

F. Keenan

November 2, 1971

Dr. Michael Beaubrun  
Professor & Chairman,  
Department of Psychiatry  
University of the West Indies  
Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Dr. Beaubrun,

After considerable delay and consideration, the application for the study of chronic cannabis use in Jamaica has been forwarded to Washington. I have held prior consultations with various of the officers in Washington, and have been told that this study, with the one in Greece, has a high priority, but that funds for the 1971-1972 fiscal year for these contracts have not yet been approved. Approval is expected this month, and these applications are in hand in time.

I have also requested the letter of interest in such studies by the Institute and this is under consideration.

It was most useful to have Mr. Beecher, and I trust he enjoyed his stay. I do not know whether some funds are necessary from our study program, but if there are some that may be useful, please write to me.

I have asked Dr. Dornbush to write to Mr. Chevannes to apprise him of the timetable and to enquire as to his cooperation, since he indicated that there may be a change in his status at the end of the year.

A duplicate copy of the proposal is enclosed for Professor Ward. As he may have told you, I did discuss his budget with him and the budget as submitted includes his requests (modified) and your own. I would urge both of you to review the details, and assuming our NIMH will support the study, will ask you to confirm that the summary includes the items necessary.

I have also sent a copy of the proposal to Dr. Henry Brill of the U.S. Marijuana & Drug Abuse Commission. I understand he will be visiting you next week. I have asked him to present the proposal to his commission for support, for it may interest them as much as our National Institute of Mental Health. Should he raise questions regarding

this proposal, it would be helpful for you to be as candid as possible. Dr. Brill was responsible for establishing our study in Athens, and has maintained a deep interest in the possible consequences of chronic cannabis use.

Anticipating a favorable response before the end of the year, I am proceeding with orders for the additional equipment on a contingency basis; and have scheduled visits to Jamaica immediately after the New Year. It should be possible for one of these funding agencies to indicate their position by early December.

Meanwhile, should any data from the population survey be available, it would be helpful to provide these in support of this application, and I would appreciate a copy as soon as possible.

I shall be attending the World Congress of Psychiatry in Mexico City at the end of the month, and shall look for you. My best regards to your wife.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Executive Director