

WILLIAM JASON MIXTER, M. D.

REGINALD H. SMITHWICK, M. D.

CHARLES G. MIXTER, M. D.

THE LONGWOOD MEDICAL BUILDING
319 LONGWOOD AVENUE
BOSTON

OFFICE HOUR BY APPOINTMENT

TELEPHONE BEACON 3911

October 13, 1945

Brigadier General Fred W. Rankin
Office of Surgeon General
Washington, D. C.

Dear Fred:

Many thanks for your letter of September 26th.

You are winding up your tour of duty in the Surgeon General's Office and it must be a great satisfaction to you to realize the real service that you have been to the country during these long months that you have held down a desk when we all know you would have preferred an active surgical post. Your job was one that had to be done by someone conversant with surgery and with a personal knowledge of the surgeons of the United States. Both of these qualifications you have, as have few men in this country. There is no question in my mind but that the work in surgery of our Army Surgeons is of a very high order. The credit for this state of affairs rests with you who picked the men, gave them their positions and put the tools of their trade in their hands.

It has been a great pleasure to me to have been able to work with you, even a little, and I appreciate your letter to me more than I can tell you.

I am planning to write an impression of the work in Neurosurgery for transmission to the Surgeon General, after I really get it well thought out. When and if I do, I will send you a copy.

With many thanks for your letter and with kindest regards to you and Mrs. Rankin.

Always yours,

WJM:RS

