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*Pres. file*  
Tuesday, October 24, 1967  
5:30 p.m.

Mr. President:

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

W. W. Rostow

rlh

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October 24, 1967

Dear Mr. Volt:

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,

*15/ Lyndon B. Johnson*

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LBJ:WWRostow:rlh

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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