

STATEMENT OF ATTITUDE
REGARDING
VOLUNTEERING FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

Seventh-day Adventists are well aware of the exploits of Pasteur, Gorgas, Reed and their associates by which many of the dangerous and epidemic diseases have been robbed of their terror. Progress in the knowledge of these diseases and the development of techniques for their control was often achieved through deliberate risk to themselves personally. It is through the risks and dangers which they accepted in line with and beyond the call of duty that we are now comparatively safe from plagues which a generation or two ago claimed their victims in large numbers. We honor these men for their courage and sacrificial devotion to the betterment of the lot of their fellow men.

There are still conspicuous blank spaces in our knowledge of disease and its treatment. Research in these areas calls for some of the same selfless devotion in the search for lifesaving knowledge as was manifest by the pioneers of modern medicine.

It is the attitude of Seventh-day Adventists that any service rendered voluntarily by whomsoever in the useful necessary research into the cause and the treatment of disabling disease is a legitimate and laudable contribution to the success of our nation and to the health and comfort of our fellow men.

So far as Seventh-day Adventist personnel is concerned, we would earnestly request that the conscientious principles by which our young men live might be respected and guaranteed by the Armed Services in the project the same as it is now in their regular line of military duty.

J. B. Beck

Secretary, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists