

February 16, 1967

Major R.G. Salas  
1 Psychological Research Unit  
Albert Park Barracks  
c/o HQ AATTV  
FWMAO  
via MACV message center  
Saigon, Vietnam

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your letter of February 2, which reached me after some delay. By this time I hope you will have received the outstanding letter written by John Vann, and Colonel Anh's letter (written by me) has also gone out to all the addressees you named. I trust these two testimonials will be of some assistance.

Very shortly I will send you some material on Chieu Hoi including statistics. As you say, the operation is moving along reasonably well, although my fingers are crossed until all of the 1967 money is out and people know how to use it. I feel we are living a little bit on our reputation just now.

I was interested in the attachment to your letter. I hope the Department of External Affairs will not circulate it to the entire citizenry of Australia, as the number of openings are very few, as you know. I presume Phil Burns' replacement will be there to succeed him in due course, but Norman Briers is just starting out and it will be some time before our little program will have openings. One such time should arise if a number of Filipinos decide not to renew their contracts next September or are unable to do so for any reason. Should there be any specific developments, I will let you know. In the meantime, I would assure you that the letdown that people feel after they leave the active arena of Vietnam - whether or not they liked it at the time - is a very common phenomenon. In the old days it was even worse, as Vietnam was much more pleasant then. In any case, I can understand the reactions you are probably having now. It seems to me that an Australian who wants to go to Vietnam ought to be able to arrange it, since I gather he can find many replacements who do not want to go to Vietnam.

With best regards and thanks for your able assistance here,

Sincerely,

Ogden