

[Transcript of draft of an eight-page letter and questionnaire, in which Dole calls attention to the "inadequate" care he and other veterans endured in US Army hospitals. Circa 1949]

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Dear S W:

Some of you have been gone from PJGH

for months or even a year or two but

this will find a few inmates still

haunting the corridors at PG doing

Surgery in your spare time.

I have always been an admirer

of Army and Vet Hospitals and knowing that

some of you feel the same way. I feel that

if I can gather enough concrete evidence

showing that treatment received in Army

hospitals has been inadequate and can

compile the evidence and distribute it to some

influential source for publication perhaps public opinion

and replies from other disabled vets will

bring about the necessary reforms that have

long been lacking.

It is my personal opinion that

disabled vets deserve the best medical attention possible not

what most of us have gotten the last

2 years. Why should we be

the drill area for 25 year old

specialists and R.A. Doctors who have

done nothing but paper work for

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the last decade. Perhaps your association

with Army MDs has been a beneficial;

there was a time before the war when

Army Hospitals were staffed by top men.

If you can answer the following questions

I will appreciate it

Name _

1. Wounded or injured, where, when _
2. Decorations _
3. Army Hospitals and time spent in each _
4. Diagnosis, treatment (briefly)
5. Humorous incidents – wrong leg amputated,
wrong kidney removed, etc
6. Do you feel your treatment in Army
hospitals has been adequate (surgery etc)
Check one -
definitely not _ yes_

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7. Nursing care adequate yes_ no_
Why if no, checked
8. Do you feel that your hospitalization (has-had)
been prolonged despite the seriousness of your
injury yes_ no_
9. Have you ever consulted a civilian specialist;
if so did s/he suggest anything
that wasn't being done for you that might help your condition
yes_
no_
Never consulted civilian MD _
10. Have you ever refused medical treatment
no_
yes_ Why?
11. Has the treatment the last 3 years
been as good as the treatment prior to
that time.
yes_
no_
State period you received best treatment
and hospital in at that time

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12. Months as bed patient _
13. Approximate numbers of times received
penicillin, streptomycin etc _
14. Days or months convalescent leave
_days
_months
15. Are you in better physical condition
now than when you entered hospital
yes_
no_
16. Occupation before entering Army
17. Plans for work on discharge, or

occupation now

(Don't answer professional patient)

18. Single _
Married _
Dependent _

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19. Did you ever lack confidence in your doctor.
yes _ -why? too young; inexperienced; too old
no _
20. Have you ever needed medical attention in
the hospital and failed to get it.
yes _
no _
21. Would you go to a civilian specialist if permitted
by the proper authorities, at the governments
expense
yes _
no _ why?
22. Have you ever been examined
by a civilian consultant hired by
the Army. If so were his recommendations
followed.
_ Never been seen by consultant
_ Consultants recommendations followed
_ Consultants recommendations not followed
23. Do the Red Cross and USO entertainment
groups visit as frequently as they
did 2 or 3 years ago
yes _ no _

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24. Have you ever experienced any difficulty
in trying to transfer from one hospital
to another. (Near home; better treatment, etc)
yes _
no _
- 25.
- a. Do you think "Physical Therapy" treatments
long enough to be beneficial.
Yes _
no _
 - b. Do you get a massage or an "aid wash"
when a P.T. works on you
_ good massage -12 min. at least
_ fair massage - 5 to 10 min
_ a splash and a wipe
26. Do you enjoy Occupational and
is it or has it been helpful in regaining
use of affected limb
_ enjoy, helpful

- _ don't enjoy, helpful
- _ don't enjoy, not helpful

27. Do you think Dental departments are generally superior to other departments
- yes_
 - no_

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28. (Are you / Were you) classed as, orthopedic _ ; neurosurgical _
neuropsychiatric _ ; Blaster _ ; Amputee _
etc. check each and all appropriate to you.

—If now a veteran answer the following too..

1. Were all your claims processed in a fairly reasonable length of time (claim for, car, attendant, compensation, special equipment etc)
yes_ How long did it take _ months
no_ how long did it take _ months
2. Have you ever been in a vets hospital. Where? When?
yes_
no_
3. Treatment better than received in Army installation, Doctors, Nurses
yes_
no_
4. Did you have to wait long for admittance to Vets hospital
5. Was treatment administered without delay.
Yes _ circle one
no_ 1 wk, 2 wks, 3 wks, +1 months
6. Do doctors compare favorably to civilians MD not connected with VA

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29. If you have met a retirement board, do you feel that you were given a just decision.
Yes_
no_
30. Were you retired; in what grade
yes_ _
no_ _
31. (If / If not) RA do you feel that the differences in retirement between AVS and RA officers is justifiable
yes_ why?
no_ why?
- 32.