



OLD COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

[REDACTED]
Newark,
Delaware 19711

Feb. 22, 1966

The Honorable John J. Williams
Senator - Delaware
The United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

RECD FEB 24 1966

Dear Senator:

I have watched the televised Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings with mixed reactions. On the one hand I have been deeply moved and encouraged by the case for peace set forth by the Respected Senator from Oregon, Wayne Morse and by the chairman of the committee, Senator Fulbright; and I was very discouraged ^{by} the case presented by other senators in their efforts to insist that the wrong of the Johnson policy in Vietnam can be "talked" right by saying again and again those things which anyone who can read past the mass of propoganda knows are not true, namely that the United States policy in Vietnam is one of bringing "freedom" to the Vietnamese people. The "freedom" that the U.S. has brought the people of Vietnam thus far has only been the freedom of death, the choice of living under dictators such as Diem and Ky or the alternative of being burned up in Napalm.

Many things connected with this war disturb me deeply. The seemingly unlimited powers given to the president in conducting this war, the illegality of the war under international law, the deterioration of "the Great Society" (particularly in the recent slash of funds allocated for Land Grant Colleges), and the trend of propoganda writing in the press.

All these things are on my mind constantly, but above all my objectivity is lost in the emotion I feel as I hear of the death and destruction that is taking place in Vietnam today. More than once tears have come to my eyes when I hear of the bombings, the burning of villages, the chemical destruction of crops, the deaths of poverty stricken peasants who have fought for more than twenty years to free their land of foreign powers, the tragic and senseless deaths of thousands of American soldiers (which is the destruction of America's tomorrow), and the equation of this with "freedom" when the history of regimes supported by this government tells a story of military dictators and now a self-proclaimed, Hitler worshipping Fascist.

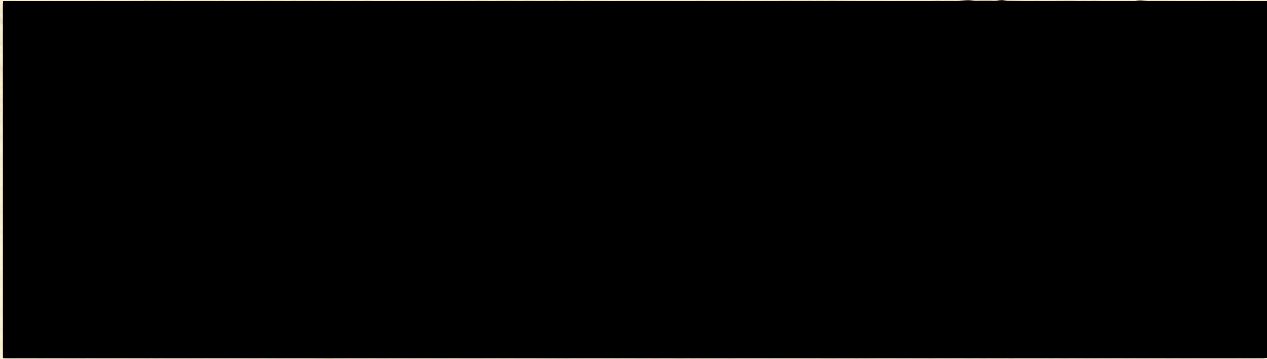
It is my hope that senators such as you will be able to correct the present policy of our government and prove to the world that the United States is truly for peace and freedom. I think that senators such as Morse and Fulbright have made constructive suggestions that would help bring peace to Vietnam and I hope with all my heart that their words will not go to the wind.

I know that you have attacked those who oppose the Johnson policy, practically called me and those like me traitors. Perhaps I have

betrayed apathy, perhaps I have betrayed war, perhaps I have betrayed death and everything that is connected with death. Perhaps I have betrayed those who feel that the Constitution of the United States is merely a scrap of paper. Of this I am proud because I feel that this has been my duty as an American, to my country and to the world.

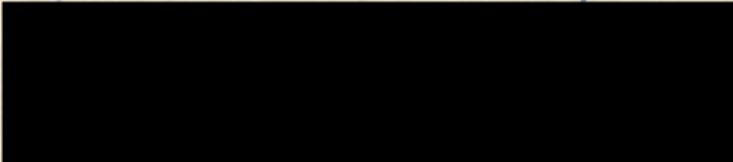
For peace in Vietnam, for peace in the world I make a plea to you as a senator of my state to take up the banner of peace and justice and demand that this war be stopped. I leave you with one thought: Can we justify the death of a single Vietnamese child for the sake of supporting a military dictator simply because he is anti-communist? My conscience will not let me believe that this is right ... will your's?

Yours for World Peace,

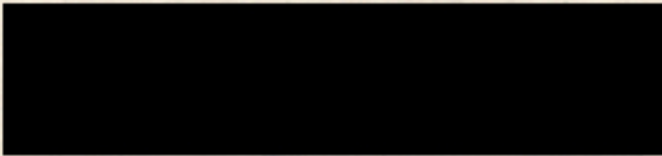


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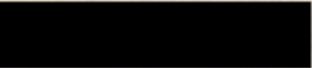
L. For Ref
For East



March 3, 1966



Newark, Delaware 19711

Dear 

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 22, 1966, in which you again express your views on United States policy in Southeast Asia.

Although I greatly differ with your appraisal of the nature of the menace which forces us to these actions, I nevertheless respect your right to your own opinion on this or any other matter.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN J. WILLIAMS

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