GD/LM

6th June, 1962.

Dr. H.E. Paterson,
The South African Institute for Medical Research,
Poliomyelitis Research Foundation,
P.O. Box 1038,
Johannesburg,
South Africa.

Dear Dr. Paterson,

I would suggest the Pare strain of A.gambiae as a standard for group B. This strain originated from Bumba, South Pare, and was sent to me by Alec Smith, now of the Colonial Pesticides Research, Arusha. I will be sending you eggs of this strain just as soon as they are available. It is susceptible to insecticides - I don't think it would be a good thing to send you dieldrin-resistant strains.

For group A I would prefer to adopt Diggi as showing the greatest morphological differences from group B strains. However, as you know, we have quite a collection of gambiae strains and which ones are crossed with new strains depends on their availability at the time.

At one time we did have the Muheza strain and crossing it with the Ambursa (group B) and Maidihini (group A) strains showed it to belong to group A, just as does the Kisumu strain.

The only thing we can now say about sector spot measurement is that if a population shows lengths predominantly less than 120 microns it must be group A, but any population with significant proportions above this length could be either group A or group B. I have now added a section to the paper by Miss Jackson and myself ("Incipient Speciation in Anopheles gambiae") to this effect. This will shortly be appearing in the Bulletin of the W.H.O.

Yours sincerely,

G. Davidson.