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February 7, 1977

Mr. Joseph Califano, Secretary
Department of Health, Education & Welfare
300 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Califano:

I commend your intention to end the politicization of NIH and its advisory committees. May I also suggest that there may be a serious imbalance in the composition of those committees on the side of surgical and medical technological researchers, at the expense of equally appropriate representation from preventive medicine and public health disciplines. This intends to encourage the very spiraling medical-industrial complex which is little or not at all involved or, for that matter, concerned about the public health.

I enclose some recent remarks concerning this inbred complex.

Cordially yours,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director

HB:jp
enclosure

*excerpt from Dana
Comments
"Med. Econ. prof. att. ..."*