

# OFFICIAL TEXT

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REMARKS BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN FOGARTY,  
CONGRESSIONAL ADVISER TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION  
TO THE 14TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, NEW DELHI,

ON FEBRUARY 9, 1961.

Mr. President:

I thank the Chairman of the United States Delegation for his friendly and flattering words of introduction. I join with him in extending thanks to the Government of India and congratulating the people of India on the progress of health in this great nation.

It has been my privilege to work closely with Dr. Burney for some years in health programs in the United States. I know that you who elected him President three years ago are aware of the splendid leadership he has given to public health at home and abroad.

I am not a physician or a technician in public health. As a member of the Congress of the United States, I have, however, had a long-standing interest in health matters; and, as Dr. Burney has pointed out, a considerable involvement with them. This interest has, over the years, involved world as well as national health; and I have been honored and pleased in having served with three delegations to these world assemblies of physicians, scientists, public health specialists, and others involved in the struggle for world betterment through better health.

It is perhaps because of this special interest that the words of President Kennedy in his inaugural address struck home to me with particular force when he pledged his Administration "to invoke the wonders of science instead of its terrors."

The contributions which my government is making today in invoking the wonders of medical science abroad are substantial. For this year of 1961, the Congress has appropriated approximately \$119.8

millions for medical purposes abroad. In addition about \$33.2 millions in foreign currency generated by our foreign aid programs are being spent on health programs abroad.

Through the World Health Organization, the International Cooperation Administration, the United Nations Relief and Work Agency's program for Palestine Refugees, UNICEF, the Pan American Health Organization and other means, these funds are making themselves felt in the only terms that count in health work--- bringing life to our fellow men and to the relief of human suffering.

This is the present --- and it is not enough in the sense that nothing is really enough as long as preventable disease exists anywhere. We can do more. We should do more. I am not satisfied personally with the progress that is being made. I believe more should be done and I shall exercise every means to see that it is done.

The long hope of mankind in the war against disease lies ultimately with medical research. Toward this end the United States has become increasingly interested in extending support of research -- both at home and abroad. For the solution of the problems of cancer, heart disease, mental illness and other great scourges does not lie in any one country but in the imagination and the genius of scientists in every land.

Already there is substantial work in progress. Support by the United States for medical investigators -- for research -- in 1960 amounted to over \$34 millions. Under the fellowship program sponsored by my government young medical scientists from 34 countries are studying in our universities and research institutions with several hundred of our own scientists studying in 40 other countries.

In the Congressional appropriation act of 1961 to the United States Public Health Service, a further extension of overseas research activity is envisioned. A sum of \$5 million was designated for the general expansion of international medical research under the authority of the Surgeon General. Approximately half of this amount will go toward the establishment by four American universities to support the establishment of International Centers for Medical Research and Training in seven countries.

My country, as you know, has also interested itself in the

development of research through the World Health Organization. Under an agreement worked out between the Public Health Service and the WHO, the Public Health Service has made two specific research grants, in support of a world-wide study of insecticide resistance in the amount of \$204,000 for four years, with support promised for an additional four years; and for an extensive program of study of water-borne diseases amounting to \$78,900 for four years, with the promise of an additional four years.

I have had the pleasure as a member of Congress in initiating legislation, supporting other legislation and working for increases in funds for research activities of this sort and for the expansion of these activities at home.

Because of our belief that the World Health Organization should play an increasingly important role in stimulating, guiding and coordinating medical research, the United States since 1958 has been pleased to lend active support to that idea. It is a particular pleasure to note that the Director General's proposed budget provides expanded support for medical research. The United States has been privileged to make voluntary supplementary contributions.

It is my privilege at this time to announce that our government is making a further contribution of \$500,000 to the World Health Organization medical research program.

Under the "Health for Peace Act", which I sponsored in the Congress, we can look forward to increased research activity -- in training research workers in increasing numbers, in providing additional fellowships, providing grants and loans for equipment, in the exchange of research scientists and research missions, and through other means.

All of this doctor-to-doctor, scientist-to-scientist program holds great promise for a future people-to-people program in health -- the only real objective and the only enduring basis for our health programs and interests.

In addressing this Assembly today I would stress this fact. The non-political character of the WHO, stressed by so many speakers, is its strongest asset. Equally strong and enduring is the character of the World Health Organization's work for the welfare of the people

of the world.

This thought has, again, been eloquently expressed by President Kennedy in another equally appropriate context:

"Now the trumpet summons us again -- not as a call to bear arms, though arms we need -- not as a call to battle, though embattled we are -- but a call to bear the burden of a long twilight struggle, year in and year out, 'rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation' -- a struggle against the common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease and war itself."