

EUGENE F. McELMEEL, M.D.

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August 15, 1972.

Dear Dr. Taylor:

Please accept my apology for the informal nature of this letter. But as a member of the Board of Kontum Hospital Fund I feel as tho I actually knew you personally. But suffice it to say that I am deeply impressed by your sense of responsibility and assure you that you offer me a shrieking challenge to promote the cause for which you have and are giving so much. Be assured also of our daily prayers. Unable to practice Medicine even here in the comfort of Seattle due to the usual coronary problems, I am trying to stimulate interest where ever possible in support of you and of course Dr. 'Pat', and all the rest.

We are currently in the planning stages for 'the Pennies for Pat' program and consequently am most interested in any information you could send me in a brief letter should you have the time to write about how things are going. The news in the papers is so general and I have learned, so unreliable, that I felt that I should go directly to you and ask how best to picture the state of affairs to the many I hope to have out distributing the 'cans' for Pat et al.

There is no question that Dr. Smith has put in a tremendous stint and too we understand that her added responsibilities (now that she is a 'Mother') have altered her point of view and thrown a tremendous load on you and the others who remain behind. Since we have had no communications with you or anyone and since we have to counteract the public suggestions by the newspapers that all is now grinding to a halt, I would deem it a great favor to have from you some review of your current needs and how the finances are doing. We cant be like the ever present politician who feels free to offer the sky, ^{and} tell you that whatever you

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~~that whatever you~~ need or want will promptly be forthcoming, but we do realize that under the present circumstances you must have special challenges and if we were a little more conversant with them we could perhaps move our benefactors to greater activity. The Board too would like to be able to respond to your needs in a more realistic way, but with no reports we have nothing specific to act upon. It may seem that we should know without being told that you need everything we could think of, but since this is a legally constituted Fund, we are of necessity obliged to try to keep current as to where whatever we send is going.

This may all sound heartless, but believe me it is not intended to be. There are rules by which we are governed and the I.R.S. expects us to be able to explain where the funds that ~~are~~ ^{are} in ~~our~~ ^{our} trust are spent. This I know is not news to you but I only repeat it so you will see that we do need more information. And I am constantly being asked what the future of Min Guy is judged to be and tho I know you cant answer me that, still even to know what the present is would be a great help. Dr. Pat's indecision has also made us feel (I should say made me feel) that we must hear from you about the project.

The permit for the distribution of the cans for 'Pennies for Pat' runs for three months beginning with September so naturally we are busy now encouraging various groups to get to work. Consequently tho I know you have plenty to take up your time, I would appreciate at least a page or two written some time between dawn and dark so that I can reassure these previous performers that the M.Q. Hospital is still a reality and in even more desperate need of their help.

Again let me assure you of everyone's loyalty and enthusiastic support. Nothing would give any of us more satisfaction than to be given enough information to permit feeling that we were in some way at least a part of the great work you are doing. It would give us all a lift and believe me we need it.

With best wishes to all, I most respectfully remain, sincerely yours,

Eugene F. McElmeel