

74I-038I

24 January 1974

Dr. Stephen Szara
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute of Mental Health
5600 Fisher's Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: HSM 42-70-98

Dear Dr. Szara:

I am pleased to transmit the summary reports of the study, Chronic Hashish Users in Greece (HSM 42-70-98). We have summarized all the observations of the three years of this effort and submit these as well as copies of the data upon which the summary is based. The 14 volumes of the appendices include:

- (1) population distribution;
- (2) control population distribution;
- (3) summary of acute administration THC, hashish, and marijuana trials;
- (4) statistical analyses.

The summary and the data volumes represent both work done in New York and in Athens.

In the summer of 1973 we undertook the withdrawal studies. Sixteen subjects went through the procedures and the data are now in evaluation--the EEG tapes are in analysis in New York, the behavioral and psychological data in Athens.

The submission of these reports completes the work under Contract HSM 42-70-98, as requested up to June, 1973, excepting the withdrawal data. It was humanly impossible to complete the data collection of a withdrawal study, as well as the analysis of this complex material, to summarize the findings as well as completing the reports of the other parts of the study program prior to the proposed termination date of December 31, 1973. In submitting the material today, we believe we have complied with the contract to the best of our efforts.

Except for a methodological presentation in Copenhagen in 1972, we have withheld presentation or publication of the data of this study. In discussions with Professor Stefanis in October, we agreed that three reports would be presented and published during 1974.

- (1) Psychological Effects of Chronic Hashish Use--American Psychiatric Association, May, 1974;
- (2) EEG and Heart Rate Effects of Cannabis Preparations in Chronic Hashish Users--Journal of the American Medical Association; and
- (3) EEG Effects of Chronic Hashish Use--EEG Journal.

Because the material is extensive and findings so clear, they warrant extensive explication with supporting evidence. Professors Stefanis, Freedman, and I have agreed to formulate this in a volume which we believe can be prepared by mid-summer and published in 1975.

I had hoped that either Professor Stefanis or one of his staff would join us in the analytical phases in December and January, but this has been impossible because of their teaching loads. The reports have been completed using mail service. After the encumbrances of funds are cleared on January 31, there will remain an unexpended amount of approximately \$4,000. Professor Freedman, as President of the American Psychiatric Association, was able to arrange for the presentation of the psychiatric data at that meeting in May. We would like to invite Professor Stefanis to do so.

We request an extension without additional funding to May 31, 1974, to complete the data analyses of the withdrawal study, to allow Professor Stefanis to present some findings at the APA, and to work with us in the formulation of a volume.

This letter is an offer by the Contractor to extend the contract without additional funds, for these purposes.

On behalf of the International Association for Psychiatric Research, Inc., Professor Freedman and his coworkers at the New York Medical College, and Professor Stefanis and his coworkers at the University of Athens, I wish to express our gratitude for

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the faith and support which you and your associates have had in this program since its inception in June, 1970. The data of this program have been most interesting and we believe will make an important contribution to the complex literature of cannabis use. But above the facts, we believe we have demonstrated that cross-cultural research is feasible and despite physical distances, cultural differences, and language barriers, scientists of good faith can accomplish complex missions. We trust that your faith in this program is rewarded by the data hereby submitted.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.

MF/cis
Encl.