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March 11, 1970

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Dr. Campbell Moses
Medical Director
American Heart Association, Inc.
44 East 23rd Street
New York, New York 10010

Cum
Dear Dr. Moses:

Thank you for your letter of March 3rd, which I hasten to answer. I am frankly very concerned about the whole matter of the fate of the Makarska report. Speaking frankly, I must say that the approach to publications by the A.H.A. is to me at times somewhat "out of whack". Thus, there is very broad support for the A. H.A. policy of priority of attention to coronary disease and its prevention as our main problem. There is also agreement everywhere among knowledgeable people on the need for trials. Here we have an international expert working meeting sponsored and financed by the A.H.A. to review current status of trials, and next needs, with preparation of a comprehensive, careful report. But this report can not get wide dissemination, because no channel can be found to reproduce it in quantity.

The fact of the matter is that aside from xerox copies I have prepared for a relatively small circle of people, this report is virtually a secret document.

You may or may not recall, but a fundamental thought behind holding the meeting was to prepare a position paper for transmission to the top leadership bodies of the A.H.A. and eventually of our government and the governments of the world, in order to assist and encourage them to go down the road in the accomplishment of necessary trials for the prevention and control of the coronary epidemic. We did our scientific business, but I am afraid the A.H.A. financial investment has been dissipated because of the failure to get publication. Of course, you may be correct in stating

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Dr. Campbell Moses
March 11, 1970

that the limited distribution of the report -- or rather its summary -- to the leadership of the Council on Arteriosclerosis, the Council on Epidemiology and the Committee on International Program is all that is appropriate and necessary.

Since we are stuck on dead center with respect to getting trials done, it is hard for me to be convinced in this regard.

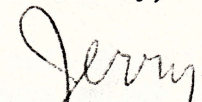
I would be pleased to pursue this matter with you further, particularly in direct discussion. Believe me, I am not trying to grind any axes in this regard, but merely to fulfill my responsibilities, and to aid in getting the work done.

In any case, over and above this very limited matter, we need to converse about the present state of the diet heart field trial matter, and to share with you the thoughts of a group of us who have been trying to move it off dead center.

Thank you for your inquiry about this matter. I look forward to an opportunity to see you soon for further discussions.

Warm good wishes.

Cordially,



Jeremiah Stamler, M.D.
Executive Director

JS/ms