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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Washington 25, D. C.

March 4, 1963

Mr. Rufus Phillips
Assistant Director for Rural Affairs
US AID to Vietnam
c/o American Embassy
Saigon, Vietnam

Dear Rufe:

My personal correspondence and business is usually delayed even longer than much of the office work, if that is possible. Only last week did I get around to taking the Kodachrome slides, which I took during our trip to An Xuyen Province, to the camera store to get them enlarged. I am enclosing prints of two of them, which you wanted, with my compliments.

I have been most grateful for the flow of pictures and documents which you have sent to me on various aspects of your operation. I try to put them to good use and this week hope to get them organized into various books or albums which I can use even better.

Among the pictures which I most appreciate were the copies of those taken by your Chinese friend at the very nice dinner which you had for me during December. Recently, when I was looking at them again, I noticed that the card of transmittal on them was from Mrs. Rufus Phillips. When I first received them and glanced at the card, I thought they were from you. Will you please thank Barbara very much for me, both for the very nice evening and for the thoughtfulness in sending the pictures.

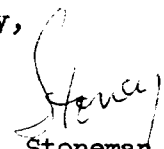
Some time ago, I wrote Colonel ^{Chau}~~Guth~~, the Province Chief of Kien Hoa Province, a thank-you letter for his hospitality in receiving us during our trip there. I meant to send it to you so that you could have one of your people deliver it to him, but it was inadvertently dispatched direct to him (meaning that I forgot to tell the secretaries to route it through you). I am attaching a copy of that letter. More recently, I sent a ball point pen through APO to you for delivery to him. I'm not sure whether it would have gone via air mail or sea pouch but I should have written long ago to tell you what it was about. I would be grateful if one of your people could drop it off to him on one of their trips there.

I have used the Viet Cong weapons which he gave me to good advantage in a number of briefings and talks since I returned from Saigon. Along with a collection of your pictures, they contribute a great deal.

With all of the problems that we share, I almost never get around to noting jobs that are well done. However, I would like to assure you that in various reports and briefings here, we often have occasion to emphasize some of your many accomplishments and to tell people what a tremendous job you are doing.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


Walter G. Stoneman, Director
Office of Vietnam Affairs

Enclosures:
As stated

cc: Mr. Joseph L. Brent