

25 January 1967  
Hue, Vietnam  
Wednesday Evening

My Dear Family -

after the past few weeks in Saigo coming to Hue seems almost like a foreign country. This has been

a beautiful area and one still sees signs of beauty - it is much quieter than Saigo - the city is off limits to American military personnel as I have not heard the impact of so many Americans - I guess all that I can say tonight is that I feel that I am in a strange place.

we landed at Danang, at the request of Ambassador Koren (one of Lodge's right hand men who has the rank of ambassador) who wanted to brief us. All of us went to the consulate & after a few minutes the ambassador's assistant came out and said that the ambassador would see Bob La Follette, Jim Singleton and me. We went in and after greeting the ambassador he proceeded to inquire what our mission was - how we would proceed, etc. I raised a slight objection to our plan but later decided it was the fact that he is deeply involved in a different concern - the concern of our govt. to establish and maintain a stable government in Vietnam. All other considerations must support that. And, from his point of view the resistance movement has sprung here at the University of Hue was an attempt to overthrow the present govt & create more instability. For that reason all U.S. aid was terminated & no embassy official can talk with anyone at the university.

after our briefing we ate at the Navy Officers Mess - saw fighters taking off & landing from roads - and flew out Hue. At the airport & dining in you have a feeling that the war is much closer here - combat equipped military men, armored vehicles, etc. everywhere.

I am staying at a hotel located along the banks of the Perfume River - we just finished dinner and now (2:30) I am ready for bed - tired and a little lonely for all of you. we spoke briefly with the Rebs / the University of Hue - Doctor Hoan (Am). His PhD is in history and he is 30 years old.

Tomorrow we spend the day at the University - so much more than. For now, all my love.

Dad.