

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, CORDS

MACCORDS-CH

4 July 1968

Mr. Leonard Maynard
Vietnam Training Group
Foreign Service Institute
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Len,

Thanks for your letter regarding your talk with Toner's secretary. I am most delighted from a purely selfish standpoint that you are coming back, although you will, of course, inherit the frustrations you remember so well. I gather, however, that you will get a raise out of it which should please you.

There are two individuals who have applied for jobs with AID and whom AID/Washington has nominated out here as possible Chieu Hoi personnel. These are Colonel Jack T. Young, who claims to have been a Chieu Hoi officer in MACV (whatever that may mean) in 1964-65, and David H. Lockhart, who has no previous experience in Vietnam. We do not have the Forms 57 yet. If you telephone Puritano, you could no doubt have him send those people around to see you and could then send me an idea as to whether we would want them. Actually, people can be reassigned when they arrive in Saigon, from one division to another, but Personnel does not wish even to give initial approval to the hiring of anyone at an R-3 level (like Young) unless a clear and definite job assignment is agreed upon here. This is presumably because it is harder to place 3's and above.

We have raised some Cain about the fact that such major provinces as Thua Thien, Binh Long, Vinh Binh, Hau Nghia, An Xuyen, etc., have been totally uncovered from the standpoint of a Chieu Hoi advisor as a result of the drastic switch of personnel to Refugee work last fall and early this year. I have had several young Refugee workers come to the office pleading to get assigned to Chieu Hoi where they would have a full-time day's work. Komer, of course, refuses to admit the possibility that any Refugee advisor could be less than fully occupied. Also, the young officers who have gone through your course in Washington tell me they get really no sales pitch in favor of an assignment in Chieu Hoi,

Mr. Leonard Maynard

Page 2

despite the fact that the morale of most of our field advisors is distinctly superior to that of the other programs or "non-programs" that go on around here. We still need a few excellent, young ex-Peace Corps, language-trained tigers and can easily sell them on the desirability of this program if we get the chance. At the moment, in terms of US advisors and possible graduates of your school, we have such men as Dan Griffin, David Gray, David Barte, Jim O'Meara, Allen Kieswetter, Don Jamison, David Garms, David Bush, Hal Pattison and Walter Notheis. Only one man, George Belcher, requested reassignment to Refugees, and this was because of a conscientious objection to the entire war in Vietnam and anything closely related to it. Anyway, maybe you can give us a hand in making sure we get a look at some of the better people of the type we already have. In the meanwhile, any word you can send me quickly on Young and Lockhart will be much appreciated.

All the best.

Sincerely,

OGDEN WILLIAMS
Chief, Chieu Hoi Division