

17 May 1972

Dear John:

Words are poor instruments in my hands to convey to you the flood of mixed emotions which engulfed me as I read your letter of 5 May. Anguish and compassion for our Montagnard friends, pride and satisfaction that I have had the privilege to play a small part in the history of MQH, anger and frustration that mankind can find no better way, regret and envy not to be there. But most of all I felt honored that such a fine courageous young man as yourself would take time to write of such things to me. You have my deepest thanks and admiration.

I hope you will not be distressed that we are sending copies of your letter to KHF board members, MQH friends here and possibly for publications. We deleted a few words which we thought should not be made public.

As I write this I am sitting alone in our cabin at Hood Canal. FM music murmurs, a fire crackles and a soft rain patters on the roof. You may be sure that some evening in the future you will join

holding these off. I would not add to your labors but would ask for just a few words of advice about whether such personnel should be sent at this time. Also if you are in need of any equipment or supplies we would do our best to have them sent some way or other.

In the past 5 years the conflicting pull between Vietnam and my responsibilities to family and practice has become familiar to me. Never has it been as hard as now. Please let me know of any service we might render. Please extend our best wishes to others of the MQH staff and tell them they are much in our thoughts and prayers.

Louis

PS The enclosed note to Sr Gabriele you may either give to her or pass on orally as you may see fit or have opportunity.

~~Do you have Henning's address in Germany?~~
~~Dr. James Zooley is inquiring -~~

SK

Get it from Glen

Rec'd a note from Shirley - she is leaving for England the 24th for refresher midwife course -

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Melba Badders told me today she has had in the past few days several calls from

para medical people (no doctors) offering to go to help Dr Smith. Thus far we are holding them off. I would not add to your labors but would ask for just a few words of advice about whether such personnel should be sent at this time. Also if you are in need of any equipment or supplies we would do our best to have them sent some way or other.

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