

19/7

**REMARKS**

**RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL TREASURES  
AT THE  
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE**

**BY**

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**PRESENTED AT THE  
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE ROTUNDA**

**MARCH 17, 1989**

OF THE HOSPITALITY

WE ARE MOST APPRECIATIVE <sup>A</sup> ~~OF~~ THE FRIENDS  
OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE AND THE  
LOCAL D.C. CHAPTER OF THE COMMISSIONED  
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION <sup>AND</sup> ~~A~~ FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN  
MAKING THIS RECEPTION POSSIBLE. SPECIAL  
THANKS TO BELIA [PRONOUNCED "BELL"] CEJA  
[PRONOUNCED "SAY HA"] ON DR. DONALD  
LINDBERG'S STAFF; JANET JOY FROM MY STAFF,  
AND REBECCA ASHERY, CHAIRMAN OF THE D.C.  
CHAPTER OF THE COA, WHO WORKED DILIGENTLY TO  
MAKE THIS EVENT HAPPEN.

BELL  
SAY HA

WHY ARE WE HERE THIS EVENING? THIS IS <sup>A</sup> ~~A~~  
CONTINUING ACTIVITY COMMEMORATING THE PUBLIC  
HEALTH SERVICE CENTENNIAL OF THE COMMISSIONED  
CORPS. WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE THAN TO  
LOOK AT SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR HISTORY.

PART OF

THE EXHIBIT ITSELF WAS ORGANIZED AND PREPARED BY MARGARET KAISER ON THE STAFF OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE DIVISION. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS THE EMPHASIS PLACED ON THE PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES, REPRESENTING SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS :  
-- CONTROL OF DISEASE, FOOD AND DRUG REGULATIONS, BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, MENTAL HEALTH, ~~AND~~ DRUG ABUSE, AND DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE.

DO TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO LOOK AT EXCERPTS <sup>FROM</sup> ~~OF~~ THE VIDEO TAPE. PLEASE NOTE THAT DR. PARRAN SITS AT THE VERY DESK THAT I DO AT PARKLAWN -- SO WE KNOW THAT THIS IS THE AUTHENTIC SURGEON GENERAL'S <sup>CHIPPENDALE</sup> DESK. ~~WHAT~~ <sup>SOME</sup> RARE TALES ~~STORIES~~ COULD BE TOLD BY THE SURGEONS GENERAL WHO HAVE SAT AT THAT DESK.

ACTUALLY, IN A FEW MONTHS, DR. FITZHUGH MULLAN'S BOOK, PLAGUES AND POLITICS, WILL BE PUBLISHED, AND WE WILL HAVE AN ENLIGHTENING REVELATION OF <sup>AT LEAST SOME</sup> ~~MUCH~~ OF THE POLITICS THAT WENT ON AND DIRECTED HEALTH POLICY DURING THIS PAST CENTURY BY THESE VERY SURGEONS <sup>HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN</sup> GENERAL. ~~BECAUSE OF~~ DR. MULLAN'S WORK, ~~IT IS~~ MY HOPE TO ESTABLISH A PERMANENT OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY.

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS EXHIBIT SHOULD BE HERE IN THE ROTUNDA OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE. AS YOUR SURGEON GENERAL, I SIT ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE AND LET ME TELL YOU THIS IS NO LAID BACK GROUP. UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. DONALD LINDBERG, THE LIBRARY IS FORGING A NEW GENERATION OF "INFORMATION

ACCESS" AND "INFORMATION SYSTEMS" MAKING USE OF MODERN ELECTRONIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESOURCES. TRAINING ~~OF~~ HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO USE THESE TECHNOLOGIES IS CENTRAL TO THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE. THE LIBRARY IS ALSO REACHING OUT TO HEALTH SCIENCE INSTITUTIONS; HEALTH ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARIES TO IMPROVE OR FACILITATE THE USE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TRANSFER.

*IM SURE YOU ALL*

~~DID YOU~~ KNOW THAT LAST NOVEMBER, FORMER PRESIDENT REAGAN SIGNED PUBLIC LAW 100-607 ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CENTER FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION. THIS IS A NEW DIVISION WITHIN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF

MEDICINE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. DAVID J. LIPMAN <sup>WHICH WILL</sup> ~~WHO~~ PROVIDE ~~A~~ ~~RE~~ ~~NEW~~ ~~VISIONS~~ REGARDING MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, BIO-SEQUENCING INFORMATION AND THE HUMAN GENOME.

