Fauci's Feeding Frenzy

Anthrax funded bio-science into the behemoth it is today

- NYT-Fauci

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NYT, Feb 4, 2002: *Spending to protect the United States against germ weapons began increasing under President Bill **Clinton**, .. but many of Mr. Clinton's requests were **cut by his own Office of Management and Budget or the Congress, which remained skeptical.***

***Spurred** by the spate of anthrax-filled letters that followed the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration has decided to seek $11 billion over two years to **protect** the nation against biological terrorism, a far larger amount than even bio defense experts had expected.*

*Dr. Anthony S. **Fauci**, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, said the huge infusion of federal aid for basic and **applied** research was likely to be **''transforming**.''*

Dr. Fauci: *The $1.75 billion request for the National Institutes of Health alone is the biggest single-year request for any discipline or institute in the history of the N.I.H. This is the first time that an extraordinary amount of money is being increased **expressly for bioterrorism** rather than for the general enhancement of capabilities.*

NYT**: The budget also calls for increasing the national supply of **''push packs''** -- the preassembled packages containing life-saving antidotes, drugs and other medical supplies that can be sent to the sites of terrorist attacks or **mysterious infectious outbreaks

Dr. Fauci is expected to travel with President Bush to Pittsburgh on Tuesday to announce details of the administration's biodefense plans.

Dr. Fauci: *You need appropriate facilities to **work on dangerous microbes** that can be used for **weapons**, and we must **jump-start** our efforts to get new facilities and expertise into existing centers of biological excellence*

NYT: *Dr. Fauci said he was putting the **final touches** on a strategic plan for spending the new money at his institute, which is scheduled to receive a 61 percent increase.*

*He said he would spend about $441 million of the $1.75 billion budget on basic research, some $592 million on **drug** and **vaccine** discovery and development, $194 million on **trials of new drugs**, and $522 million on new research **laboratories** at federal, university and **industry** facilities.*

*Some $600 million will go to the **Pentagon**, .. much of it at the United States Army laboratory at **Fort Detrick, Md.**, which **conducted biological weapons research** before such weapons were **banned** in **1969**, and now develops antidotes to and **defenses** against such pathogens. **The***

laboratory *has been* ***heavily involved*** *in trying* ***to analyze the origins*** *and source of the anthrax letters sent to the Senate and to media outlets in New York and Florida.**

The budget also devotes $10 million to creating a ***team of epidemiological scientists*** *.. who will work with their* ***foreign counterparts*** (on) .. ***mysterious disease outbreaks*** *and* ***share*** *news about promising new* ***drugs*** *and* ***antidotes****.*

It earmarks another $20 million for the centers' ***Epidemiological Intelligence*** *Service, established in 1951 as an early-warning system against* ***biological warfare****. **

Dr Fauci, 2011, 10-year anniversary: *What stands out most to me about the 2001 anthrax attacks is the notion that from that point on,* ***bioterror was a reality and no longer an abstract concept****. .. (T)he attacks really were a wake-up call.*

Through the anthrax response, we built both a ***physical*** *and an* ***intellectual infrastructure*** *that can be used to respond to a* ***broad range*** *of emerging health* ***threats****.*

The result *is that today we are in a* ***much better*** *position — from the perspective of both the research* ***pipeline*** *and public health preparedness.*

* Fort Detrick, Md., *was* the laboratory heavily involved in the origin of the anthrax letters.

* Seeding money for the Prox-O-5, EcoHealth