

May 25, 1971

Colonel Emmett J. O'Brien
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Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania 17013

Dear O'B:

Many thanks for your note and for the copy of your paper. It is a great pleasure to see "Colonel" in front of your name. Many congratulations.

I read the paper with great interest and agree with your conclusions and recommendations. I also nit-picked my way through the paper and will make some specific comments.

Page 10. Concerning your definition, I suspect that many people on both sides are nonideologized. Couldn't the definition include people who are organizationally involved with one side or the other, rather than ideologically committed?

Page 13. I think you should have mentioned the question of the Geneva Convention which, as I understand it, limits the right of a country to permit POW's to rally, even if the latter want to. You will recall in Viet-Nam our Embassy insisted that the right to convert from POW to Chieu Hoi not be granted to NVA. The purpose of the rule is to prevent forced conversions.

Page 16. It seems to me that there is a distinction between defection and desertion in that defection means going over to the other side, while desertion might just mean dropping out and going home.

Page 17. The quote at the bottom of the page seems to have left out some words or something.

Page 31, footnote. The 1967 Year-End Report was written by me, not by The Rand Corporation.

Page 34, end of first paragraph. The Seabees did participate but under contract to A.I.D., so maybe that doesn't count.

Page 37. "Panay" not "Penay."

Page 48, end of first paragraph. I believe the word should be "rolls."

I particularly agree with your last recommendation on page 60. I thought your paper brought out many interesting points regarding the Philippines and Malaya and hope that it will be given the full attention it deserves.

Your new assignment in Belgium sounds very pleasant indeed and I should certainly wish you a lot of luck. I am sorry that I was unable to get up fishing last year after you so kindly send me the information. I wonder if Pennsylvania has a one or two-day non-resident fishing license. Perhaps I could pop up there for a day before you leave.

With warm best wishes to you and your family, and many thanks again for your interesting and useful paper.

Sincerely,

Ogden Williams