## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE HEALTH SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

April 13, 1973

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333 TELEPHONE (404) 633-3311

Mr. (\_\_\_\_) Auburn, Alabama

Dear Mr. (\_\_\_\_\_)

For many years now, you and a number of other men were part of a study begun in Macon County, Alabama in 1932 to learn more about untreated syphilis. Some of the participants in the study had syphilis, others did not. It was expected that the difference in the health of men with syphilis as compared to that of men without syphilis would further explain the effects of this disease.

A careful review of this study has just been completed by a committee of experts in the fields of medicine, law, education, and religion. As a result of that review, it has been recommended that you and all other participants in the study obtain a thorough medical examination and any needed treatment, and be offered continuing medical care. This includes care for any health problems you may have now or experience in the future. We can arrange for a well-qualified doctor or a hospital to provide this examination and care. If you prefer to see your own doctor or another doctor of your own choosing, this too can be arranged. Whichever you prefer, we will pay for the costs involved.

The Public Health Worker who brings you this letter can make the necessary arrangements for you if you want these services. He can arrange and pay for your travel to the doctor or hospital. Furthermore, if you choose to have these services but later decide that you no longer want them, you can withdraw. Likewise, if after consideration you should choose not to receive these services now, they can be provided later. In any event we will respect your decision and also your personal privacy in this matter.

You may feel it would be helpful to discuss this matter with others prior to making a decision; therefore, the Public Health Worker will return at your convenience in a day or two to learn of your decision and to assist you.

Sincerely yours,

M.D.

Assistant Surgeon General Director