

*Jazz*

January 30, 1975

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Dear Dick:

You may not have heard that since Christmas Day I have been almost totally disabled physically from a rather severe back injury playing tennis and am just beginning to spend a little time on a recliner in the laboratory, however I remain fairly active intellectually and am reasonably hopeful of resuming travels in the next two or three weeks.

I would appreciate sometime in the next days a call from you with calendars in front of us to see what we may or may not be able to accomplish in the next periods. I have been unable to touch my horn for about two months and I am a little hesitant to go ahead with previous plans for hiring a studio and our friends in New Orleans, however, we should set up contingency plans.

You should also note that I have committed us for the evening activities of March 10th at the American Heart Association, Epidemiological Society meeting in Tampa and I will explore carefully the question of the musicians. I know some rattle dazzle, up-tempo, Dixieland fellows that you could certainly keep up with, but I'm hopeful of finding people who play in a little more relaxed style and may even entertain the possibility of making it just a quartet and seeing if I can persuade Don Ewell to come over from the East Coast and play with you and me and a set of drums and brushes. What do you think? An alternative, probably at about the same price, would be to hire some friends I know, who play regularly on Sunday afternoon in St. Petersburg beach and have full orchestra for people to dance if they like. The idea is that we not just do the cocktail hour this time but that we play during the course of the evening. I will be in town all of next week, the first week of February, if you have a chance to call.

Regards,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

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