

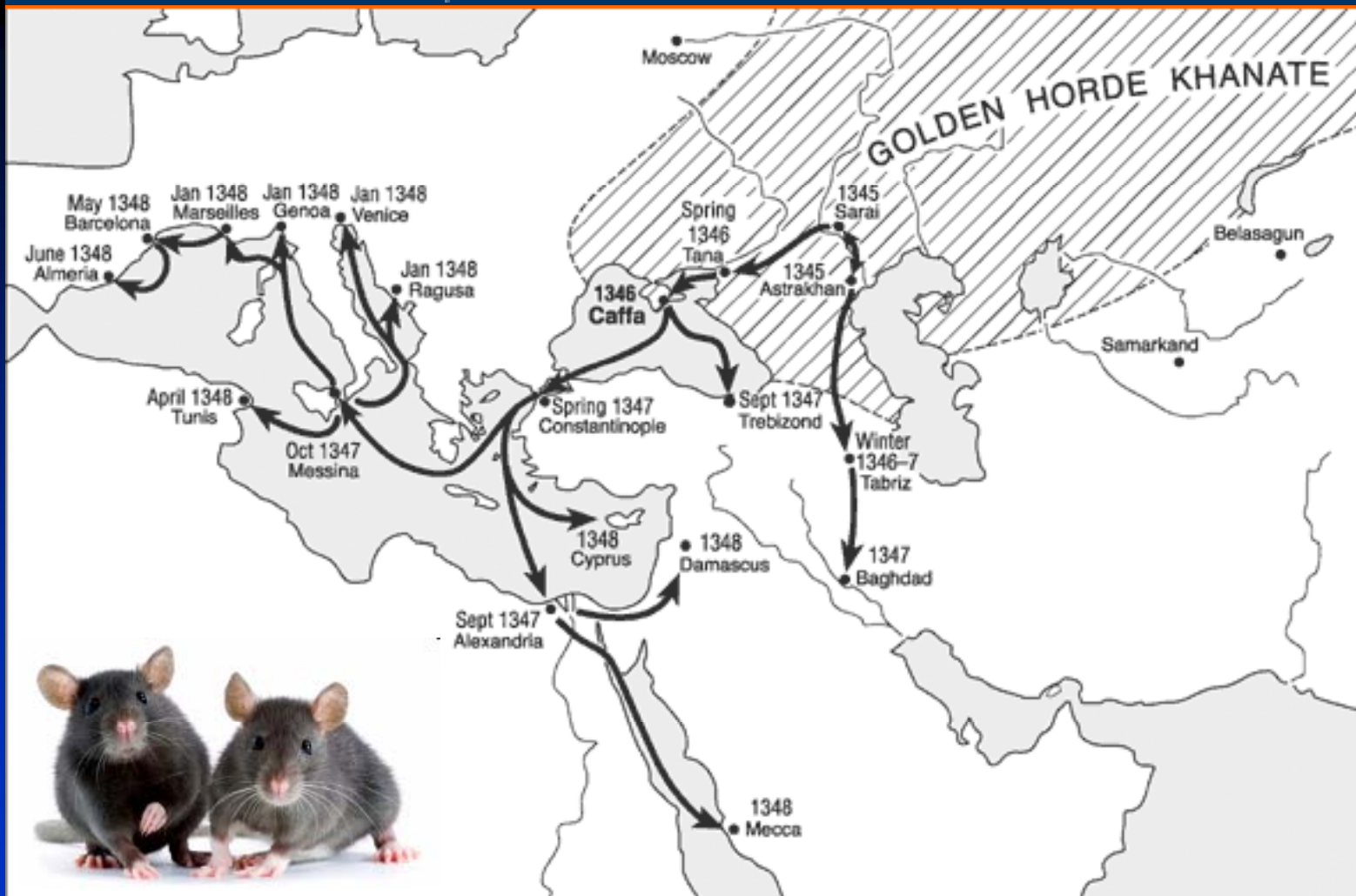
Biological Warfare

Lessons from History



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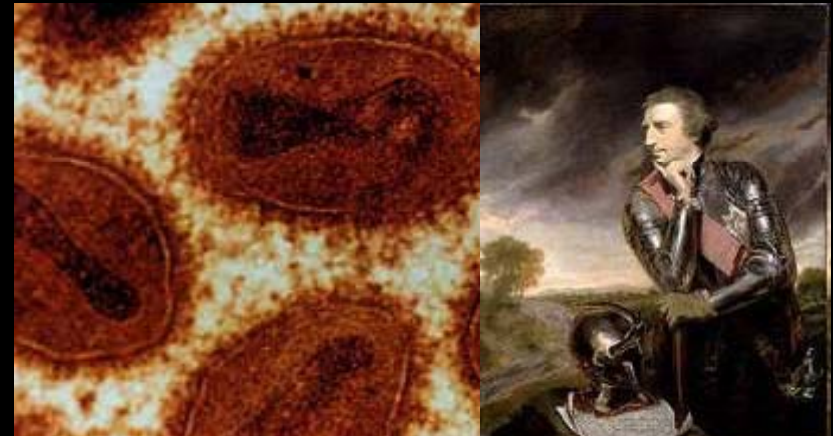
Source: Emerg Infect Dis © 2002 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

