

Col. Montague
(r-11)

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, COFDS

MACCORDS-CH

24 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. W. E. Colby
ACofS, CORDS

SUBJECT: The Vietnam Training Course in Washington

In our recent conversation you mentioned that a message had come from Washington requesting my assignment to replace Mr. Maynard as head of the Vietnam training course at the Foreign Service Institute in Washington. Actually, Len Maynard had informally discussed this with me last September or earlier. Subject to your or Mr. Komer's desires in the matter, I would prefer not to accept this assignment. My principal reasons are that, although I am no doubt easily replaceable here, any transfer from the Chieu Hoi program at this time would be widely misinterpreted and would be assumed to reflect a further downgrading of this program, which is in fact not the case. Secondly, as long as one is associated with Vietnamese operations, the place to be is in Vietnam. On either ground, I would not feel justified in leaving at this time, despite the fact that our fight in Chieu Hoi has become more up-hill of late, what with the new change in the GVN--which will be the fourth Chieu Hoi reorganization since I took over in July 1966--and with the unfortunate and, I believe, myopic outlook on our side that the validity of Chieu Hoi rests solely on a pleasingly cosmetic returnee rate. So, unless you or Mr. Komer feel differently, I would propose to remain here until March 1969 as scheduled.

OGDEN WILLIAMS
Chief, Chieu Hoi Division