

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

Blair
23 JAN 1976

19 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Reply to Letter from Senators Stennis and Kennedy -
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology - Cut Back
Protest

At Tab A are letters to Senators Stennis and Kennedy concerning
the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The letters respond to
the 17 December letter to you that they signed jointly (Tab B).

Recommend that you sign and dispatch the letters at Tab A.

Norman R. Augustine

Norman R. Augustine
Acting Secretary of the Army

SEC DEF HAS SEEN
24 JAN 1976

Coordination
ASD(LA)

[Signature]

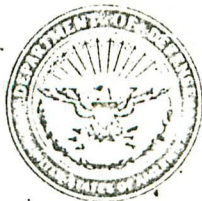
PD ASD (H&E)

[Signature] 22 Jan 76



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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20301

LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS

29 DEC 1975

Honorable John C. Stennis
Chairman, Armed Services
Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to acknowledge your letter of December 17, 1975 to the Secretary of Defense regarding an effort being made within the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army to cut back on the civilian medical activities at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

Your letter is receiving attention and you may expect a further reply at an early date.

Sincerely,

Signed — John M. Maury

John M. Maury
Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Legislative Affairs

cc: SecArmy w/basic corres for Prep of reply for SecDef signature





ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20301

LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS

29 DEC. 1975

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman, Senate Health Subcommittee
Committee on Labor and Public Welfare
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to acknowledge your letter of December 17, 1975 to the Secretary of Defense regarding an effort being made within the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army to cut back on the civilian medical activities at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 17, 1975

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary, Department of Defense
Room 3E 880
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As you know, the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology is a tri-service medical facility here in Washington, administered by the Surgeon-General of the Army. It represents a unique national resource which serves important functions in both civilian and military medicine. In the civilian sector, it is world-famous as the ultimate reference center for pathological diagnosis, and its registries of pathology are supported by such prestigious organizations as the American Academies of Ophthalmology and Dermatology, the American College of Radiologists, the U.S./Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology, and many other comparable groups. It also plays a very important role in support of the research activities in cancer, heart, eye, and many other diseases in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health.

We have been disturbed to learn that there is an effort being made now within the Office of the Surgeon-General of the Army to cut back on the civilian medical activities of this Institute, and to restrict it to a much narrower, purely military function. Such a move would not only do irreparable harm to the Nation's biomedical research and health care efforts, but would also deprive military medicine of the very important and fruitful developments in the civilian sector which this Institute provides. We would hope also that the national and international activities of this Institute could be protected from the narrower requirements in this field of the new medical school within the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

Furthermore, I hope you will agree with us that it would not be cost-effective to attempt to recreate the excellence of the Institute's traditional civilian capacities during these difficult economic times.

We hope, Mr. Secretary, that you will give this extremely important health activity your close personal attention. The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology is an example of a world-famous American Institution of which




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The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
December 17, 1975
Page Two

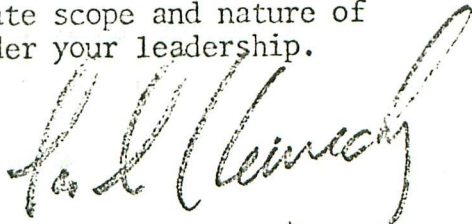
not only the Department of Defense but indeed the entire Nation can be proud. For this reason, as well as for its important role in both the military and civilian health efforts, we would urge that the Institute functions not be restricted.

We would appreciate it very much if you could provide us with a report with regard to your views on the appropriate scope and nature of the function to be performed by the Institute under your leadership.

Sincerely,



John C. Stennis, Chairman
Armed Services Committee



Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman
Senate Health Subcommittee

