Department of Medical Microbiology
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

Virology Section

Faculty of Clinical Sciences
University College London
University Street
London WC1E 6JJ

18th December 1984

DHSS
Hannibal House
Elephant & Castle
London
SE1 6TG

Dear

re: Research and Development of AIDS-virus (HTLV III) screening of Blood
Donors in the British Transfusion Service (BTS)

i. We urgently need to be able to scale-up of the Middlesex
Hospital/Chester Beatty radiolmmunoassay (MH/CB RIA).

ii. The MH/CB RIA has been designed to be compatible with the current
BTS hepatitis testing. Pilot studies are of the utmost priority in selected
centres to confirm this is indeed the case.

iii. Until the MH/CB RIA has been routinely used for a considerable time,
it is very important that reactive sera are referred to a designated
laboratory for confirmatory testing and that donors and their blood products
are followed up.

iv. There is an initial need to monitor the efficiency with which the
MH/CB RIA and the forthcoming commercial kits detect anti-HTLV III.

To allocate the maximum effort to these areas, which are already under
some investigation we need the following support:

Basic grade MLSO £8165 p.a.
Grade II Secretary £7635 p.a.
Predicted disposables £2500 p.a.
and I must emphasise that we see the necessary UK commitment to this problem increasing over the next few years. Nevertheless, you must understand that we would be unable to take up this work without support and that we would not be able to continue it here at the end of the support period. Further this work could only have been possible with the cooperation of and his colleagues in the Cancer Research Institute, Chester Beatty Laboratories. He is happy for the support at this time to be sited at the MH "end" of the collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Saying I want to see you today 20/12.

cc F