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THE lamp

TUFC MAUSSOR






NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN
HOSPITAL

SPRING, 1971



Taken 8-6-71


The Season's Greetings
 WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Manuel & Isabelle and family


11-13-71

Sr. Virginia N. Portocarrero

Saudades

Isabelle + Doctor Manuel



The year is 1952 if the markings on the back of our cover photo are correct, and the place is Northwestern University's Medical School in Chicago. The man in the white medical gown being listened to so attentively by the students is our own Dr. Manuel E. Lichtenstein, who is no stranger to teaching, having lectured to similar groups of medical students all over the world.

1971

great men of medicine

At Norwegian-American Hospital

Dr. Manuel E. Lichtenstein



Col. Lichtenstein receives the Bronze Star in Italy from a Col. Leaver.

“A great surgeon, teacher, humanitarian . . .” these were the words that appeared on a scroll presented to Dr. Manuel E. Lichtenstein, M.D., M.S. on January 14, 1959 by his fellow staffers at Norwegian-American Hospital. The presentation was made as a token of their esteem and respect for a man who we now realize must rate as one of the great ones in our midst.

Born in Chicago on August 15, 1900, young Manuel Lichtenstein's boyhood was normal in most respects. He delivered newspapers and shined shoes to help supplement the family income—his father was a tobacco merchant on Chicago Avenue — attended Tuley High School, then went on to the University of Chicago and Rush Medical College. His father, unfortunately, suffered continually from poor health (he died in 1918 during a flu epidemic), and visits by doctors to the Lichtenstein homestead were frequent.

These were tragic times, of course, but no time of trial, the philosophers say, is without its rewards, and young Manuel was so deeply impressed by the skills and the compassionate regard of the physicians attending his father, that he decided then and there that the practice of medicine would be his chosen profession.

He graduated from Rush in 1925 (He also holds an M.S. degree in physiology from



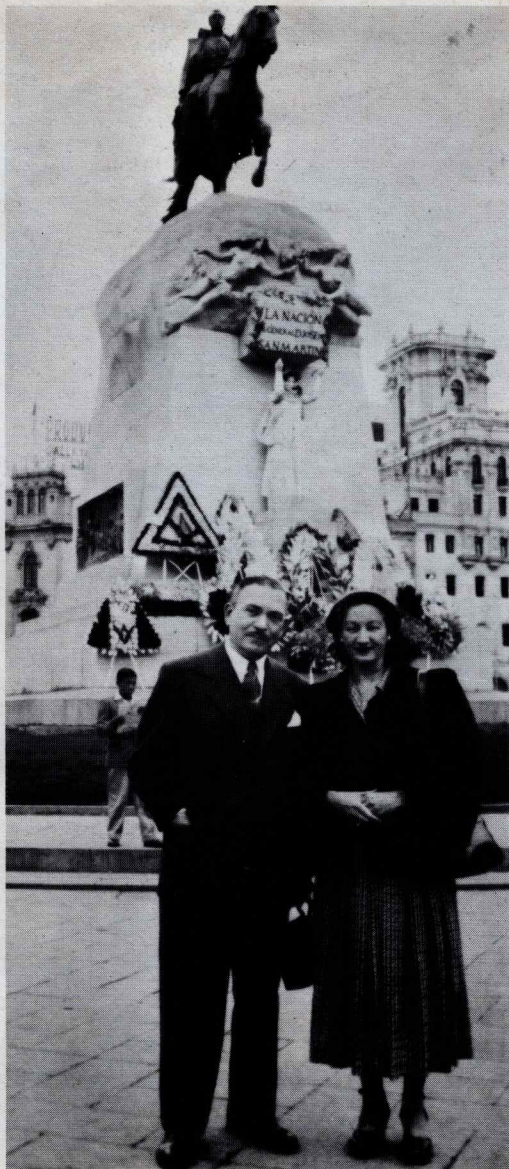
4 Dr. Lichtenstein is shown receiving the Brazilian war metal for organizing the medical staff of the Brazilian expeditionary force in Italy during World War II. The presentation was made by General Mascarenhas on May 29, 1945 in the name of the President of Brazil.



