

26 June 1972

Dear John,

Thanks for your letter of 8 May. It was good to hear from you and to learn that you were enjoying the experience of working with General McCaffrey.

As you probably know, I'm heading for Korea to take over the I Corps Group. I'll keep my eyes open for a brigade for you if you are still interested. While this would be another hardship tour for me, soldiering in Korea is still the best in the world.

I'll keep in touch.

Most sincerely,

RICHARD T. KNOWLES  
Lt. General, USA

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8 May 1972

Lieutenant General Richard T. Knowles  
Assistant to the Chairman  
The Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear General Knowles:

I am writing in response to your request of 21 September 71 to keep you posted, before my Vietnam tour is over, on where I would like to go next year. This year has been an extremely interesting tour of duty and working for LTG McCaffrey has been a rich experience.

OPO put me on orders last February to return to DA (DCSOPS-Plans) on 28 August 72. OPO has, however, indicated informally that I might be reassigned to a horseholder or other special assignment prior to that reporting date. I would welcome such an assignment in the field of National Security policy planning, for which I consider myself well qualified. I would, of course, also be especially happy to have an opportunity to work with you again, should that become possible. I could probably be available earlier if desired.

There is one limitation which I hope will not pose any insuperable problems. Having missed my brigade command over here, I would hope to be so assigned when one becomes available, perhaps in about a year.

The current NVA capers, as well as the President's recent announcement, manage to keep us fully engaged here. I am sure you are finding some challenges in these areas also, as I hear on the news that the NSC is having a special meeting on US policy in the RVN tomorrow.

I send my best wishes for the continued success of your endeavors.

Sincerely,



JOHN B. BELLINGER, JR.  
Colonel, GS  
Chief, Plans Division