



VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

1 May 1976

Dear Dick,

I note from comments in the press that you will be retiring in the near future. I also note a lot of uncomplimentary nonsense about you in various articles which I know to be nothing more than pap.

First of all, I want to say I am sorry to see you retiring. There are not many Dick Walters' around, and we can ill afford to lose you. Nonetheless, at this stage of your career, I can see your reasoning for your decision.

I simply want to say that for my money, Dick Walters is a hell of a guy. I value very much our past associations and our friendship. I wish you well in your retirement and the very best of good fortune in future endeavors.

Most sincerely,

LTGEN Vernon A. Walters, USA
Deputy Director
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Washington, D.C. 20505

MORI/CDH