

April 21, 1943

Major R. H. Dixon, Officer in Charge  
Pancoast Hotel Hospital  
Miami Beach, Florida

Dear Major:

Upon being notified yesterday at 1:30 P.M. that our kitchen equipment was out in the yard and that we were requested to remove it at once, I made an inspection and found that in fact the equipment was in the yard with very little effort having been made to keep this equipment in good condition. In fact, much of it is pretty badly broken and bent in handling.

We take the attitude that this equipment was leased to the Government with the understanding that after they have no further use for it and the building, that they agree to return it to us in the condition in which they received it, and, therefore, we do not wish to assume any responsibility for the equipment until it is wholly ours again to use.

However, we are very glad to help you with your problem of storage and if there is any space in the building that has been reserved to us for storage purposes that is not too full to handle some of this equipment, we shall be glad to share that space with you, and I am instructing Mr. Arthur W. Howe to confer with you on this and make any arrangements that he can to assist you in this problem of storage.

Though I have no authority, I would recommend that this equipment now be cleaned, the rust taken off, and it then be thoroly greased before storing. Some of this I understand has been out in the weather for the past several weeks.

Yesterday morning before I knew about the treatment our equipment was receiving, I authorized Captain Green to remove one monel metal and glass refrigerated case. Since the balance of the equipment has been so mistreated, I have called him today and withdrawn that permission, and simply want to re-state what I have said, that if it is removed it will be entirely at the Army responsibility, as we shall expect it back in as good condition as they received it.

Cordially yours,

J. Arthur Pancoast  
President

JAP:JH  
carbon copy to:  
Major C. F. Harding, C.E.  
Post Engineer