

4 October 1972

The Honorable Manuel Lujan Jr.  
House of Representatives  
1323 Longworth Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lujan:

Permit me to call to your attention a review by Henry Steele Commager of Roots of War by Richard J. Barnett which was published in the October 5th issue of the New York Review of Books and was entitled The Defeat of America.

The article can be read in thirty minutes and should be read by every Congressman who supports the United States' involvement in Southeast Asia.

If it does not enlighten your presumptions concerning the Vietnam War you are less open-minded about America's Asian policy than I hope you are; and if you refuse to read it you are neglecting an opportunity to inform yourself on a subject the importance of which to the future direction of America's external policy and internal development is second to none.

Henry Steele Commager is such a distinguished scholar and historian that his analysis of the course and consequences of the military and political actions of the United States cannot lightly be put aside.

Yours sincerely,

*Elmer R. Roth*