



# communiqué

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## LETTER TO THE HONOURABLE ED BROADBENT, P.C., M.P.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today released the following text of a letter to the Honourable Ed Broadbent, P.C., M.P.:

"Dear Mr. Broadbent:

Thank you for your letter of October 31 concerning nine Canadian citizens who underwent experimental psychiatric treatment in Montreal. These tragic events occurred almost thirty years ago under circumstances which are still far from clear. You know my commitment to seeking adequate compensation.

The Canadian Government, and the Canadian public, became aware of CIA involvement in funding these experiments only in August of 1977. Since that time several Ministers and senior officials in External Affairs have attempted to establish exactly what the facts were. I have been told that the files of the CIA project and those of Dr. Ewen Cameron, the head of the Allan Memorial Institute were destroyed some time ago. In the late 1970s the Department attempted, without success, to obtain a full list of patients treated at the Allan Memorial who might have been subjected to these experiments.

Since the filing of a suit in the U.S. Courts, the Department and our Embassy in Washington have assisted the nine plaintiffs to the greatest extent possible. The Government has also been seeking to ensure that such an event will never happen again.