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UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR

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DEPARTMENT OF
POLITICAL SCIENCE

November 2, 1970

Professor Wesley Fishel
Editor, Southeast Asia
Department of Political Science
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan
U.S.A.

Dear Wes:

It has been some time since we last spoke. Since April I have been to Singapore and, of course, have received the letter distributed by Condominas. While in Singapore I had a chance to chat with K.J. Ratnam about his attitude toward membership on the International Advisory Board of SOUTHEAST ASIA.

More recently I have become better informed about the situation at SIU through the panel on the subject at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs in Bloomington. Included in the discussions were lengthy informal presentations by Joel Maring and Nguyen Dinh Hoa.

As a result of these experiences, I must reiterate my decision to withdraw from the International Advisory Board of your quarterly. At the same time I send this letter to you I will be informing other members of the Board of my decision, as well as other interested persons.

It appears to me that the procedures by which persons were recruited for the Advisory Board were not as careful as would be necessary to establish the reputation of a new journal launched, in any case, under certain disadvantages. Though I am not charging deliberate misrepresentation, statements were certainly made in my case, and others, which easily led to misunderstanding as to the probable make-up of the Board. This creates a certain uneasiness about the procedures under which the Quarterly might operate in the future.

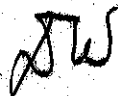
Whatever the virtues of the new journal, however-- and I must admit there are several--it's relationship with SIU under the present circumstances is such that I would have to sever my connections in any case. Any dissenter on the War whose name

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has in any way been linked with SIU recently is being used to justify a SE Asia program financed by a contract which I believe now to be unjustifiable.

Given the reasons I have stated for withdrawing from the Board, I should hasten to add that I would be glad to rejoin if conditions change. If SIU should cancel its contract with AID for the Vietnam Center, or if SOUTHEAST ASIA should relocate at another university, and if the International Advisory Board were reconstituted so as to accomplish the diversity of views originally desired, then I think the new journal would be a significant contribution to SE Asian studies. I certainly hope that these changes can come about.

Sincerely,



DW:sjm

David Wurfel
Associate Professor
University of Windsor