

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Friend:

Thank you for taking the time to write and for letting me know of your concern over American policy toward Vietnam.

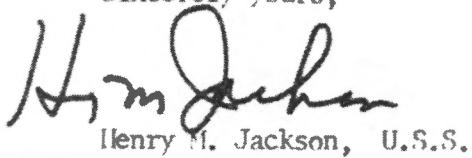
Two years ago, when the Vietnam peace agreements were signed, there was reason to hope that our involvement in the conflict would be scaled down accordingly by the Administration. Yet last year, it requested \$1.45 billion in military aid to Vietnam for the current fiscal year. After long hearings and thorough examination, Congress appropriated \$700 million in military aid. In the Senate, I supported the fifty percent reduction in the amount requested by the Administration.

As you know, the Administration has now come back and asked Congress to approve a supplemental \$300 million for military aid to Vietnam for this fiscal year. I have commented publicly that I am going to oppose this additional \$300 million. I think we must face up to the fact that if South Vietnam cannot survive with the current level of assistance, a supplemental appropriation is not going to make the difference. The South Vietnamese armed forces already represent an investment of billions of U.S. dollars; the Administration is unconvincing in trying to make it appear that the outcome of this twenty-year conflict hinges on Congressional approval of a supplemental appropriation. Some limits on our involvement have to be set, and I believe the limit that Congress supported for this year is a realistic one.

I appreciate your interest in this important issue.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



Henry M. Jackson, U.S.S.