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Pleiku
23 June 1972

Dear Doctor Connally:

Thank you for your recent visit to the Central Highlands; it is quite helpful psychologically to know that we haven't been forgotten up here. I have finally formulated some concrete plans, and would now like to share them with you. As soon as Minh Quy Hospital is again relocated in Kontum, I hope to wind up my tour in Vietnam. I feel that this is a good stopping place, and that my services will be least needed at that time. After about six months in the States, I hope to make a repeat tour to Kontum, for two to four months, with my entire emphasis on teaching and public health, with a minimum of primary patient responsibility. I hope that Pat will accept this idea.

As soon as Pat returns, I would like to take another vacation. My first preference would be New Zealand, if the AMA could provide the transportation. If not, I would settle for a tour of Hong Kong, Phnom Penh, Vientiane, and Bangkok.

Although we have recently been quite hard pressed, things are now quite slow, and I feel that another physician here now would be underutilizing a precious commodity. The Korean team has taken care of much of our surgical backlog, and few new casualties are coming in. Our census is dropping daily, as the original mass of casualties are healing their wounds. Pat may feel differently, but yesterday, I only needed to spend four hours at the hospital. With Pat expected to relieve me, we shouldn't need anyone else.

Please try to process the vacation transportation arrangements through Chicago as soon as possible. As I have almost completed eight months, I should be eligible. I should be due a further per diem payment, and I would appreciate that being forwarded as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

John William Taylor, M.D.