August 12, 1963

Dear--:

Thank you for giving me the benefit of your views concerning the so-called "krebiozen controversy."

This matter, of course, is not new to me. As a matter of fact, over the past ten years or so I have been in frequent touch with the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and authorities connected with the National Institutes of Health, the Public Health Service, and the National Cancer Institute. I have held meetings in my office with groups of active krebiozen supporters, have been in contact with the Federal District Judge before whom a libel suit involving the drug is pending, and with representatives of the American Medical Association. I have been in touch with a large number of individuals who have been either users of the drug or have had close contact with users. Further, I actively participated in the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings which developed the new federal investigational use regulations.

So I do not speak lightly when I say that federal authorities do have a clearly defined obligation to protect the well-being of the public in connection with the development of any new drug and that my whole interest, therefore, is to do whatever is possible to help bring the entire matter into proper focus and within an area of common agreement under which the necessary established testing procedures can be accomplished.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen