

I think asking the UK is insulting and will require that we fund travel for them to send a Vet to AK to review storage practices before they issue a certificate. If we have in house folks with training, I recommend that the DOS ask DOD for assistance. It is very likely that there is a vet with the required training at Little Rock AFB....

I left you a voice mail and an e-mail on the unclass side. I was out of office on Friday for a meeting at RAF Mildenhall.

Call me and we can discuss further.

Rob

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**From:** Donegan, James E (POL)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 05, 2006 5:17 PM  
**To:** Letourneau, Robert M  
**Subject:** FW: Request to UK on MRE data

Rob - can you look into getting a certificate per Bill's suggestion?  
Thanks  
Jim

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**From:** Meara, William R  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2006 1:35 PM  
**To:** Donegan, James E (POL)  
**Cc:** Tokola, Mark A; Bonilla, Jean A; Clark, Sandra E  
**Subject:** RE: Request to UK on MRE data

Jim:

This thing keeps coming back at us. While this is an ECON issue, the desk seems bound and determined to talk only to POL about it. That's fine - I won't fight you about who covers the soon-to-be rancid UK MREs in Arkansas!

A month or so ago the desk asked us to check to see if the Brits had any objection to us giving these MREs to third parties. MOD told ODC that they were washing their hands of the MREs, and didn't care what we did with them.

If you do want to try to get the Brits to give us the kind of certificate that the desk is discussing, my suggestion would be to route the request through [redacted] in ODC - he has been the Embassy's main point of contact with MOD on this issue.

Another option might be to try to do this through the Embassy's Foreign Agricultural Service office. But I think this is really an MOD issue.

Bill

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**From:** Tokola, Mark A  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2005 3:33 PM  
**To:** Bonilla, Jean A; Meara, William R  
**Subject:** FW: Request to UK on MRE data

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**From:** Donegan, James E (POL)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2005 3:24 PM  
**To:** Donegan, James E (POL); Evans, Trevor J; Tokola, Mark A  
**Cc:** Johnson, David T; Meara, William R; Skinner, Charles B  
**Subject:** RE: Request to UK on MRE data

Angela's request for a vet certificate comes out of an interagency meeting held yesterday in DC. Apparently the Georgian MOD has made a request for the MREs to distribute to their own troops. There has also been a similar request from the OSCE border monitors in Georgia. The feeling in the interagency was that a vet certificate would help move, even seal, these possibilities.

Also in play but less likely is a request from two US NGOs for the MREs to distribute to "a basket of countries." Possible but less likely that the vet certificate would clinch the deal for this option.

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**From:** Donegan, James E (POL)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2005 8:22 AM  
**To:** Evans, Trevor J; Tokola, Mark A  
**Cc:** Johnson, David T  
**Subject:** FW: Request to UK on MRE data

Know any Vets?

PS, I have asked Washington to research the veracity of a Sun report yesterday that these things are "rotting" in a warehouse somewhere in the States

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**From:** Cervetti, Angela M [mailto:CervettiAM@state.sgov.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 29, 2005 10:24 PM  
**To:** Donegan, James E (POL)  
**Subject:** FW: Request to UK on MRE data

In Charles' absence...

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**From:** Cervetti, Angela M  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 29, 2005 5:19 PM  
**To:** Skinner, Charles B; Bonilla, Jean A  
**Cc:** O'Malley, Michael E; Nolan, Edwin R; Roy, Kenneth M  
**Subject:** FW: Request to UK on MRE data

Jean, Charles,

The MRE saga continues. Below is an e-mail from PGI asking us to ask post to approach the Brits for a veterinarian certificate stating that the meat products are fit for human consumption. Alan YU from PGI seems to remember you already said that it would be very difficult and that the USDA should inspect the MREs and issue its own certificate. The problem is USDA said it does not inspect/certify non-American foods.

There are some options that opened up for disposition but the general sense is that having papers from the brits saying the meat won't poison anybody would help the process along.

What are your thoughts?

Angela