

August 29, 1985

Chief, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology, DTP, DCT, MCI

My Letter of September 27, 1983.

Associate Director, National Cancer Institute

1. First, I am shocked that the Pasteur Institute had the audacity and lack of dignity to get a copy of a private letter that I wrote to Dr. Robin Weiss and Dr. Fritz Deinhardt.
2. Second, I am happy that the letter documents my belief that AIDS was most likely caused by a retrovirus, a variant of the known human T-lymphotropic viruses (HTLV).
3. Regarding my comments about Montagnier's virus "I have never seen it, etc." and "the suspicion he had a mixture of two". As for the first point:

"That I had not seen the virus, etc." refers to the fact that what he sent in July was non-existent, i.e., no virus (his September shipment obviously had not yet come to my attention since Mike got it September 23 and my letter is dated September 27.

It also means that we never found what he published. He published a picture of a virus which is of poor quality and not typical HTLV-III (LAV). He published a finding of a one-way, cross-reaction with LAV (HTLV-III) positive sera of one patient and the HTLV-I cell line I sent to him. Since this type of cross-reaction does not occur (as he did the experiments), I concluded he had something different from what he had seen. How could I know at that time that his experiments were that sloppy? Alternatively, his data could be explained by two viruses; HTLV-I plus something else. Finally, he presented data of only 20% AIDS sera reacting with their isolate. With HTLV-III we had 90% or better. With HTLV-I or II less than 10% ~~and~~ certainly he was not claiming he had HTLV-I or II.

4. Finally, it is most interesting that they have this letter. This letter was mischievously and anonymously used as a part of a collage sent around the world to do harm to us. I suspected long ago that the collage was prepared by A. Karpas of England, and they have confirmed my suspicions by enclosing a copy of Karpas' letter. He has done things like this before to me, Robin Weiss, Tony Epstein, and others.

What is remarkable is Karpas' suggestion to Montagnier that Montagnier send the collage out to various academies, and in particular, the U.S. National Academy to hurt me. This is precisely what occurred making it obvious that the collage was indeed sent out by the Pasteur Institute (Montagnier). This collage had pasted together true statements in the press made by me combined with made up items and misleading things taken out of context. Included in the collage was a part of this very letter by me (to Weiss and Deinhardt) which the Pasteur Institute had sent to you! It also had a malicious statement of a woman who believed AIDS to be caused by Swine fever virus, and then stated that I was holding the cell line from the world to make money (see attachment).



Robert C. Gallo, M.D.

RCG/es

Attachment