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10/10/94

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~DR~~

Mr. Rumsfeld

Don/Tiger League delivered
this note.

Should we do anything?

I think so.

~~GRY~~
done

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
FOUNDED 1899



JOHN J. STANG
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

October 10, 1974

V. F. W. MEMORIAL BUILDING
200 MARYLAND AVENUE, N. E.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I have requested our mutual friend Tiger Teague to personally hand deliver this letter to you because of the type reply received from Mr. Semerad of the Domestic Council (copy enclosed) relative to my personal inquiry while visiting with you on September 21 regarding the VA Hospital survey ordered by Former President Nixon.

I simply do not believe Mr. Semerad's reply indicates the type openness and candor advocated by you when assuming the office of President of the United States.

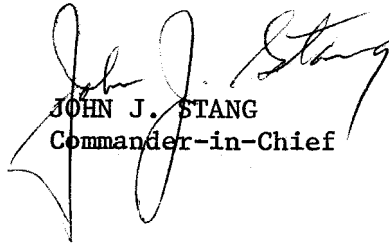
Mr. President, I wish you to know my organization is well aware of the contents, findings, recommendations and the amount of money requested to rectify the horrible conditions presently existing in too many of our VA Hospitals.

We also know the report was submitted to the President on July 31, the deadline date requested by him. Former President Nixon requested the report, with recommendations, be submitted directly to him--not through officials of the Domestic Council or the officials of the Office of Management and Budget. I want to assure you, Mr. President, the veterans of this country are sick and tired of these two appointed agencies running the veterans programs. We think the VA Administrator should do this. None of the officials from the Domestic Council or from the Office of Management and Budget, to my knowledge, have ever taken the time to set their feet in even one of our VA Hospitals for the purpose of obtaining first-hand what is actually taking place. Nor are they willing to accept recommendations from the experts who do know what is going on.

The VA Hospital survey, Mr. President, must be released immediately-- either through your office or mine. The American people, Congress and the Press have a right to know the results of this inquiry initiated by Former President Nixon. It is my intention that they receive this information without further delay.

May I please have your personal reply to this concern.

Respectfully,



JOHN J. STANG
Commander-in-Chief

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 25, 1974

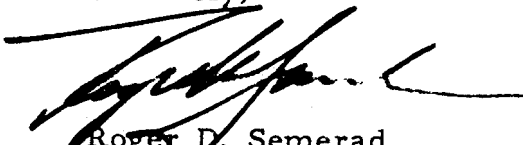
Dear Commander Stang:

President Ford has asked me to respond to your inquiry regarding the VA hospital survey originally ordered by Mr. Nixon last March. Please be advised that the report, although not yet presented to the President, is under review by the Administration and Mr. Roudebush. The President will expect Mr. Roudebush's recommendations on this and other matters upon completion of his confirmation proceedings.

The report will be made available to you at an appropriate time thereafter.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Roger D. Semerad
Staff Assistant to the President
Domestic Council

John J. Stang
Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
V. F. W. Building
Kansas City, Missouri 64111