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27 January 1972

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MEMORANDUM FOR : Historical Officer,
Office of Medical Services

FROM : Support Services Historical Officer (SSHO)

SUBJECT : Psychiatric Staff history

1. As I noted in my memorandum to you of 25 January when I returned the Overview paper, I expected to be able to forward the report on the Psychiatric Staff for final editing by the Historical Staff. Unfortunately, I had not yet gotten into Part III of the report. Numerous questions had been raised in Parts I and II, but none were going to present as many problems as those in Part III.

2. In the long run, I think that we probably will be in better shape if the paper is revised as this point in the review process. Not only can you resolve the problems which we have noted, but it will also give the author an opportunity to include the source reference numbering and listing of sources--which would have been necessary in any event. As noted on the copy, the material which appears in single space (which indicates direct citation of source document) sometimes appears to be a part of the running text rather than material being quoted.

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3. has developed a "prescription" for one of the principal segments of Part III, and I recommend that it be followed--by so doing, it would give that segment of the report some much needed coherence.

4. One additional thought that occurs to me is that of the serious recruitment problem which PS faced during this whole period. Had any consideration been given to making this story into a separate chapter? My own belief is that it would strengthen the report--I find the separate treatment of the subject in the chronological periods somewhat distracting and repetitive. I will defer to you on this point, however, since it would add another dimension to the revision.

5. Please call me if you have questions.

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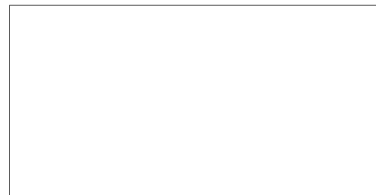
The OMS/Psychiatric Staff paper

Jack:

I'm afraid that we're going to have to send this dog back to the pound. Parts I and II might survive with minor medication, but Part III is an utter shambles and needs ~~major~~ major surgery. I've come up with a prescription, which I've attached to page 79. You may want to add something to it.

Another problem: there's no documentation of any kind. Even the indented single-spaced stuff is undocumented, and most of it seems to be text rather than quoted material. Do we let the paper through as is? Do we ask for a sneaky little footnote giving a general statement of sources of information? Do we ask for full documentation? At this stage I opt for ~~for~~ the footnote bit -- or perhaps an equally sneaky addition to the Foreword.

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