



United States Senate

Viet Nam Note

February 29, 1968

Dear :

Until the Administration, including our Chiefs of Staff and our Department heads modify our foreign policy with respect to Vietnam, it occurs to me that statements which may be at variance with that policy will be interpreted by the enemy as a shrewd division in this country and would lend aid and comfort to the enemy.

I just received from a soldier in Vietnam a propaganda leaflet dropped by the Viet Coms asking our soldiers to refuse to fight and to get out of Vietnam. In it they quote a member of Congress. That is exactly what happens. They lift things out of context.

Sooner or later this thing must break one way or another, but I am most reluctant to weaken the prestige and position of our own country in a matter by adopting views that are contrary to what the Administration is undertaking to do, particularly when those in the Executive Branch are in possession of top secret intelligence information which does not come to the attention of Congress in many cases.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen