

June 1, 75

Dear Marlene,

...so much to write but I know I can't fit all the news on one page, but I will try. As you know through the papers, the Minh Tay staff (i.e. foreign staff) evacuated to Kontum in March — there wasn't any fighting except for steady rocket attacks, however the entire ARVN military concentration as well as USAID withdrew so that there was a mass exodus of civilian refugees who didn't want to get caught when the North Vietnamese moved in. Apparently however the vast majority of the Montagnards stayed behind — apart from a few foreigners, such as the Ministry of Health people, the refugees who went mostly by road to Tay Hoa, the army, and Montagnard places were all Vietnamese (in fact there are rumors that Montagnards co-operated with the North Vietnamese forces when the final offensive began down in Ban Me Thuat). As far as I know all of the orientals & monks stayed behind except for Pope Currian, who was with a group of refugees and who was reported killed while en route to Tay Hoa. Pat Smith & the two little boys are back in Seattle, where she is to chair Family Medicine at the university. Marion is back in New Zealand, would like to return to Kontum but doesn't know if this will be possible. Phyllis Cribby was in Saigon when the others left the hospital, tried to get back to Kontum but wasn't able — has presented a written request for permission to return there to work to the new revolutionary government and is now waiting in Bangkok for an answer — she wants very badly to return (address: 197/1 Silom Road - Apt 504 - Bangkok, Thailand) but still doesn't know if she'll be able. John Haxican got out with wife & her family, Scott Buis has also returned to USA (to go back to school maybe). Kerry Macbeck had married a Montagnard girl from Ban Me Thuat — she returned here to get some papers for her passport just at the wrong time — was caught in the initial attack and reported killed — for over a month Kerry believed this report but kept working with CARE in Saigon to get confirmation — just before all the Americans finally left (29 April) he got news that she was only wounded and was recuperating at a plantation near Ban Me Thuat, so Kerry stayed behind but we have no news of him. Senia's husband stayed behind in Kontum voluntarily, however she got out with her two kids — Ngay's parents wouldn't let her take the girl, but she got out together with little Johnny via the U.S. — when they got up and (according to Marion) is now in Penang. Now the important ones about Minh Tay: Edric Baker & George Christian refused to be evacuated along with the others, remained behind and have not been heard from since the general evacuation of Kontum. Except for a quick trip to S.E. Asia in April (I'll explain this in a minute) I have been here in Philadelphia during all these months, and for the last month and a half have been trying to get information about Marie, George, the hospital, and the general situation in Kontum and the likelihoods to pass on to the Kontum Hospital Fund in Seattle: of course they are very worried, because there has been no news at all since March. The Montagnards and the Quakers — both located here in Pennsylvania — have connections with the new government in South Vietnam but have been unable to get any information about Kontum. The New Zealand Consul in New York reports that a New Zealand newspaper stated that Dr. Baker was in Quang Tri as of May 1st, but didn't give any other facts. Therefore, could you try to get us some news either via the North Vietnamese Embassy or the representatives of the Provisional Revolutionary Government there in Paris? Or possibly through Bishop Seitz's organization, the Mission de Paris? I don't know that address, but I do have the PPG: address than this Minh — or — Mr. Nguyen Ba Thi

Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam

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Would you have the time to get in touch with these people face-to-face if possible and request their good offices in trying to find out: 1) Where are Dr. Christian and Dr. Baker? Are they in good health, are they able to work, how can we get in direct contact with them? 2) What is the status of Minh Tay Hospital? Is it functioning normally, and are the original staff members still there? 3) Any

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bachelor — which is not a bad life for the time being to be sure, Teddy is 15 months now and a very happy healthy little 'boy' as you would say. He goes to nursery school every day and is learning a lot. I also my parents are here too and I don't have to worry about anything etc., so it's lots of fun being a 'single parent'.
I'm trying to get information and even if you can't help me, send some news of yourself. Did your brother get out of Saigon okay, and what is he doing now?

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