

Tuesday, August 30, 1966

Kastelli, Corfu

Dear Ancel:

The tough Communist unions and the tougher Onasis have really squared off in the Olympic air strike that could last even until your arrival. Nelly and I found Athens in total confusion; no hotel reservations being honored, no plane or boat to Corfu. I finally obtained a battered Volkswagen from Hellescars at a reasonable rate and we drove the 700 kilometers to Igoumenitsa and the ferry to Corfu.

Having enjoyed our stay here in Corfu it is cut short at both ends as Nelly must now leave two days early on the only Athens boat available. The rush homeward makes air route changes impossible. The husband of Nelly's aunt, Fotio Muchas, is Corfu's leading oil wholesaler processing 10,000 kilos a day. I hope you will meet him. You can imagine the pleasure we have had sitting under the parasol pines in the cool breezes of mid-day after a swim, eating the most succulent olives and peasant bread dipped in the most delicate oil (of under 1 degree acidity).

Parties arrive one by one. George is here, and cleared Menotti and the ECG machines through customs yesterday. Tibblin arrived by auto last night, and Corcondolis by boat this morning. We met for coffee in our pleasant chateau, starting lively discussions. According to Andy, without Christ, we will have regular conferences. Incidentally, Tula is already in Chicago.

Best regards,

Henry

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returns tomorrow and we will have a little social evening with the group at Papagallos en Brodo.

See you soon-

Henry

p.s. I did not comment on your question about Holland. At this stage of our studies I realistically hope to regard myself as the indispensable person in the actual operation since I can embrace the ECG history physical, spiro and anthropometric procedures, and contribute to their reliability and comparability. I regard Pentti as equally versed in the ECG aspect. I hope the strange situation with the Dutch won't last long, but such is the case now. I think it is quite possible that as little as one week at the outset with teams otherwise interested and competent, would suffice for their training and breaking in, with myself present.

Dennis Kane has done a splendid job replacing me at Mutual Service and has promised me a decision immediately on my return. I think it is quite possible he would join us though on a part-time basis but not in time for June activities. I hope Henry Taylor would be able to set up this appointment in your absence if it works out.

The visit of Dalderup to Montegiorgio will be valuable as Todesco and Mohacek are making excellent progress these last days. If you could meet with us for a few hours on Sunday in Brussels to discuss the composition of her team, ECG and other apparatus, it would be worthwhile, and she should be supplied soon with examples of our forms.

In conclusion, my suggestions are: first alternative: send me for one week in June ; second, set aside 2 weeks for Hartel to work with me in Minneapolis and return home via Holland, if the dates coincide.

Regards,

HWB

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September 8, 1966, Corfu:

Noon, September 2, 1966

Dear Ancel:

All are now assembled, despite the airline strike. Well-established at Korakiana in the doctors' offices and they have finished smoothly 14 cases by noon. The subjects come in slowly and apparently not fully aware of our presence. Things should go well for 10 days, but thereafter there seems to be a strong resistance from those in neighboring villages in competition with Korakiana. The Issue is the men will not come in unless we move operations to their villages. The quarters they can provide are in an abandoned house in total disrepair and littered, without toilets, water or power. The decision we made today was to clean it up and bring in power. You may arrive to see the most primitive operation ever attempted.

If this reaches you in time, please bring a battery for the pneumatic apparatus. Kaleli should have one available.

Tibblin is a valuable and cheerful addition and has been doing hemacratitis by two methods and blood smears and anthropometry. Vasquez does the pulse wave and the staff is otherwise the same except for Dr. Anthopoulos who is replacing Aravanis for the examinations. Christ may come later. Tula had a baby girl yesterday in Chicago.

We start seminars tonight and in general things go well.

I hope you will visit Nelly's relatives, the Theotokis, at Villa Crevaxulla, 2 kilometers from the Kastello. The husband of one of the sisters is the chief oil exporter of Corfu and has kept us in delicious black olives suspended in delicate first rate oil.

Best regards from all here,

Henry B

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PS 5:00 pm

Andy, poor chap, just took a plane back to Athens with probably an impedance mismatch for his pulse wave arrangement. Hopes to return in the morning.