

6/11/71
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THE
NEW YORKER
25 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036



Dec. 28

Dear Mr. Williams -

Rather late to be answering your letter of last August, but, unfortunately, it reached me in HK when I got back from Paris via New York last October. Actually, at the last moment of my stay in the states, I had a phone call from Ev Baumgartner, who wanted me to come down to Washington, but it was too late. I have been at the Institute previously, as well as in Hawaii to lecture. I don't have any plans right now to come back, tho I may again this summer. If I do, I will let you know. Meanwhile, I'm glad you're passing around both earlier books and hope the new one, *The Road From War*, consisting of 22 New Yorker pieces since 1965, is also being read. The reprint, updated to 26 pieces and a new postscript, in paperback, is coming out in April.

You're lucky to be out of Saigon these days! It's become more and more horribly polluted and I literally can't breathe anymore.

Yrs,

Bob Shaplen

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