

November 10th, 1972

Robert C. Petersen, Ph.D.,  
Chief, Center for Studies of Narcotic and Drug Abuse,  
National Institute of Mental Health,  
5600 Fishers Lane,  
Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Dear Bob,

During the first three months of the extended contract HSM-42-70-98, Study of Cannabis Users in Greece, we have completed the following portions of the program.

Chronic hashish users were asked to volunteer for five sessions at weekly intervals, to smoke hashish, marijuana, THC impregnated placebo, and placebo. Hashish was in two doses, 3 gm and 2 gm (equivalent to 100 mg and 150 mg THC-Δ-9). Marijuana was 3 gm equivalent to 75 mg THC-Δ-9. THC-Δ-9 was impregnated 100 mg in the placebo. All cigarettes were of 3½ gm total weight and filler was tobacco, approximately ½ gm and the remainder N.I.M.H. placebo. During the first three months 12 subjects completed five sessions each. (We have since sent additional supplies and 8 more subjects are in process during October and November).

The EEG records of the first 12 subjects were sent to us in mid-September and their analyses have been completed. Since the study is ongoing, they are sending us the EEG tapes as they complete them. We anticipate the statistical analysis should be done in December.

Following the summary report comparing the social and medical characteristics of the hashish users with the first group of controls - a summary of which was sent in August - 28 additional controls were surveyed during the summer. A preliminary summary of that data is enclosed, as presented by Dr. Stefanis and his co-workers to the C.I.N.P symposium on cannabis, held in Copenhagen in mid-August.

We have had only one serious difficulty which was brought to my attention during the past few weeks. Our protocol requires us to bring subjects into the hospital and have them stop smoking in order to study the withdrawal phenomena. Dr. Stefanis writes that he is finding it difficult to motivate

November 10th, 1972

the men, and that the funds allocated for doing so are inadequate. He doubts that any subject will remain in the hospital for what they anticipate as an extraordinary anxiety-provoking situation for less than 1,200 drachmas (\$40) per day. I am reviewing this problem and will approach Mr. Gradwell and yourself within the next few weeks with a specific suggestion.

Our present plans are to provide a detailed analysis of the behavioral, EEG, psychological and other physiological measures in the acute experiments of 20 subjects for our quarterly report due on or about January 15th.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.

MF/ij  
Enc.