

May 8, 1984
Bldg. 37, Rm. 6A09

(301) 496-6007

Margaret M. Heckler
The Secretary of Health and
Human Services
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Madam Secretary:

What a wonderful letter you wrote to me. We are very grateful for your support and for your confidence in us, and you have our assurances that we will do everything possible to remove this disease from the American community as fast as possible.

I was deeply impressed by your graciousness, calm, and dignity during the sometime stressful press conference. This was a time for maximum acclaim to you and to Dr. Brandt for the federal support and organization made to bear on the resolution of the first and most important part of the AIDS problem in a remarkably rapid period. As you know the rest of the problems can now be scientifically approached with rational experiments.

Thank you again for your letter which is a great stimulus to all of us. I do, however, want to take this opportunity to also emphasize that we feel that any honors heaped on us should also be directed to the leadership that gave us the support, momentum, and organizational structure to properly address scientific issues.

Respectfully yours,

Robert C. Gallo, M.D.
Chief,
Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology

RG/sud