

426 Owen Road
Hynewood, Pa. 19096
12 June 1975

Mr. Chad Huntley
United Press, Bangkok

Dear Mr. Huntley,

This letter is to clarify the telegram I sent the other day requesting information about the whereabouts of two Americans and one New Zealander who voluntarily remained in South Vietnam after the final U.S. evacuation. No word has been heard since the end of April (in the case of the two doctors at Minh Quy, since mid-March); and, as you also remained in Vietnam for a period after the change of governments, I thought you might possibly have picked up some information about these people or at least might have contacts with others who would be able to find out about them. Any help you could give would be much appreciated not only by myself but also by Kerry Heubeck's colleagues at the CARE office in New York and by the board members of the Kontum Hospital Fund in New York — not to mention the families of the individuals concerned.

Kerry Heubeck had been employed by CARE to set up a pig-raising project in Kontum for the benefit of Minh Quy Hospital. He married a girl from BanMeThuot (Paul Struherich's sister-in-law); she was in BanMeThuot when the attack on that city occurred early in March and was mistakenly reported killed in an airstrike. Kerry learned that this report was mistaken and that she was in fact convalescing from wounds on a plantation somewhere near BanMeThuot only at the end of April and therefore apparently stayed in the hope of rejoining her. He was the only CARE foreign staff member who did not evacuate Vietnam, but their office in New York has not been able to get any news from or about him. Having noticed your article in the Philadelphia Bulletin about the 64 Americans known to have remained behind in Vietnam, I thought possibly your path might have crossed Kerry's after the change of governments.

Dr. George Christian (Boston, Mass.) and Dr. Eric Baker (Wellington New Zealand) were on the staff of Dr. Pat Smith's Minh Quy Hospital in Kontum. According to reports they declined evacuation facilities at the time when other foreigners were leaving Kontum back in mid-March in order to remain at the hospital. No word from or about either one — or about the hospital or the general situation in Kontum Province for that matter — has been received. All that is generally known is that there was little if any fighting in Kontum (except for the rocketing that preceded the pull-out of ARVN troops), that there were very few Montagnards among the refugees who fled Kontum & Pleiku, and that all the active Catholic Bishops at the time of the final offensive are still at their duty posts (this would include Mgr. Seitz, who had previously stated his intention of remaining in place whenever the change of gov'ts should finally occur). The New Zealand Consul in New York says there was a notice in an Auckland paper that Dr. Baker was in Quang Tri as of May first, but there was no further information. So the Kontum Hospital supporters in Seattle & elsewhere are extremely anxious not only about the personal welfare of the two doctors but also the indigenous staff and the status quo of the hospital. If there is a reasonable hope that the hospital is still functioning for the benefit of the tribal population and that financial support from the States could be allocated for Minh Quy specifically, KHF will continue to exist and solicit funds — otherwise, in the absence of news or assurances from PFG that they can get funds and/or supplies through to Kontum eventually, they may disband.

Any light that you might be able to shed on these matters, or any suggestions you may have for establishing contacts in Saigon and Kontum will be most appreciated.

Thanks for your concern,

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MAY 1975

JUNE

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				1	2	3 LAST QUARTER
4	5	6	7	8 ASCENSION DAY	9	10
11 MOTHER'S DAY NEW MOON	12	13	14	15	16 SHABUOTH	17 ARMED FORCES DAY
18 FIRST QUARTER	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 FULL MOON	26	27	28	29	30 MEMORIAL DAY TRADITIONAL	31

Mr. Chad Huntley
 c/o United Press
 U Chulien Building -
 986 Rama IV Rd.
 BANGKOK, THAILAND

William F. Rose
 426 Orange St.
 Hynnewood, Pa. 19096
 U.S.A.