DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NOV 13 1986

The Honorable Sergey P. Burenkov
Minister of Health
U.S.S.R. Ministry of Health
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Dear Mr. Minister:

On behalf of the U.S. Public Health Service, I want to express my appreciation to you and your staff for a most cordial and informative series of meetings arranged for our delegation during our visit. I especially appreciate the two meetings we had with you and the opportunity to exchange views directly. We also appreciated the cultural tours arranged for us in Moscow and Leningrad. As first-time visitors to the Soviet Union it was a very positive experience for all of us and helped us to better understand your country.

We look forward to continuing this new dialogue, in November, with the visit of the Director, National Institutes of Health, and his delegation in biomedical research. I believe that we also need to make greater efforts to promote contacts at the scientist-to-scientist level. One way this may be done is through allowing greater contacts with the U.S. private sector. We look forward to your Ministry's response to the draft language we left with Dr. Kosenko.

As I explained during our last meeting, the problem of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a growing problem in the United States and one that threatens public health world-wide. I am pleased to provide a copy of the report we released to the public after my return to the United States. The report is directed at the average citizen and therefore is written in simple, uncomplicated terms. I believe that both AIDS and the cessation of smoking to be high priority problems for which exchange of information between our two countries would be most beneficial.

Once again, on behalf of our entire delegation, I would like to express our appreciation for the excellent visit we had. We look forward to hosting the Soviet delegation to the Eighth Meeting of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Committee for Health Cooperation next April.

Sincerely yours,

C. Everett Koop, M.D.
Surgeon General and
Director, Office of
International Health

Enclosure

bcc: Dr. James O. Mason

Prepared by: PHENRY:ctf, 11/10/86

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