

THE FORD FOUNDATION
320 EAST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

McGEORGE BUNDY
PRESIDENT

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Dear Matt:

I talked today with Peter Kunstadter, and I am full of personal admiration for his commitment to the tough and risky subject he wants to attack. Unfortunately I had to tell him that we still have not been persuaded here that now is the time and this is the place for action to support these kinds of studies on the ground in South Vietnam. We continue to be advised by our men on the spot in Bangkok that the time is just not right for the kinds of things we know how to help with.

I found that part of Kunstadter's problem was a desire to escape from the taint of money which goes through DOD. I had to tell him that from the point of view of both the militant left and the militant right he would be no better off with Ford Foundation money. He wryly agreed, but he made the point that with his more sober colleagues the difference could be decisive. I am glad if that is true, and it spurs me to keep an open mind on the timetable of an appropriate role for us in this field.

As ever,

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McGeorge Bundy

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