

NEAR EAST FOUNDATION

CHIRINE STREET (OFF VILLA) - TEHRAN, IRAN

CABLE ADDRESS "NEAREAST"

بنگاه خاور نزدیک

خیابان ویلا - خیابان شیرین - طهران - ایرات

Telephone Numbers : 4-6112 and 4-7514

December 21, 1957

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شماره.....

Reference Number.....

Colonel E. Wright
827, 14th Ave. North
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear Colonel Wright:

I was very glad to hear from you and I thank you for your beautiful Christmas card.

I hope this finds you and Mrs. Wright in good health. Mary has joined me in sending our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

There has been lots of changes in Iran since your last visit.

The whole Near East Foundation program in Varamin area including the three institutions (Rural Teachers Training School, Sanitation School and Girls Teacher and Home Economic School) has been taken over by the Iranian Government. A board made by the representatives of the four technical Ministries (Health, Agriculture, Education and Interior) will be responsible for the operation of the plant. Near East Foundation will assist with three American Advisors. The four ministries will provide all the funds to run the plant and institutions as they are doing now and also the Iranian Government will pay 4/5 of the salaries of the American Advisors. Varamin area is recognized now as cultural center for training the man-power for the development of the rural villages of Iran.

The Sanitation School is going along fine. We have now fifty-two students. The training period has almost been increased to nine months. The Government approved the necessary funds to add four additional buildings to the campus including another dormitory for fifty more students. We hope to have two classes of one hundred students for next year.

In the beginning of next year we shall train more sanitarians for towns and cities for the municipalities.

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While the basic training in Palasht School is going on as described above, we are getting ready to start an advanced course for those who have graduated from Palasht Sanitation School and have been working in the villages for the last four or more years. The aims and objectives of this advanced course and the program is described in the enclosed outline. Your comments on it will be greatly appreciated. The subject-matter for the course might be changed as we expect to hear from the candidates and their suggestions from the field.

I am indeed glad and proud of the work this men are rendering to their country and fellow men, in fighting diseases, ignorance and poverty. These graduates are carrying on all the field operation programs of the Sanitary Engineering Division of the Public Health Department as well as the malaria control program in the country.

This year we had big earthquakes around the Caspian Sea and just a few days ago another very sever one was around Kermanshah with nearly 1500 casualties. The Sanitarians of the Palasht School were the first who reached to the spot to help the people in inoculations, disinfecting the water and supplying other facilities.

The great part of the credit goes to you Dear Colonel Wright. You were the first person who came to Near East and taught us Sanitation. Your sound ideas and your practical methods in approaching the problems are the basis which we are applying today. I thank God that I have been one of your students.

Doc Allen is still a very useful man, not only for the Foundation, but also for many other organizations which are working in undeveloped countries. His philosophy in approaching and solving the problems of the villages are sound. The world today needs men with practical and sound ideas.


The problems of the Middle East Countries are not problems that can be solved in Washington, London or in Moscow, but within these countries. The betterment of the life of the people in these countries is more effective than many parts.

More effective weapon to bring peace and tranquillity to these countries is the betterment and the raise of the standard of the living of the people, the development of human resources and including in the economic and political life of the countries the excluded mass population.

Again I was very glad to hear from you and hope to hear again when every you feel like writing.

With many kind regards to you and to Mrs. Wright from Mary and I.

Yours very truly,


A. Koskinides.
Sanitation Advisor.

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