

Saigon, Vietnam
24 February 1967
Friday afternoon.

My Dear Family,

I am beginning this late in the afternoon - wanting to talk with you for a while now -

The news report on Armed Forces Radio Service (AFRS) this noon was snow and blowing snow through out the mid-west - does that mean that you have been getting any? Today - here is bright - clear and hot - but none the less beautiful.

This morning was another "big day" for our work. We met at 1000 with our Vietnamese colleagues from the University of Saigon - there were 24 of us around the table. Rector De of the University opened the meeting with some general comments - then I spoke, reporting on the work we have been doing and what we will be doing.

Each Dean also spoke - giving a resume of the needs of his faculty as they viewed the needs and then we had the members of our team make statements.

The meeting ended on ~~a planned~~ a good note - with plans for the next meeting (scheduled for March 2, 1967) at which time we will discuss our preliminary report and listen to their reactions to it. In the meantime they will be reacting to a questionnaire we prepared - asking such questions as their objectives, their ideas about academic freedom and responsibility, what they mean by autonomy and what changes and reforms are needed. We should receive responses to this questionnaire by 1 March - that will give us time to include their ideas in our thinking

as we draft the report.

I feel quite good about the meeting - the spirit was good and it moved along well. Of course we continue to have the language problem but it was helped greatly by the use of electronic transcription units and a Vietnamese woman who translated the English into Vietnamese and Vietnamese into English.

The meeting lasted two hours - over at 1200 - and I didn't realize until then how exhausted I was - nervous tension I guess - for I had a head ache (sounded familiar, Cindy?) and a good lunch and a couple of aspirin helped a great deal.

The afternoon has been given to office work - preparing the next steps and outlining our preliminary report draft. The men are finishing their copy of the summary aspect of the report - and on Sunday afternoon we will meet to discuss the outline of the preliminary report (in fact it ~~will~~ will also serve as the final report - outline that is).

Enough of shop talk - except that we have a lot to get done and while March looks like a long month on the calendar - we will need all of it to accomplish our task.

It is good to keep busy - for that makes the time go by much faster - and thus draws me closer to the time I will be home again with each of you - and that I anticipate very much.

Love,
Dad.