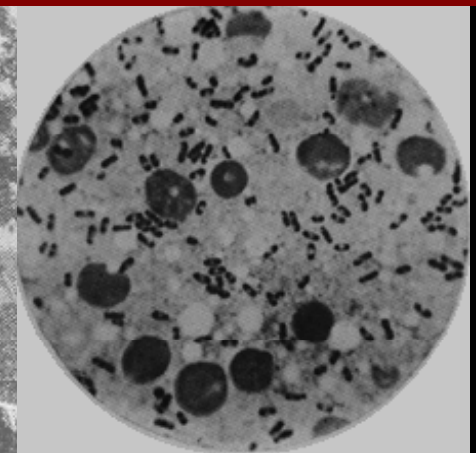
To: Colonel Henry Bouquet

*You will Do well to try to inoculate the
Indians by means of Blankets, as well as to try
Every other Method that can serve to extirpate
this execrable Race. I should be very glad your
Scheme for Hunting them Down by Dogs could take
Effect. but England is at too great a Distance
to think of that at present.*

From: Lord Jeffrey Amherst, 16 July 1763

src: British Manuscript Project, 1541-1545, the United States Library of Congress, microfilm reel 24/41, item 114







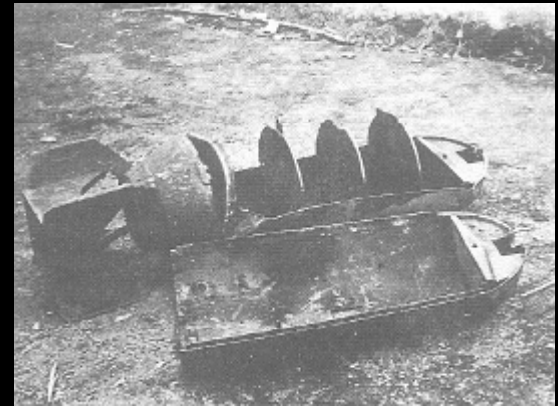
Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet OM AK KBE

Winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine

Australian of the Year (1960)

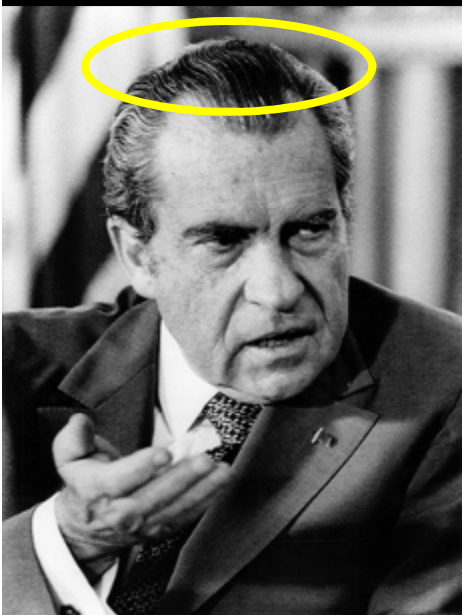
Korean War (1950-1953)

- Post-WW2 US deal to acquire Japanese BW data
- Deliberate or natural disease?
- Plague or propaganda?



The norm against biological warfare

- Geneva Protocol (1925)
- US renunciation of BW (1969)
- Biological Weapons Convention (1972)
- Maintaining the norm today



Richard Nixon

Biological Weapons Convention (1972)

Article I

Each State Party to this Convention undertakes never in any circumstances to develop, produce, stockpile or otherwise acquire or retain:

- (1) Microbial or other biological agents, or toxins whatever their origin or method of production, of types and in quantities that have **no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes**;
- (2) Weapons, equipment or means of delivery designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict.





Australian Law



Crimes (Biological Weapons) Act 1976 (Cth), Section 8:

