

From:
Dr. Antonio Morimoto Junior, Procurador da República
Ministério Público Federal Procuradoria Da República No Estado De Roraima
Brasil

To:
Dr. Rodney Erickson
Provost, Pennsylvania State University

January 19, 2007

Dear Dr. Erickson:

My name is Antonio Morimoto Junior. I am a Deputy Attorney of Brazil and I am in the position previously held by Mr. Mauricio Fabretti.

Considering the desire of Penn State University to return the samples of Yanomami blood that are in your laboratory and the careful deliberations made in order to bring this about as soon as possible, we would like to inform you that the Brazilian Federal Public Prosecution asked Yanomami leaders for a written declaration of their desire to recover this material. That was done in October, 2006, during an assembly of Yanomami communities in Brazil. A copy of this document can be sent to you by e-mail or, if you prefer, as a letter by airmail. Also, we made a videotape of Yanomami leaders from the regions where the blood samples that you possess were collected. In the videotape the leaders explain how the collections were made, why the return of this material is important for their people, and also they reaffirm the legitimacy of the Brazilian Federal Public Prosecution to request the return of the blood samples in their name. Those testimonies were given in the Yanomami language and also can be sent to you by email or as a letter by airmail.

Thus, we propose that the Yanomami blood and DNA samples stored by Penn State University be handed over to a diplomat of the Brazilian Embassy in Washington who will go personally to the University and will take responsibility for the transport of the material to Brazil.

We also inform you that the only Brazilian institution that was in possession of similar material, the Federal University of Pará, handed it over to the Brazilian Federal Public Prosecution, and in June and July of 2006, we delivered all of those samples to the three Yanomami communities from which they originated.

Sincerely,

Antonio Morimoto Junior
Deputy Attorney of Brazil

Interested readers may also see a link to the *Diário da Justiça* (Nº 202, quinta-feira, 22 de outubro de 2009 ISSN 1677-70187) # 6 :
<http://www.in.gov.br/imprensa/visualiza/index.jsp?jornal=126&pagina=7&data=22/10/2009>