

Ref: 72-321 I
June 28, 1972

Michael Beaubrun, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
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Mona, Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Michael,

I regret that we have been unable to obtain a contract for the cannabis studies in Jamaica, at this time. It seems that one hurdle that we cannot overcome directly is permission from the State Department to undertake these studies.

Two weeks ago, when we spoke, I called Dr. Smith at NIMH and assured him of the answers you gave regarding the premature release of the data. Not hearing from them, I called the contracting division last week, and was told that it was too late to support the study this fiscal year. I called Dr. Bunney, and after some discussions with others, permission was given to fund the contract out of this year's budget-- provided State Department approval could be obtained. When the question was raised in Jamaica, apparently, the negative response was sufficient to push the discussions to the next fiscal year.

Should you wish to proceed, I would suggest you enquire of Dr. Jean Paul Smith or Dr. William Bunney, for an official interpretation of the status of the application.

We would be prepared to write a letter to the Secretary of State, indicating that this Association has had experience in Greece and that we have a good record; that it would be sad for the program to be aborted because of the misbehavior of someone over whom we have no control, etc.

Incidentally, the 'worksheets' prepared by Dr. Smith, Dr. Szara, Miss Carroll, and Dr. Petersen are most satisfactory, and I do believe they were prepared (or are prepared) to see the program through, if the administrative hurdles can be overcome.

Regretfully,

Max Fink, M.D.
Executive Director