<sup>NOT ONLY</sup> SO, HERE WE HAVE IN THIS GREAT NATIONAL LIBRARY A REPOSITORY OF OUR PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BUT ALSO THE TALENTED STAFF AND RESOURCES THAT WILL ~~TAKE US WITH THE~~ ~~FUTURE.~~ <sup>KEEP US ON THE CUTTING EDGE</sup> <sup>IN THE FUTURE</sup>

<sup>DEVELOPING AT</sup> ANOTHER GREAT TREASURE ~~OF~~ THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE IS THE POTENTIAL FOR THE LINKAGE OF DATA BASES WITH ALL THE NIH INSTITUTES SUCH AS NOW EXISTS WITH THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE. DR. LINDBERG IS ACTING VIGOROUSLY TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL AND HAS APPOINTED AN OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY DR. MICHAEL DEBAKEY TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, ~~EFFORT.~~

I WOULD ~~IT~~

MIGHT

YOUNG

~~WE~~ HOPE THAT EACH OF YOU ~~WILL~~ TELL THE STORY THAT YOU SEE UNFOLDED HERE TONIGHT TO HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ~~EVERYWHERE~~ SO THAT THEY MIGHT CONSIDER CAREERS IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

IF WE DO OUR JOB WELL, HOPEFULLY WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IN 1998, WE CAN SEE ON THESE WALLS POSTERS DEPICTING A CURE FOR AIDS; ERADICATION OF SOME INFECTIOUS DISEASES SUCH AS MEASLES; ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR GOALS TO HAVE A SMOKE FREE SOCIETY, HEALTHIER BABIES AND MOTHERS, GREATER CONSCIOUSNESS TO PREVENT DRUNK DRIVING, A LESS VIOLENT SOCIETY, AND LESS DRUG DEPENDENCY.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, TOO, HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO AS MY HEALTH ARMY. INDEED, THEY ARE -- BUT UNLIKE OTHER ARMIES, OUR ARMAMENTARIUM RESIDES IN THIS GREAT LIBRARY PROVIDING US WITH THE INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY TO DO OUR JOB AND ACCOMPLISH THE TASKS AHEAD. I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT  
→ SOME AWARDS THAT WILL SERVE AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF THIS DAY.  
ENJOY YOURSELF -- TAKE TIME TO STUDY THE EXHIBITS AS YOU ENJOY THE REFRESHMENTS.

Suggest  
Present  
Awards  
here



**FOR: DONALD A. B. LINDBERG, M.D.**

**"IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SUPPORT FOR HISTORICAL  
RESEARCH ABOUT THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND  
THE COMMISSIONED CORPS AND ITS PRESERVATION  
FOR POSTERITY."**

**DATE: MARCH 17, 1989**

**FOR: PETER HIRTLE**

**"IN RECOGNITION OF HIS WORK AS THE  
BIBLIOGRAPHER AND ARCHIVIST OF THE PUBLIC  
HEALTH SERVICE AND FOR SPIRITED ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED TO ALL THOSE STUDYING THE HISTORY OF  
THE COMMISSIONED CORPS IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
ITS CENTENNIAL."**

**DATE: MARCH 17, 1989**

**FOR: LUCINDA H. KEISTER**

**"IN RECOGNITION OF HER SKILL AND DEDICATION  
IN PRESERVING THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, THEREBY ENRICHING THE  
CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE  
COMMISSIONED CORPS."**

**DATE: MARCH 17, 1989**

**FOR: JOHN L. PARASCANDOLA, PH.D.**

**"IN RECOGNITION OF EXTRAORDINARY COUNSEL AND  
SUPPORT PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
IN CELEBRATING ITS HISTORY ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE CENTENNIAL OF THE COMMISSIONED CORPS."**

**DATE: MARCH 17, 1989**

**FOR: MARGARET KAISER**

**"IN RECOGNITION OF HER CRAFT AND SKILL IN  
EXHIBITING THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE UNITED  
STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED  
CORPS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE CELEBRATION OF  
ITS CENTENNIAL."**

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