

12 December '73

Mrs. Midge Meinger
Vietnam Christian Service
Church World Service, New York
Dear Midge,

With reference to the long drawn out correspondence between ourselves and C.W.S. concerning medical supplies for Minh Quy Hospital, I have not heard from the New York Office of the Christian Relief Services but will pursue the inquiry via the C.R.S. people here in Vietnam. I think it is very dubious that V.N.C.S. would be inclined to support Minh Quy on a regular basis to the extent we need it for medical supplies, and have not followed up the suggestion in your letter of October 24th about presenting a petition to be considered for the 1974 budget. We definitely do appreciate the help VNCS gives in the way of occasional material aid gifts and recently a scholarship for a nursing student at Biers - but the funding of drug purchases would be a much heavier burden, at the rate we go through medicine here.

Ongoing we may have a temporary stay of execution as far as the cut back in U.S. medical aid is concerned. I was recently told by US officials in this mission

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supply depot in Saigon that although U.S. aid - on kind
will be diminished rapidly in the medical field, funds
will still be coming to enable local purchases by
GVN — if this is true, we may still be getting
large quantities of supplies from the Ministry of Health
for some time to come. Nonetheless it will be
essential to develop other sources of supply sooner
or later. I will check with our GRS friends
in Saigon.

As in Hanoi I'm glad to see VNCs bringing
in more of the US type of hospital, with hopes
conditions will eventually permit extending programs
far out into the countryside (I study & tell VNCs
particular village has its grass roots people to people approach).

During our period our visit to the Saigon area & for
now were aiming to get back something during the summer
of '74 — Vinyard crossed (so many problems in getting
a Vietnamese passport.)

Best regards, and mine, thanks for your interest
in the hospital. Bob