

December 15, 1970

Dear Dr. Blackburn,

After listening to my favorite Dixieland Jazz record, I am writing to you privately.

You will receive my letter dated Dec. 16, 1970 concerning repeatability of the ECG reading probably today or tomorrow. I bet you will be surprised by the strong statement in the last paragraph. I was almost enforced to add that paragraph and send cc. to Dr. Stamler and Thomas Landau. You will receive another similar letter concerning the qualifying ECG reading within a few days. You would realize why I must write such a letter to you if you will read the following:

When I finished my ECG presentation in San Juan, Dr. Klimt privately told me that my presentation was both technically and scientifically magnificent, but I should have told the audience that I am working at the Coordinating Center but not with you. At that time I did not mind at all. However, when I went to FDA after I came back to Baltimore to meet Dr. Klimt and to discuss with him about my successor and my future, he again complained that I have been too much associated with you. I took it seriously this time but I was calm enough and did not argue with him.

It was my great mistake that I told him that Dr. Komachi is sending the doctor who is supposed to be my successor to you regardless of my return. I guess Dr. Klimt has expected "No". Incidentally, I had received an interesting letter from Prof. Seki who is Dr. Komachi's boss and my boss in Japan saying "I may stay another year only if I like". That was a good news and I was thinking to extend my stay in this country until Summer of 1972 because it would be better for both you and me to work with my successor for one year transferring my jobs gradually to him. But after I met Dr. Klimt at his FDA office, I changed my mind and wrote to Prof. Seki that I wish to go home coming June or earlier. I will try to stay with my successor for a month or so, but I can not guarantee this. I am tired of politics. (If you think it necessary, would you explain Dr. Stamler the difficult situation at the Coordinating Center.)

Let me tell you about my next dream, that is to invite Dr. Stamler and you to Japan either before or after both of you will go to Singapore or Philippine in Fall of 1972. I would like to guide you and Dr. Stamler to the country side of Japan, particularly east-northern part like Akita. I am anxious to let him eat extremely low fat content but a bit salty foods. I have already briefly mentioned this to Dr. Stamler in San Juan and I shall write to Dr. Stamler in near future.

Very best regards.

Cordially,

(Tominaga)
Suketami Tominaga, M.D.
5025 Truesdale Ave.
Baltimore, Md 21206