



GEOLOGISKA INSTITUTIONEN

KUNGSTENNGATAN 45, STOCKHOLM VA
TELEFON: 34 08 00

November 20, 1962

Dear Dr. Stenzel,

We returned from Moscow last Thursday the 15th and Reymont filled me in on the Bordeaux meetings.

Dr. Naidin wrote to Vyalov with regard to your oysters. Vyalov wrote in answer that he does not work on oysters any more and that he does not have any of the Central Asian forms anyway, they being worked on in Moscow at VNIGNI by a fellow named Ilyin (Ильин). Naidin contacted him and he was going to help you with some Asian forms. Vyalov suggested that the Crimean-Caucasus forms could be more easily gotten in Moscow also. Naidin has a large collection of oysters (they are his hobby) and he proposed sending his entire collection (about 8 drawers) to you to work on. I accepted for you. The last few days were spent in hasty packing of material for you and long lists prepared. It was agreed that I would take 2 cartons of material with me and the rest he would send directly to you. He assured me that this was o.k. once permission had been gotten from the University authorities. Inasmuch as these last days were also the ones just before the great 45 anniversary celebration of the revolution the atmosphere took on the aspect of a 3-ring circus towards the end. With the University due to close all its doors at 12 noon on the 6 November, Naidin was carrying several boxes of my material from the micro-laboratory, his assistants were carrying the oysters, and I was off across the street rescuing 4 wooden crates of material from their place of storage. But it all ended well and, armed with a letter for the customs officials in Leningrad, we made it o.k. out of the country with 42 pieces of baggage.

Some points:

The enclosed list of fossils was prepared by Naidin's assistant. I have translated several pertinent words for you. The bibliographic list was prepared by N. for you. These are the more important papers on oysters since 1950. Then a couple of notes he asked me to convey to you:

- 1) According to Naidin Gryphaea donetzensis Schatsky from the Upper Cretaceous of the Don basin region is synonymous with Pycnodonta radiata Fischer de Waldheim from the Maestrichtian of the Crimea. He said the true nature of P. radiata is poorly known because de Waldh. work is old, rare and poorly known in the Soviet Union.
- 2) The material labelled Exogyra conica Sowerby is probably

the same as what you are calling E. humboldtii Fischer de Waldheim. This material is either in the boxes I am sending you or will be sent to you. I did not get this clearly.

As soon as I get a moment I will see about shipping this stuff to you by boat. I sent you a book by Ilin on Tertiary oysters recently. I picked it up at VNIGRI in Leningrad the last day I was there. Reymont said you were happy with the other things I sent down for you to Bordeaux.

Now we are beginning to pack in earnest for Libya. We will leave by car January 1 and drive down thru Europe. Erik is in love with school and it seems a shame to take him out and put him in another school again but then children have little trouble at this ~~age~~ age with adjusting to their environments I think.

I was offered a nice opportunity teaching micropaleo at the University of Copenhagen. I had discussed this earlier with Wienberg-Rasmussen but the offer only came now. Having already committed ourselves to Africa there was little to do but ~~thank~~ thank politely no. It would merely have prolonged our financial woes much as our hearts might lie in Denmark. With some financial independence in a few years it would take very little encouragement to move to Denmark.

I hope you are well. Please give my regards to my friends at Shell. I saw in the AAPG that Jim Wilson is really going up to the top-
on to New Orleans it said.

Best regards,

Brie