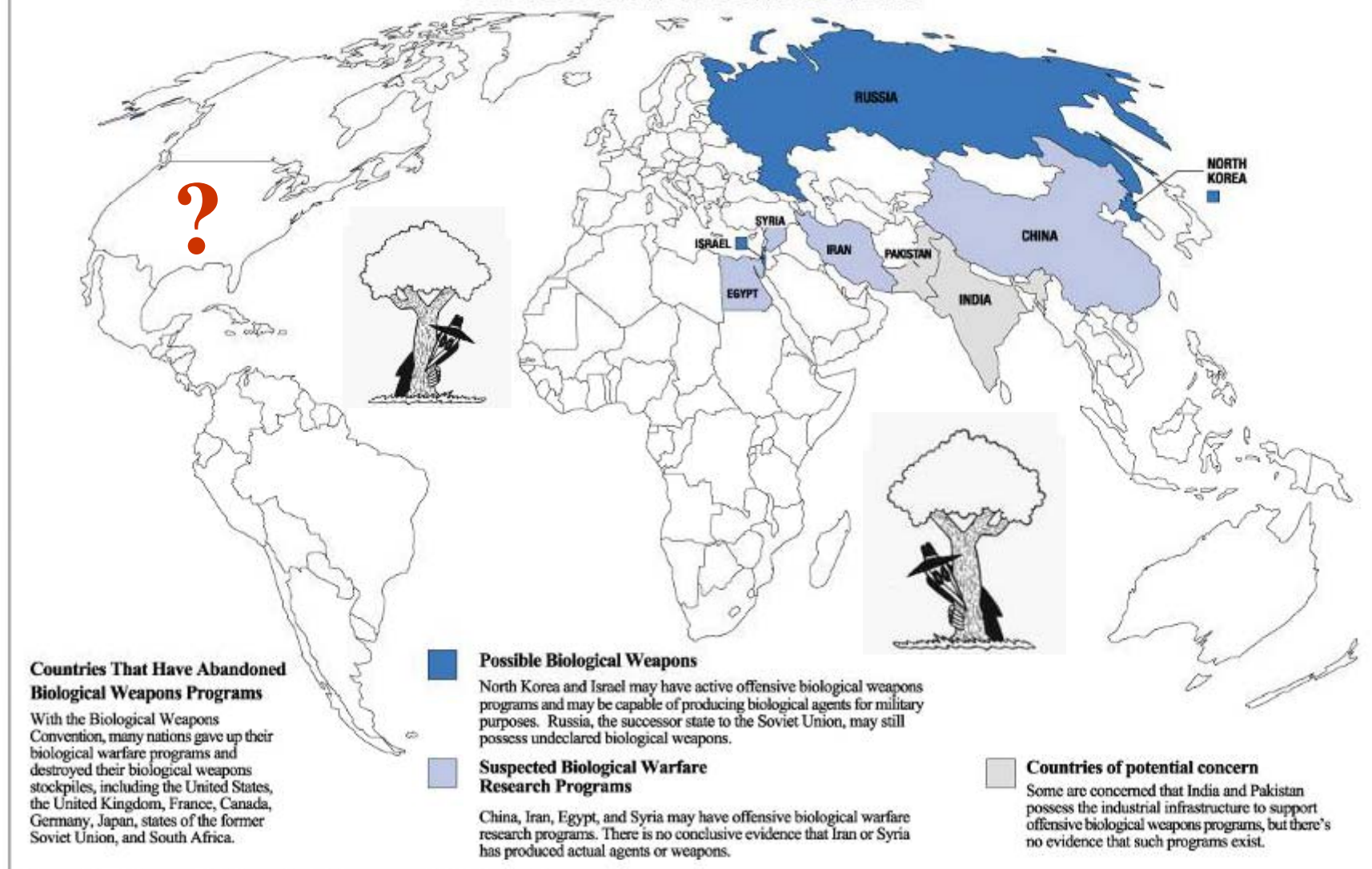
(1) It is unlawful to develop, produce, stockpile or otherwise acquire or retain:

- (a) microbial or other biological agents, or toxins whatever their origin or method of production, of types and in quantities that have **no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes**; or
- (b) weapons, equipment or means of delivery designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict.

(2) A corporation that, or a natural person who, does an act or thing declared by subsection (1) to be unlawful is guilty of an offence and is punishable, on conviction:

- (a) in the case of a corporation—by a fine not exceeding \$200,000; and
- (b) in the case of a natural person—by a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by **imprisonment** for a specified period or **for life**, or both.

BIOLOGICAL WEAPON STATUS 2005



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Who has BW?

BTA Net Assessment-Technical Threat Assessment Task Areas

Acquire, Grow, Modify, Store, Stabilize, Package, Disperse

Assess criminal, terrorist, and state technical capabilities, methods, and devices for delivering BTA against U.S. targets

Assess the nature of nontraditional, novel, and nonendemic induction of disease from potential BTA

Provide high-fidelity models and simulations of disease transmission of BTA for threat assessment, countermeasure development, and emergency management

Assess and evaluate emerging technologies as they relate to BTA analysis and threat assessment

Apply Red Team operational scenarios and capabilities

Evaluate and predict U.S. vulnerabilities to foreign and domestic threats



**Homeland
Security**



Lessons

- Difficult to distinguish natural and deliberate outbreaks
- Difficult to verify existence of biological warfare programs
- Focus defensive efforts on strengthening health system capacity, locally and globally
- Barriers to biological warfare are technical and moral
- Focus biosecurity efforts on life scientists in a manner sensitive to public health needs