

MINH QUY HOSPITAL

MISSION CATHOLIQUE

KONTUM - VIET NAM

11 Feb

Dear Louis and Gwen,

How are you all? I have been meaning to write but wanted to wait until back in Kontum. I have been here 4 days now and become progressively more busy each day covering part of pedis and anesthesia. Yesterday we had a mine injury with perforations of the bowel and neck which Pat and Ed Baker operated on and today another mine injury with the left side of the head lacerated.

All your letters were gratefully received and everyone is well. Peggy works on the wards and is a great help and very capable and observant. Mary is mostly in the operating room assisting Pat or Ed and also does very well. Another new nurse Barbara Svetlik is as with the Barsky unit in Saigon so with the 3 nurses who were here to begin with we have 6. I just put a new filler in one

of your pens) six nurses.

The weather is quite warm for ^{the} time of year — 80s during day and 60s at night. There is much more malaria than usual especially from one of the refugee camps (Marilou). Militarily it is very quiet — scarcely a pop to be heard — it was a bit noisy before I left in December.

Regarding addresses, ^① Dr. Tolle will probably be transferred in a month so it is best not to send things to him or they may be returned.

② The Department of State address for letters only is more secure than the Vietnamese mail. That address would be as follows:

Name
Saigon (ID)
ADR/R/VOLAG/CRS
Department of State
Washington D.C. 20520

③ The regular Minh-Quynh address as on the letterhead would be for routine mail and packages.

I started working a full day soon after getting here and am on call tonight and the back seems to be doing quite well so it seems to

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have been a good operation but I am not going to test it by falling through another window. It certainly was pleasant to recover at your place with all that good food and many interesting things to do and people to meet. You all really did a great deal and I am quite grateful for it. Well, we are quite a distance from Seattle now - eight time zones - it used to be $8\frac{1}{2}$ but now Hong Kong and Vietnam are the same time. I got you all an "egg shell" picture in Saigon but found it almost impossible to send it out of Vietnam during the Tet season so I gave it to Peggy to hang on her wall if she likes and bring back with her. I arrived Saigon Monday and flew up to Kontum Friday - Air America flies Monday, Wednesday, Friday and it takes a couple of days to make the arrangement.

Kontum is certainly an interesting place.⁽⁴⁾
The montagnards are burning off their fields
and they glow at night. I will remember
to write KHF about the questions they had
and have talked to Pat. Thank you all
for everything.

Best Wishes to all,
George (Humphrey)