



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD  
5109 LEESBURG PIKE  
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AFEB (15-1a) 94-9

11 October 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (HEALTH AFFAIRS)  
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Recommendations Concerning Administration of Plague  
Vaccine and Antibiotic Prophylaxis

1. At its 6-7 October 1994 meeting, the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board was asked to reevaluate the DoD plague immunization policy.
2. During this meeting the issue of plague prevention was considered and the Board offers the following recommendations:
  - a. THAT ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST PLAGUE NOT BE DONE.
  - b. THAT PLAGUE VACCINE BE ADMINISTERED TO PERSONNEL WHO ARE LIKELY TO BE ASSIGNED TO AREAS WHERE THE RISK OF ENDEMIC TRANSMISSION OR OTHER EXPOSURE IS HIGH.
  - c. VACCINE MAY NOT BE EFFECTIVE IN THE PREVENTION OF AIRBORNE INFECTION. THE ADDITION OF ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS IS RECOMMENDED FOR SUCH SITUATIONS.

FOR THE ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD:

*for Michael R. Peterson*  
LEWIS H. KULLER, M.D., DrPH  
President, AFEB

*Michael R. Peterson*  
MICHAEL R. PETERSON, DVM, MPH, DrPH  
Colonel, USAF, BSC  
Executive Secretary

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(See Page 2)

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