

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON

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Dear Oggie:

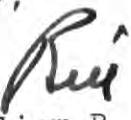
Many thanks for your letter of October 29 concerning your future and the prospects for a lateral entry appointment to the Foreign Service.

In all candor, I must tell you that the outlook for lateral entry appointments at your level is not promising. As you know, we have been taking a hard look at our personnel structure during the past year. Both Task Force I and a special study group chaired by Bill Hall have emphasized that we have a surplus of senior officers in the Department, particularly in the political area. Until this imbalance has been corrected, it will be very difficult for us to justify lateral appointments of FSR-1's, particularly as political officers.\* I regret this, as I believe we need a small but steady infusion of individuals from the outside, with excellent backgrounds such as yours, at all levels of the Service. I hope very much that we will be able to reshape the Service in the future to permit this.

I can well understand the uncertainty you must feel about the future, and I deeply appreciate your interest in serving the Department. I realize this bleak estimate of the lateral entry situation will be disappointing to you, but I knew you would want to have the facts as they are.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

  
William B. Macomber, Jr.

Mr. Ogden Williams,  
Viet-Nam Training Center Coordinator,  
Foreign Service Institute.

\* We may take a few - but I am sure the intake will be very limited. I don't want to suggest that you have no chance. But given the FSI's situation, I don't see who else you could be facing a long shot.