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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6375

February 23, 1990

Dear Friend,

I regret very much that due to a scheduling conflict I will be unable to meet with you today. I am delighted that so many students are interested in learning about the history and impact of the Vietnam war and have come all the way to Washington to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

I would like to congratulate Professor Capps on his tremendous initiative in designing the first-in-the-nation course devoted totally to the Vietnam War. Although the war ended almost 15 years ago, too many Americans, particularly young Americans, know little about it or take lessons from it.

I have followed the progress and great success of Professor Capps' course over the years through the various media reports. One of my staff members on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Claudia Kashin, is a graduate of Professor Capps' course as was another staffer who worked with us two years ago, Liz Giffin. The insight and understanding they gained from the course has contributed much to their work for the Committee.

I've asked the Committee's Deputy General Counsel, Bill Brew, to discuss the Committee's operation with you and answer your questions this afternoon.

I hope you enjoy your visit to Washington and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and would like again to extend my regrets that I will not be able to meet with you today.

With warm regards,

Cordially,


Alan Cranston
Chairman

I think it's great that you made the effort to make this pilgrimage. Best of luck in your studies. I deeply regret that I'll be out of town this afternoon. Many of you have had a fine teacher in my remarkable colleague, Senator Bob Kerry of Nebraska.