

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Colson

June 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES COLSON *WC*
SUBJECT: Al Hubbard

Let's not worry about who gets credit let's look

With respect to your comment on the attached, CBS News Reporter William Overend is trying to take undue credit for his discovery of Al Hubbard's status. Actually we discovered that he was not a captain but a sergeant and that he had never been in Vietnam but had only flown in and out an Air Force cargo aircraft. We also found out that he had been arrested for disorderly conduct and had a very bad personal record. This was fed to several columnists and was used. It was also used on the Hill in some speeches which were covered and both NBC and CBS carried the story; NBC in particular on a morning news program had a long tearful apology by Hubbard who admitted he had lied.

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There may be more we can do with this right now and we will look for opportunities. The important target is Kerry who has really caught the public imagination, although I think we are beginning in a variety of ways to tear his image down; first the terHorst piece and the excellent Thimmesch articles, his encounters with McDonald on television and today's challenge by our Vietnam veterans groups. He is the guy I'd really like for us to get.

Well then — — —

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