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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 4, 1971

Mr. Eliot Porter Route 4, Box 33 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Mr. Porter:

I have your letter of March 1 expressing your views on the war in Southeast Asia.

I have tried to support the Administration's policy of de-escalation, and I believe the reversals of that policy--the invasions of Cambodia and now Laos--are a grave mistake. Such actions carry with them the danger of a wider war, even though they are conceived as a method of ending American involvement.

If Vietnam has taught us anything, it is that seemingly temporary steps lead to irrevocable commitments. The Administration, by attempting every military move that is not specifically forbidden by Congress, only adds to the mood for stronger legislation.

Thank you for writing. I appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Clinton P. Anderson

CPA:clm