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Tuesday, October 24, 1967
5:30 p.m.

Pres. file

Mr. President:

Herewith a draft response to
the good letter from Mr. Volt to you.

W. W. Rostow

rln

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October 24, 1967

Dear Mr. Voit:

At a troubled time, when our men are fighting, the President receives many letters. Occasionally there is one which strengthens his hand and lifts his heart. You should know that your letter of October 18 was a source of comfort and reassurance.

There is no course other than that which we are following compatible with our nation's interest, its values, its good name before the bar of history. It is good to know that there are citizens who understand this.

Sincerely,

PS/ Lyndon B. Johnson

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LBJ:WWRostow:rln

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October 18, 1967

The President
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Any responsible, thinking person must approve of your stand on Viet Nam.

I am a Republican and this is the first time I have written to you.

You are under a great deal of pressure, pressure applied by highly placed people to admit defeat in our bombing of North Viet Nam. A vociferous minority on the streets cries the same chant.

Do not weaken--do not give in. We are at war, and in war the enemy recognizes only one thing: pressure.

Keep up the pressure and North Viet Nam will either disengage themselves or indicate a willingness to talk.

In the latter event you realize, of course, in South Korea we had more casualties after the peace talks began than before they started. Let us not get booby trapped into that situation again.

Let the history books say that you and your country remained resolute in the hour of testing. May God give you strength.

Yours respectfully,

Richard L. Voit

RLV:edb

Richard L. Voit