



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

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Dear Dr. Taylor:

I am delighted to learn that you are willing to write a letter on behalf of C. Everett Koop, M.D., whose confirmation hearings concerning his appointment as Surgeon General of the Public Health Service will be held in mid-September. Your letter should be addressed to: Senator Orrin Hatch, Chairman, Committee on Labor and Human Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20501. I would appreciate a copy being sent to me.

It is my understanding that you will stress Dr. Koop's contribution to public health through the MAP Reader's Digest International Fellowship Program. Let me refresh your memory concerning Dr. Koop's involvement with this project.

Through his contact with medicine in the Third World, Dr. Koop recognized not only the need for more physicians dedicated to international public health, but also recognized the fact that many young physicians accepted an assignment in medicine in the Third World only to find that their romantic idea of what it might be like was incompatible with their own life style or that of a spouse.

In order to prevent the economic loss, as well as the loss of dedicated manpower, Dr. Koop determined to find a way to give medical students an opportunity to see Third World medicine in primitive circumstances so that their decision to enter international health as a career would be an informed one.

Ten years ago, he obtained from Mr. Dewitt Wallace, of the Reader's Digest, a grant of several million dollars, the income of which was to be used to finance the fellowship program.

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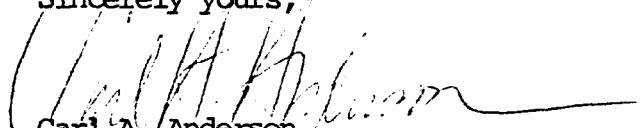
I am enclosing a copy of the 1981 annual report of the MAP Reader's Digest International Fellowships and have checked several areas to which you may wish to refer in your letter. Here are some of the salient features of that report: 733 medical students have been recipients of a fellowship award for periods ranging from 10 weeks to 6 months. All but 77 of these completed their fellowships; 385 went to Africa, 191 to Asia, and the remaining to Latin America and Alaska. Students from 97 American medical schools and 15 Canadian, British, or Australian schools have been assigned to 54 countries.

Perhaps the most significant impact of the program was revealed in a questionnaire returned by 356 fellowship recipients. Nine percent of the fellowship recipients have changed their career plans to international medicine and an additional 19 percent are currently considering that option. Eight percent are undecided about a career in international medicine. Twenty-five students plan to enter a school of public health.

If you agree that the MAP Reader's Digest Fellowship Program is a significant contribution to international public health, it would be helpful to Dr. Koop to state your opinion in that way.

Your willingness to write in Dr. Koop's behalf is much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Carl A. Anderson
Counselor to the
Under Secretary

Enclosure

P.S. - If appropriate, you might also mention that in 1960 Dr. Koop represented the State Department in convincing the Ministry of Health of Ghana to accept an American medical school rather than one supported by the Soviet bloc nations. After the school was built by the forerunner of the Agency for International Development, Dr. Koop negotiated for the American faculty to be recruited under the umbrella of the Philadelphia College of Physicians until the school's management was turned over to Ghanians five years later.