



COMMANDER NAVAL BASE

10 June 1997

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate the time you took to share your thoughts and some of your experiences in HAL-3 with me. I was deeply touched by your personal account of the incident in March 1968. Regrettably, I have read and heard of a number of similar experiences and I sensed this was a difficult thing for you to deal with. It would have been for me, too!

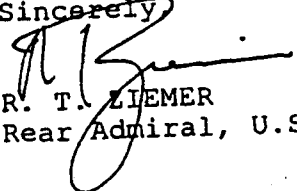
Your comments expressing your disappointment that I had excluded mention of the Jewish faith in my remarks at the reunion were taken on board. By way of explanation, much of my speech was extemporaneous and later transcribed for printing. The segment of my talk that you referred to was intended to be all inclusive, but I missed the mark. I did not intentionally exclude those of the Jewish faith. I have gone back into the transcript and changed that sentence so that if I ever reprint or deliver the talk again, it will correctly reflect what I wanted to do - and that was to be all inclusive. Thank you for taking the time to write and for bringing this to my attention.

Even though we have never met, I truly sense a camaraderie that exists because of our common

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experiences and privilege to serve our country in Vietnam. If you ever plan a trip to Norfolk, VA, please call - I'd enjoy visiting with you.

Sincerely,

  
R. T. LIEMER  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

Commander P. D. Shay, USN, (Ret)