

Mr. Ogden Williams
Office of Vietnam Affairs
Agency for International Development
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Williams:

On behalf of the Mission, and the Office of Rural Affairs in particular, I would like to express my appreciation for your recent contribution to our overall counterinsurgency efforts in Vietnam.

Your devoted and capable assistance has been invaluable in helping improve the organization of the Vietnamese Government's entire Montagnard Relief and Resettlement Program. In less than two months time, you were able to get this support program for over 125,000 Montagnard refugees on the move, after it had been seriously stalled due both to delaying actions within the Vietnamese Government and a lack of adequate follow-through from the U. S. side. During this brief period of time, in addition to establishing excellent relationships with the Vietnamese Commission for Land Development, the Agency actually charged with administering this program, you were able to effect the signing of memorandums of agreement with more than 17 provincial chiefs. More than that, you arranged for the transfer of critically needed funds from the Central Government level directly to the Provincial Headquarters concerned.

Your keen observations, comments, and suggestions on our entire counterinsurgency program were of great value to the Assistant Director for Rural Affairs, Mr. Rufus C. Phillips, in helping him formulate overall plans and operational procedures. Indeed, you were especially helpful in leading the way to the integration of the initial Montagnard project into the provincial rehabilitation program. Many of your recommendations concerning the Montagnard problem area in general now serve as the basis for current operations and program planning.

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In summary, let me again express my personal appreciation, as well as that of the Mission, for your valuable contribution to the success of our efforts here in Vietnam.

I have asked that AID/W make this commendation a part of your official personnel file.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph L. Brent
Director

cc: RA:Mr. Phillips
Personnel

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