

FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

May 8, 1970

Mr. Leonard Maynard
Executive for Civil Operations
CORDS/CO
APO San Francisco 96243

Dear Len:

CORDS XIX, which I view as my own class since I went through the Basic Course with them in May 1969, is due to hit Saigon about June 1. I wish you would take a personal interest in at least three individuals in this class and make sure that you see them and have something to say about their assignments. You might wish to leave a notice with the Personnel people that these officers should be sent to see you as soon as they reach Viet-Nam. The class members I refer to are:

Mr. Ints M. Silins - This officer is in my viewpoint probably the top man in the class. He is a Foreign Service Officer, a graduate of Princeton, and originally a Latvian refugee whose family eventually reached the United States from the DP Camps in Germany after World War II. He was the top language student in this class and also was the class representative for dealing with the State Department on personnel matters, etc. Everything about Silins inspires immediate confidence and respect, and I think care should be taken to exploit to the full this officer's very high potential. He plays an outstanding game of ping-pong, so if you wish to improve your game you could even have him over for lunch.

Miss Mary H. Maughan - She was next to the top of the class in language training. She is a devout and serious-minded young woman from Utah, a Foreign Service Officer, and daughter of an Air Force family. Her attitude is exceptionally good, and she has an independent mind combined with a warm and eager spirit. Originally she expressed a strong desire to work with people at the most basic level, and I think she might be interested in village work with frequent trips to the field from Saigon or the region. She would be a natural for Scag, if they have any slots. Please arrange to meet her and take a personal interest in her assignment.

Miss Susan J. Crane - Miss Crane also is a young Foreign Service Officer who performed excellently at VTC, receiving an S-2+, R-2+ rating in Vietnamese. She also wants to work with people and use her language capability. You will enjoy meeting her, too. Please set up an interview when she arrives in Viet-Nam around June 1.

At some point we will be having another meeting of the Inter-agency Group on VTC, with many substantive matters to be discussed. In brief, we need a reaffirmation of our Charter, a restatement of AID's willingness to fund VTC, the need for language training in Viet-Nam, the personnel levels required in Viet-Nam from which to calculate the inputs necessary here at VTC, etc. I told Jake yesterday that we would really need someone from CORDS to attend this meeting, because CORDS is the only customer for our services and all such questions as inputs and the priority of language training are ultimately determined by CORDS. He said that someone would be sent back here to represent CORDS as a plenipotentiary. Perhaps you might like to do this.

The Cambodian adventure has got many people hot and bothered back here. I hope we do whatever it was we went in there for and get out as soon as possible.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Ogden Williams
Coordinator
Viet-Nam Training Center