

64519

66-4423/A

28 OCT 1966

The Honorable Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob,

I have looked over the material forwarded on 14 October as an example of the kind of reporting we need but are not getting from Vietnam. I agree that reporting of this type is useful in communicating the feel of the war as an important supplement to the more formal reporting. In an attempt to get a flow started along these lines, a message has been sent to John Hart proposing that he select qualified officers who are about to depart the Station and have them set aside several days to draw together their impressions in an informal style. Another thought we passed along to him is that senior officers of the Station might prepare trip reports, also in an informal style, on their return to Saigon.

I am hopeful that this effort will produce some useful results and will pass along the production to you if it appears of sufficient interest.

With respect to the substance of the attached reports, I am sure you have noted that some of these comments and recommendations have been reflected in the recent "Roles and Missions Study" sent in from the Saigon Mission. Many of these I believe have considerable merit, and I hope that this Study will generate some changes along the lines it recommends.

Cordially,
/s/ Richard Helms
Richard Helms

Attachment

001 31 2 15 11 22
001 53 10 18 11 22
001 53 10 18 11 22

Signature Recommended:

[Redacted Signature]

A Deputy Director for Plans

26 Oct 66

Date

C/ [Redacted] (27 Oct 66)

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

Executive Registry
66-4423

64520

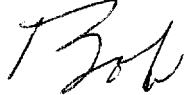
14 October 1966

Honorable Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dick:

When you have time, I believe you will find these interesting. After you glance through them, may we discuss how to obtain information such as this on a recurring basis.

Sincerely,



Robert S. McNamara

6 Encls.

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DDI/le: H.S.L.D.

Executive Registry
le-4423/1

26 October 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director for Plans
SUBJECT: Proposed Letter to the Secretary of Defense

Per our conversation on 14 October, attached is a proposed reply to Secretary of Defense McNamara.

[Redacted Signature]

William E. Colby
Chief, Far East Division

STAT

Attachment

cc: DDCI

DCI S...
MAY 15 1966

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Per your conversation with Mr. Helms yesterday.			
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