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May 24, 1972

Dear everybody:

Here's a new nurse for you all. I'm sure Rita, especially, will be delighted. How's everything going up there?

I've got everything in order -- photostats, pictures, etc. = for the kids passports & visas, and presently trying to see Nay Luett so he can push the Minister of the Interior to give me them fast. American Embassy has already said they'll get fast service on immigrant visas for me, so it just depends on the Vietnamese side now. I don't know how long this will take, but hope to get to Ministry of Interior today after seeing Nay Luett, so, with luck, maybe within the week. If it takes longer, I'll be back up to Pleiku.

I hope the surgical instruments I'm sending today with Liz Burke & Bill Rose are relatively what you need -- you didn't specify what types. I went through what John had stored at CRS & picked out what I thought you might need. It seems a fairly good selection for general & ortho work, with the exception of scissors -- there weren't any here. If you specially need scissors, send word as to what type & how many & i will try to scrounge same.

Do you have USAID stuff from Nha Trang yet? Barbara said it was to go up Tuesday (yesterday & was going to try to send oxygen with it also. I have called Phu Tho & a friend there is tracking down our emergency requisitions to get them up as soon as possible. Also, should have arriving within a few days a shipment from Singapore with oral & injectable chloramphenicol plus injectable penicillin (?type).

John: your checks should be arriving today -- Fred Ratahford said he is sending them with some USAID or VPVN people arriving in Pleiku by Air America today.

Rita: I called Hawk Mills at the embassy for you -- he merely wants a date -- evidently Brian Chastain gave him a glowing report of your charms. He asks that you call him when you get down to Saigon so he can take you to lunch or dinner -- I'm enclosing the slip with the phone number.

after that call let him know you can get it done
Tom: Margaret Moses still does not have your exemption pushed through the court, though she says she is reminding the lawyer frequently -- does not have a real target date as to when it will be done at this time.

Tell Dr. Turner the name of the ophthalmologist here is Dr. ~~Wadgink~~ Hodgkinson. He has no phone number where he is usually working, but his home phone for evenings & early mornings is PTT 25348. He has been trying to call, but has trouble getting into a military line from his PTT phone, so, if Turner still needs his advice, best he calls him.

Al Alter is going to Quinhon tomorrow & will ask Skiff for a copy of Hnoi's x-ray training certificate. If he gets it, he will leave it with Barbara in Nha Trang for forwarding to Pleiku.

Either Bill or Liz has 1,000,000 piastres for you, plus the mail. Bill says he will be back down over the weekend, so if you need anything up there tell him & I will do my best to find it.

Take it easy & don't get in the way of any rockets. See you soon.

Sincerely,

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