

Alex Don

Septemebre 10, 1971

Dear Andy,

I spent 6 days in Europe, two in Washington, and somewhat exhausted, returned to find your letters, and immediately tried some maneuvers for you.

First, as to your questions. Your appointment to the V.A. and to the Department of Psychiatry, should, like all appointments at the medical school, be independent of me or any other person-- all appointments are for an indefinite term, and while tenure is granted only after five years service, there are no discharges of staff members except with an extensive warning.

As to the visa, I called Washington and after many calls, reached the best office. I indicated that your appointment to the VA was in the national interest since you are coming to develop a drug addiction treatment program focussed on the returning Viet-Nam veteran. Under these conditions, it is possible to file a special "Temporary 'H' petition"-- and if approved, it will allow you to come to the states, and wait here for the permanent number to be assigned. At that time, you will have to visit the immigration offices (possibly in Washington) for certain formalities. With this information, I am prepared to file this petition on your behalf, and will do so as soon as it is received.

The State Board problem is more thorny. Dr. Volavka has struggled with the Board, and I would defer your questions to him. As he is in Athens for a few weeks, I will hold up this inquiry until he returns, and ask him to answer you.

I do not know about bathelo quarters at either location, but will defer this inquiry also until some date is established and then can ask specifically.

In Washington this week, the principal question was the best ways to expedite the development of a narcotic antagonist of long duration and to improve on the available drugs. Funds are available, and should your enthusiasm not flag, I am confident that we can build as strong a program as your energies will allow.

I am up to my eyeballs in work; and on top of it all, am planning to return to Europe on September 21 for two or three weeks. Our projects in Athens are doing very well; and the work will be expanded to Jamaica this winter. I look forward to your joining the group-- I now have four fine co-workers in clinical programs, and three experimentalists-- my best group ever.

Our best to Betty.

As ever,