30 December, 1985

To the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation
of Rotary International

Dear fellow Rotarians:

This is to inform you that, by letter of agreement signed by Vice-Chairman Bill Skelton, on behalf of Chairman Hiroji Mukasa, and by President Ed Cadman, I have accepted the invitation to serve as director of the Rotary International Immunization Task Force for a three-year period beginning 1 July, 1986.

I look forward with enthusiasm to the opportunity to continue to assist the PolioPlus program which has such great promise for improving the lives of people throughout the developing countries. Rotary's primary role will be one of social mobilization within various countries, as well as providing vaccines and financial and other support. In many instances, the national day of immunization, in support of the objectives of the expanded program on immunization, will prove to be the right strategy, and it will be one of my tasks to help identify the right combination of all these components so that all PolioPlus expenditures are cost effective.

President Ed Cadman announced this development at a staff meeting on 19 December.

For your information, and that of the board of directors with whom I am sharing a copy of this letter, here follow the paragraphs of the letter of agreement which describe the task of director:

The role of the director of the Rotary International Immunization Task Force basically will involve coordination of the work of the team and its scheduling; to assess how the PolioPlus program can best interface with national strategies for immunization; assistance in maintaining relationships between Rotary International and government health ministries and multinational health agencies; participation in priority setting and evaluation; helping to develop and control project budgets approved by the trustees; and assisting through various means the task of communicating the needs and achievements of the PolioPlus program.

It is understood that members of the Rotary International Immunization Task Force will comprise appropriate combinations of persons who may be on a full-time, part-time, or consultancy basis, depending upon the approved plan of action and needs of the particular country.
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selected for PolioPlus assistance. It will be the responsibility
of the director, in cooperation with the general secretary of R.I.
and the secretary of The Rotary Foundation, to establish a suitable
modus operandi for the team(s), and to help develop, implement,
and evaluate operational policies and procedures.

During the week of 9 December I was in India to assess how our 48,000
Rotarians and 1,250 clubs can most effectively support India's newly
announced immunization campaign. It was inaugurated on 19 November,
1985, by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, as a memorial to the late prime
minister, his mother, Indira Gandhi. President Ed Cadman and I were
able to see the prime minister briefly and to describe to him the
dimensions of Rotary's support. He welcomed this news. What faces
us in the near future is the development of a coordinated and disciplined
plan which will enable Rotary to make a real impact in that nation
of 750 million people, where there occurs daily 500 cases of paralytic polio.

On a personal note, I am glad to report that Betty supports this
decision and will be assisting me on some aspects during our field work.
On 1 July, our new home base will be Rural Route 1, Ambia, Indiana,
a rural home which we purchased in anticipation of retirement.

With best personal regards,
Sincerely,

Herbert A. Pigman
General Secretary