



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Williams
Personal WH 7y I

March 3, 1972

Dear Howard:

The Viet-Nam Ad Hoc Group concurs with your proposal to phase out the Viet-Nam Training Center by May 31, 1972, for the reasons and under the conditions set forth in your memorandum of February 14.

As the work of the Viet-Nam Training Center comes to a close, I want to place on record the recognition by the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the Agency for International Development of the fine achievements of the Viet-Nam Training Center during the five years of its existence. ~~With very little time for preparation,~~ the Viet-Nam Training Center, supported by the Foreign Service Institute, established a unique integrated program of area and language training designed to meet the unprecedented needs of our Viet-Nam advisory effort. The training thus provided to officers, civilian and military, of the various government services who were being assigned to Viet-Nam equipped them for immediate employment in our far-flung CORDS advisory program.

Altogether 1,845 persons received training for service in Viet-Nam at the VTC. CORDS officials in the field and VTC graduates have been emphatic in their praise for the high quality of the VTC's training. It is my own belief that, had it not been for the knowledge and skills which VTC graduates brought to their assignments, the CORDS program, which has played a key role in the success of pacification and Vietnamization, would have been far less effective.

The VTC has made a uniquely important contribution to the overall United States effort in Viet-Nam, one for which both our Government and people have reason to be grateful. The successive directors of the Viet-Nam Training Center, the

Center's staff, and the Foreign Service Institute should be proud of this accomplishment.

Sincerely,

William H. Sullivan
Chairman
Ad Hoc Group on Viet-Nam

cc: Mr. Maynard

Mr. Wilson

Mr. Williams