2 Dr. Lichtenstein in Rio De Janeiro responds to the words of tribute from his many Brazilian World War II colleagues and friends at a banquet in his honor.



An Italian painting by Brombo in Dr. and Mrs. Lichtenstein's home on North Marine Drive in Chicago. From their windows they can get a beautiful view of lake, parklands, harbor, and beach.



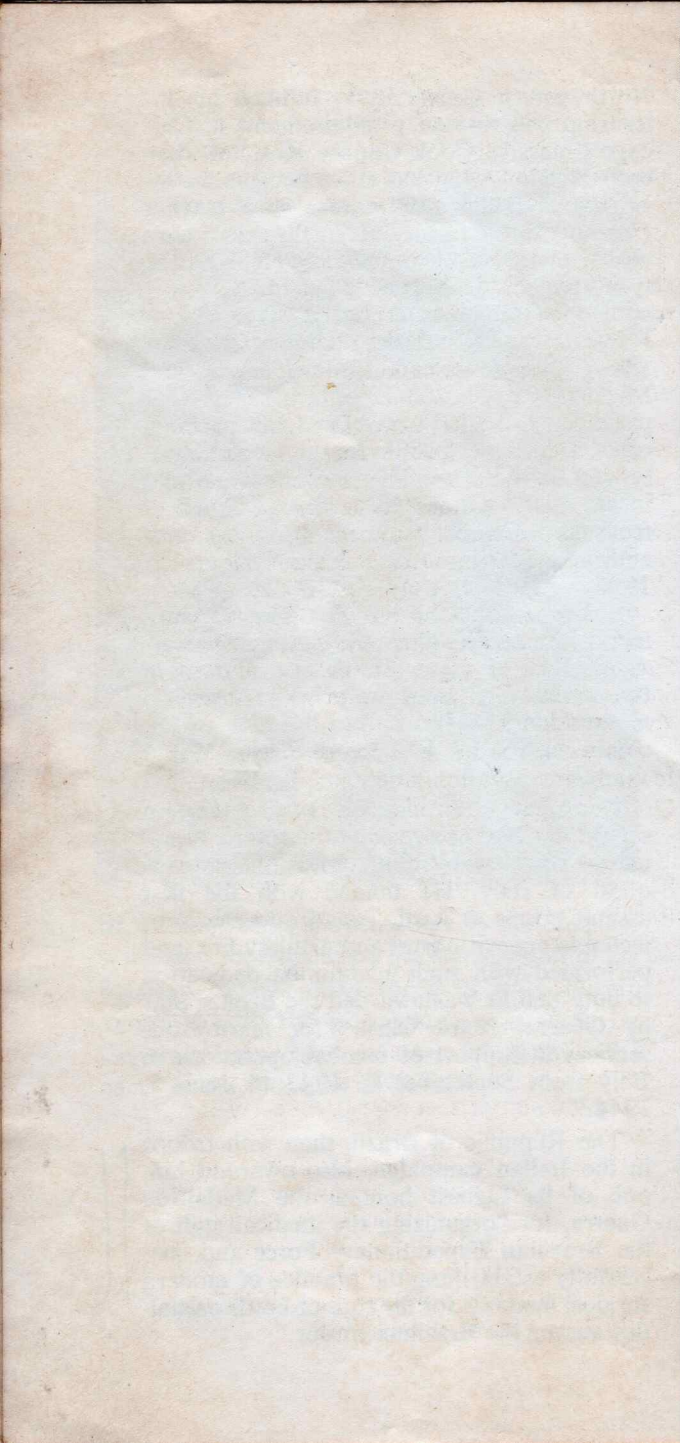
Dr. and Mrs. Lichtenstein before the statue of San Martín, liberator of Peru, in Lima, July, 1950.

