

March 1, 1965

Dr. David B. Dill  
 Department of Anatomy and Physiology  
 Indiana University  
 Bloomington, Indiana 47405

Dear Dr. Dill:

You should now have a reply from Dr. John Lawrence to your letter of January 25, 1965. Dr. Lawrence sent a reprint of one of the papers on our Peruvian studies, but I believe you will find some additional data in the enclosed reprint of another paper that came out of this study.

More recently I extended these studies to 17,000 ft in Bolivia and to 22,000 ft on Mt. Everest, and a study on erythropoiesis during four days at 17,000 ft in our high altitude chamber following rapid decompression. I am enclosing copies of preliminary reports on the Everest and chamber studies. These reports were very hastily prepared and are full of errors, but they are being rewritten for publication. It will be a privilege to send you reprints of these papers when they are published.

We have never found a significant increase in red cell volume during the first few days to a week at altitude. Hemocentration may occur, depending on the circumstances of the exposure to altitude, but I believe even this tends to be transitory. After a few weeks exposure, and in chronically exposed persons, plasma volumes appear to be normal or only slightly less than normal.

It was a pleasure seeing you at the New York meeting. Some day I hope I will have the opportunity to talk with you at greater length.

Sincerely,

William E. Siri

Enclosures  
 WES:pb

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