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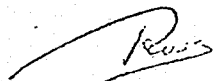
December 31, 1970

Dr. Harold Margulies
Division of Regional Medical Programs
Parklawn Building
#600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Harold,

I have talked to Jack Ingall on the phone about the enclosed program and I am sure I have upset him. I have asked him to write me a letter in defense of putting out such stuff on RMP time with RMP money. My bias is clearly showing - but if RMP is an appropriate medium for propagation of the left-wing Physicians' Forum propaganda, then I believe equal time should be allocated to the Health Insurance Association of America to promote the Burleson Bill, to the American Hospital Association for Ameriplan, and to the AMA for Medicare. I am a vocal promoter of the AMA plan and one who looks on the Kennedy-Griffith-Labor Plan as a blue-print of disaster, but it would not occur to me to use RMP as my medium of expression. I have told Jack that I propose to suggest to the National Council that RMP stay as far as possible away from emotionally charged controversial political issues and stick with efforts to improve medical care at the scientific level. I hereby formally transmit that suggestion for the development of an appropriate guideline. Joe English and George Silver are friends of mine and I respect their opinions, but I think a program of this type is absolutely out-of-bounds for RMP. This is the kind of RMP identification which has caused trouble in Rhode Island and elsewhere because it gives some of the providers the idea that RMP really is something that I don't think it is, and don't want to see it become.

Sincerely,



Russell B. Roth, M. D.

BR:nc

Enclosure