Northwestern University.), fulfilled his internship and residency requirements at Chicago's massive Cook County Hospital, then embarked on what has since become an inspiring and illustrious career as a teacher (member of the faculty of Northwestern University's Medical School and the Cook County Graduate School of Medicine), Army surgeon (Italian front during World War II), and as a senior attending surgeon (Norwegian-American, Cook County, and Michael Reese hospitals). During a six-year period (1959-1964) he served as Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Cook County, and we at Norwegian-American are proud to say that we have enjoyed and benefited from Dr. Lichtenstein's inspiring presence and humanitarian ideals since January 1, 1935.

Some of Dr. Lichtenstein's greatest moments in medicine came during times of war. A member of the U. S. Armed Forces in two world wars (he was a private for several months in 1918) he rose to the rank of full colonel in the Medical Corps during World War II.

During the latter conflict, Dr. Lichtenstein served as chief of surgery of the 16th Evacuation Hospital during the invasion and conquest of Italy. He landed with the first assault troops at Anzio, was frequently subjected to enemy mortar and artillery fire, and performed with such uncommon dedication to duty that he was awarded the Bronze Star by General Mark Clark "for meritorious services in support of combat operations in Italy from September 9, 1943 to June 5, 1944."

The Republic of Brazil, then with troops in the Italian campaign, also awarded him one of its highest honors, the Medal de Guerra, for "organizing the medical staff of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force and successfully establishing the practice of modern surgical methods for the care of battle casualties among the Brazilian troops."



Years later in Rio de Janeiro, he was further honored by the Brazilian men of medicine who had served with him during those fateful months in Italy. Among other tributes, he was invited to serve as a visiting professor of surgery at the University of Brazil, and presented an honorary degree of Doctor Honoris Causa. "To remember is to live," he was told at a banquet in honor of the occasion, "and we shall never forget the hundreds of Brazilian wounded who had their lives saved thanks to your intelligence, your devotion, and your valor in providing equal treatment to all who were brought to the 16th Evacuation Hospital, including the enemy . . ."

"Words like these brought tears to the eyes of everyone," Mrs. Isabelle Lichtenstein, who had accompanied her husband to Brazil, recalls.

In the years since, Dr. Lichtenstein has made tremendous contributions to the field of medicine as a surgeon, teacher, author, and lecturer. An example of his zeal and dedication to medicine is the interesting fact that he has carefully diagrammed on 3 x 5 cards every single operation that he ever performed, and over the years he has per-

LEFT

This photograph of Dr. Lichtenstein was taken during the height of World War II on an LST enroute to the Anzio Beach-head in Italy.

formed thousands. As a teacher, he has taught a generation of physicians. As a lecturer, he has been in constant demand and has made numerous appearances before medical and surgical groups throughout the world.

Nor can one slight his unusual talents with the written word. A prolific, lucid, and inspired writer, he has authored more than 100 scientific papers dealing with various aspects of surgery and the philosophical side of medicine.

As busy as he has been, Dr. Lichtenstein hasn't ignored the professional associations active in his field. He is a member of some 25 such august bodies, including the AMA, American College of Surgeons (a past president of the Metropolitan Chicago Chapter), Illinois Surgical Society (past vice president), Society for the Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (founding member), Chicago Surgical Society (past president), and the International College of Surgeons (a former vice president).

His work has left him precious little time for hobbies or recreational pursuits, but now that he has retired from active medical practice, he may have more time for travel, one of his most enjoyable diversions. His favorite spots are Yellowstone National Park and the Black Hills of South Dakota. There are also a lot of grandchildren for Dr. and Mrs. Lichtenstein to keep track of (seven at latest count). Four live in the Los Altos area with son, Robert, a neurosurgeon. A second son, William, an insurance executive, has three children. A third son, Richard, a teacher in the Chicago secondary school system, is unmarried.

"There are men," Robert Louis Stevenson wrote, "that stand above the common herd," and our Dr. Lichtenstein, to those whose lives he has touched with his genius and compassion, stands tall even among these. He is truly one of Norwegian-American Hospital's "great men of medicine."