was a potential watchword diagnosis for all manner of neuromyiasis. ^{anxiety} ^{all known} The only safe conclusion and caution in the paper and it was ignored as you so much for an important diagnosis.

The definition of cause remains as mysterious as ever and

Jan. 10 - Pres. signed a bill providing \$2 billion for p.h. preparedness -

y.e.s. those are the words that were used. In hearings both Senate and House word like "public health infrastructure" "epidemiology" "surveillance" were frequently used. The amount provided - 10^8 to 300×10^6 provided ~~last year~~ ^{for 2001} and significantly more than the 10^8 that HHS had just 3 years ^{before}. I believe ^{now} we are ^{being provided} unprecedented opportunities. Frankly I'm less than confident that we have today the vision ^{to do it} ^{the ability to take} ^{advantage of them}.

As we contemplate what this ^{monumental} money means for p.h. and epidemiology ~~the ability to take~~ ~~advantage of them~~ I believe it is important that we not forget the past - events beginning a half century ago that I would suggest to you were watershed events so far as the growth and ~~maturation~~ ^{evolution} of p.h. were concerned. And ^{there} are some interesting parallels to today.

1950 Alex proposed the creation of the E-I-S ^x group of young professionals, primarily physicians - military duty. After into govt & bio - assigned primarily to states and academic institutions, a limited number to CDC.

We created a Center ^{at Hopkins} and sought contributions

All the traditional supporters in med. & p.h. turned us down. - problem for their trustees

As did Arms Control and ~~this~~ other policy groups - don't fund medicine and public health schools.

We approached other schools to propose building a network. No response Efforts to garner interest from professional organizations resulted in support from medical groups nothing from P.M. - in fact, PHH still pushing articles asking a Bior. program as late as 4 months ago

There came ~~the~~ last June the table top "Dark Winter" exercise that started a great deal of discussion

and garnered the strong support of Sam Nunn.

Had him 9/11 ~~the~~ My summons to D.C. - part time

10/12 anthrax A new office created

11/10 appropriations bill was signed.

Secretary asked for an integrated program -

Funds provide explicitly for strengthening surveillance ^{for inf. dis.} $\geq$ epi for g. mtr. am > 500,000; a greatly augmented lab network; directed programs.

Problem - real shortage of epidemiologists

Vaccine - Smallpox -
Anthrax -

Push proks - Antibiotics
Lab network - required lds.

Finally. Question. Is this a one time dollop of funds?

We have agreed the case - years.

If the money is spent in such and we can so demonstrate to Congress, confident there will be more.

Pres. budget (fully reflective of the Secretary's concern)

Pres statement

Communications system

To create a problem that will be a problem

Will one new concern re: biological agents again needed?
No. Availability organism/methods.
② Not a survey of infections.
③ Biowarfare.

limited funds to PHS that, frankly, ~~the~~ effort being made were treated as a distracting nuisance