

2-8-1968

From/To: Lane Cubstead (Chalk's reply filed first)

Lane Cubstead

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February 8, 1968

Mr. Laine Cubstead
American Embassy
APO New York, 09694

Dear Laine and family:

You seem to know all of the news from this side of the world. I am in the process of making plans to go to Viet Nam within the next two months, I hope. All this depends on my authorization from MACV, in Viet Nam. If you have any suggestions about ways to get me there in a hurry, besides the draft, please send them along.

I have enclosed copies of my proposal for the trip, which I used to get the funds for it. Please read carefully the objectives and guidelines. If you have any suggestions about them, please send them to me. They could prove invaluable.

It now looks as if I will be an authorized correspondent of the news syndicate out of New York. Some of the material may possibly be used in syndicated articles with special emphasis on a national magazine article as well as for Herald of Truth lessons on a spiritual profile of the American soldier in Viet Nam.

Our children are all well. We have talked of the Cubsteads so often and would like nothing better than a good long visit with you. I will inquire about the possibility of coming by Lebanon. I remember Lebanon from the very delightful three-day visit there in 1965, but I had nothing like the expert guide that you would be. I will let you know as soon as final details are worked out about the trip and the possibility of coming by to visit with you. We send you all our love and prayers.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Speaker

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F- "Vietnam TRIP"

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY
REGIONAL SERVICE CENTER

AMERICAN EMBASSY
BEIRUT, LEBANON

January 25, 1968

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John Allen Chalk
Highland Church of Christ
South Fifth and Highland Sts.
Abilene, Texas 79604

Dear John Allen:

I've been reading all about you in the Arabic-language Beirut newspapers recently. Let's see. It says Wally Bullington finally gave up on Frank Caywer and sold out to ACC. It says Frank Caywer finally gave up on the brethren and got married. It says John Allen Chalk has given up completely on everybody and everything and is going to Vietnam! Good grief. What is going on in Abilene? (Really I didn't read all of that here...I have an inside line that you probably realize -- the Cobbs.)

Anyway they said they enjoyed their quick trip to Abilene, and in visiting with you. Wish we could have a nice quiet visit, although for the life of me I can't ever remember us having a nice quiet visit anytime. All I remember when I think about you, is this wild ride over the hills of Tennessee some years back -- trying to twist some of the elders' arms into the idea of a regional edition of the Chronicle. (Also I remember ferrying a car for you from Nashville to Memphis, and eating supper with Sue in the hospital dining room. Things like that.)

My real purpose for writing this letter is not to wax sentimental but to suggest that you go home from Vietnam via Lebanon! That may sound wild but there may be some validity to it -- if the elders, for instance, would want you to stop off in Spain, Switzerland or other spots of concern to the Highland congregation.

John Allen, you certainly would be welcome here. You could stay with us (we would hope for several days) and really give you some good sightseeing or anything you would want. I would ask you to come to the Middle East Bible Workshop, but it isn't scheduled until mid-April, and I'm afraid that would be stretching your trip too long. I would be interesting in knowing the actual extra expense of flying home this way from Vietnam, as opposed to going directly back eastward.

Talk to Frank Ether Jr.

Anyway I can try can't I? Nobody and I mean nobody has been to see us yet. Want to be the celebrity? Come.

Regards to all, especially Clois and Betty. (I know your trip to Vietnam will be a valuable one to you. God bless you.)

Regards.

Lave

Hello to Sue!