



Washington
20 Sept 66
1200 hours

Dear Ed,

Went to the opening of the
Freedom Studies Center, which was
very impressive. Admiral Stump
said some very nice things about you,
such as his being sure that
the Center would make a significant
contribution as long as you had
anything to do with it. It
looks like a good start - I assume
you will be getting fuller reports
from other sources.

I saw Bui Diem who told
me about the post-election party.
Sorry I missed it. Bui Diem
is trying to curtail his trip
to get back to help prepare for
the Manila meeting. He has asked
me to talk to Dinh, which I
will do. Will also try to get
them together. Bui Diem is
worried about preparations for the
Manila meeting and about the
U.S. forcing unrealistic positions
and programs on them. I told
him I thought that he had
better get across to the U.S.
soon what he wants to do
in the way of restructuring
and reforming ARVN for
participation and the elimination
of corruption before the U.S.



through other actions, including
the introduction of additional
troop units, confirms the status
quo. ~~However~~ FYI, there
is considerable concern on
Komer's staff here that MACV
is proceeding with a plan
of matching up U.S. with
ARVN Divisions which will
ensure that Pacification does
not, rather than gets, the
support it needs. I hope to
see Komer again soon to further
the ^{political} education process.

In the meantime, our
friend Dana Reynolds has
been pushing his ideas along
softly and nicely. Am
enclosing Section 9 of the
Foreign Assistance Act which
is a sleeper - This was
slipped in by Congressman
Fraser ^(Dem) and Brad Morse (Rep.).

Also am enclosing a
humorous note from the Wall
Street Journal. Maybe we
could get a hypnotechician
out to Saigon to go to
work on the Vietnamese
generals and the Mission Council.
De-escalation ^{of the ego} approach.

I'd very much appreciate



a copy of the tape of the last
songfest I attended (the one for
which Vic Alsop showed up). I'd
particularly like to get a copy
of the Addis - Pham Duy duets.
Assume Hank may have made a
copy.

My best to all the gang -
assume what I'm saying here
is okay; except I ran into
one of the wives the other
day who said her husband had
complained that I was going
around praising the Team as
being indispensable. Sorry
about that!

R.

1700 hours

P.S. #1 Had lunch w/Unger & just saw
Bill Bundy alone for a half-hour.
Bill seemed quite concerned about
how you are getting along, etc.
I pulled no punches on the
role you played in the elections
which he seemed to appreciate.
Got ~~some~~ some links in on
the U.S. advising the Vietnamese to
follow the rules in dealing with
the Assembly and no military
dictatorship, also on being more
sensitive to Vietnamese political
nuances and sensitivities. Bill said (my)



he had been strongly in favor of the
prisoner release and the steps to
reconcile Buddhists with the GVN,
etc and that he did not agree
with HCL and Phil in their
attitudes toward the Buddhists. I
alluded to who was true deaf to
Vietnamese emotional music, and he
seemed to understand.

Dont Know - sort of like
punching feathers around here.

P.S. # Got a letter from Bert Fraleigh
in which he complains that Thang
is completely opposed to his
An Giang program. I talked to
Thang that night at Ky's about
the agricultural side - Chinese tech-
nicians and how they would reach
the individual farmer. He was
enthusiastic but said he was
against big roads, electrification
etc. The present impasse is
probably a misunderstanding
which could be resolved by
having Dove investigate with Bert
where the thing stands and then
presenting Thang with a modified
version that he will buy.