

# REPULSE BAY HOTEL

HONG KONG

May 15, 1972

Mr. Howard Simons  
The Washington Post  
1515 L st. NW  
Washington D.C.  
20005  
USA

Dear Howard,

At the end of last week I suddenly felt as if someone had pulled the plug and I staggered here for a few days respite. But I am watching the papers uneasily and expect to get back to Saigon soonest. In any event, that is the explanation for the informality of this letterhead.

Word has filtered down (across?) that Steve Klaidman is going on an extended leave of some kind and the purpose of this note is to say I'd like to be considered for the job he has. In my five and one half years with the Post (and extended corporate family) more than three have been in foreign news including a short stint on the desk. The day job has always been one I'd hoped to do at some point.

While I am fully prepared to go back to the metro staff, in my heart of hearts I view it as a diversion at the end of which I will merit another overseas assignment. On the other hand, there are few editing slots I'd trade for a good reporting job at this stage. Certainly, the position of day foreign editor (or whatever it is called these days) is one I'd be honored to have.

I recognize that I'm still thought of as a young'un at the Post, but if you could see the gray hairs I have accumulated in Saigon, that impression might change. Anyway, there it is.

Thanks again for your support and kind words,

Best regards,

  
Peter Osnos

PS I understand Phil is in Europe so I am not sending a copy of this to him. I will if you say so.

PO