

Chicago Tribune

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John Crewdson

Robert C. Gallo, M.D.
Chief, Laboratory of Tumor
Cell Biology
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Md. 20892

Dear Dr. Gallo:


Thank you for your letter of September 11 and the enclosed documents, all of which I had already read.

Since you did not call my attention to any errors of fact, I assume you found the Chicago Tribune's account of the isolation of HIV/LAV to be factual. If this is so then I'm gratified, because I worked very hard to make the article as complete and balanced as possible.

I thought it most unfortunate that I had to report and write that article without any input from you. When you telephoned me in early August to announce that "this is our last conversation" and that I was not welcome in your lab, I was effectively precluded from putting to you the questions that developed as my reporting progressed.

Should you decide at some later time to open yourself to questions from the Chicago Tribune, not only about your own laboratory procedures but those of Drs. Popovic, Gonda and Wong-Staal, and also about your business relationships with Drs. Essex and Haseltine and your past and present income from patent royalties, please contact me at the address above.

Yours sincerely,



John Crewdson
West Coast Correspondent

cc: James D. Squires
Charles Madigan