

February 1, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR WILL SPARKS

I heartily approve of the proposal that the President afford special recognition to the Air National Guard upon completion of their 1,000th transport mission from the United States to South Vietnam.

Members of the National Guard have a tremendous pride in their organization, stimulated in part by their continuing fight for survival as an organization.

Senator Edward Kennedy recently commented that the National Guard neither guards nor trains. This was a gratuitous insult and touched a very sensitive nerve.

The President's remarks should encourage their pride in their organization and, in particular, this achievement, without committing him in any substantive way on the future of the organization -- that not being here an issue.

Farris Bryant

Attachment returned

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