

AWB/SDS


TRAVENOL
LABORATORIES LTD

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Mr. E. Deakins,
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Health and Social Security,
Room D812,
Alexander Fleming House,
Elephant and Castle,
London,
SE1 6BY.



12th December 1978

Dear Eric,

Brian and I both enjoyed meeting you again on 28th November, and we appreciated the time you were able to devote to discussion of Travenol plans to extend our industrial investment here in Britain.

You will find attached my "official" letter suggesting that discussions could usefully commence, on the issue of providing sufficient blood products to meet U.K. needs without recourse to costly imports. Brian and I believe it might be possible for a company such as Travenol to work with the various groups within the National Health Service here, with an overall objective of making the country self sufficient for all needed blood products, through a voluntary donor service. Neither of us believes that such a collaborative approach would be easy to work out, we both have reservations - as expressed to you. For the benefit of all concerned, I feel that preliminary and very thorough discussion should take place - with all minds as open as possible to new ideas and different ways of doing things.

The two operational medical people closest to this topic are:

Dr. Richard Lane,
Director of the National
Blood Products Laboratory,
Elstree.

Dr. Geoffrey Tovey,
Director, Regional
Transfusion Centre,
Bristol - and advisor
to the Department on
Blood Transfusion -
through Sir Henry
Yellowlees the C.M.O.

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Directors:
B. L. Steer, W. H. Gantz (USA),
G. Schmergel (USA), A. Barrell,

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Both Richard and Geoffrey are aware that we have raised the matter with you, and both have told me that they would like to see an exploration of the possibility of meeting demand for blood products with industrial support and co-operation.

I would gladly discuss any question you have, or meet with anyone from the Department you might nominate for further preliminary talks.

Finally, we heard a few days ago that David Ennals, will open the new Fenwal blood pack production unit in Thetford. He is to do this on 25th January 1979. I am naturally hoping that you will be able to attend on that day as well. We will send an invitation in due course.

Your interest in our activities and your support of my efforts to get more corporate investment directed into our country, are very much appreciated.

With kind personal regards.

Yours sincerely,
TRAVENOL LABORATORIES LIMITED

GRO-C

A. W. BARRELL
Managing Director