



5 Oct. '66

Dear Ed,

Saw Dan who just arrived
and has talked to Homer. Dan wants
me to advise you that he dropped
the suggestion, that in view of
MACV possibly assuming a much larger
political role in Vietnam, he should
know that Westy listened to you
and thought very highly of your
advice. According to Dan, Homer
appreciated this.

All of this is against a background
of a terrific power struggle for pacification
going on here which Mac appears
to have won, and State lost. Apparently
LBJ has bought ~~the~~ ^{Mac's} concept that
pacification should be placed under
Westy. Homer supported this.
State - AID fought hard but
apparently lost and Mac has a
mandate to sell it to Lodge and
institute it, which he is coming
out to do.

I'm afraid the importance
of Vietnamese political develop-
ment has gotten lost in the
shuffle. LBJ wants results
in pacification now that we're
winning the military war. Westy
impresses him, Porter doesn't.

So it seems to me there
are several options available, none



Very satisfactory. Move over to MAC/V,
stay in the Embassy but with
a more recognized political role,
or come home. Mike says there
is some support here for your
becoming political counselor with
an upgrading of rank which would
at least give you a base, although
not a particularly good one; but
a line into the WH might be
developed and you might be able
to change the reporting rules, etc.

In any case I believe that
Wormer will lend a sympathetic ear
to whatever you have to say.

All the best to the Team. I'm
sending by hand via Bob Montague
a copy of Ted Owen's book on
a Democratic Strategy of Development,
~~the~~ which could be bootlegged
to interested Assemblymen.

R.