

9 November 1971

Dear Tom,

Like you, I was wildly exhilarated by the unexpected timing of the China vote and called everyone I could reach to be sure that they turned the TV on. I am still exhilarated and excited by the visit today of the first of the Chinese delegation (I did not get to see them but only the crowd of press people waiting outside the office where they were getting passes, etc.), even if it has confronted us with some knotty legal and practical problems and added to an already-stupendous workload.

Because I have been bringing work home or finding myself utterly exhausted by end of the day, I think we had best get together after the General Assembly is over. We are now at the start of the really busy period and it keeps getting worse from this point until it finishes.

For the same reason, I don't dare ask my colleague in charge of archives and indexing to search our literature for information on acupuncture therapy of Parkinson's disease by German doctors. My impression is that it is extremely unlikely that we have any information on it, since it is not a communicable disease. It is true that we do some work on degenerative diseases but I doubt that we would have material on new therapies before they become orthodox and widely used. The best I can do is to keep my eyes open for anything teaching on this that might cross my desk.

Meanwhile, why not write to the author of the article in Ramparts and ask for the source of his information or the identity of the German doctors?

A young man who mails me clippings and other material peripheral to the JFK assassination has sent me a page from a book titled CONFLICT IN INDOCHINA, author etc. not identified (page 412). A footnote refers to an "announcement by the Kennedy Administration on October 2, 1963, concerning the probable withdrawal of 1,000 US troops by the end of that year. The Kennedy withdrawals would have been implemented by the decisions of a top-level Honolulu Conference on November 20, 1963; but these decisions seem to have been secretly countermanded—apparently at an unscheduled 'emergency' meeting of Johnson and his top advisers on November 24, two days after the Kennedy assassination. cf. The United States in World Affairs, Council on Foreign Relations (1963) New York: Harper & Row, 1964, p. 193. The number of US 'advisers' dropped for a while by about 500 to 15,500 but soon rose again."

I could not find any illumination of the above in the NY Times paperback THE PENTAGON PAPERS. I thought it might interest you. Best regards to you and to May,

As ever,