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Walter Lowenfels Correspondence Transcription

[Walter Lowenfels to Robert Bly. Series 2, box 2, folder 13, document 33]

6/11/67 [June 11th 1967]

Dear Robert: I know how deeply you have been moved by the war in Viet Nam: you have shown it not only in your poems, and your anthology, but also in actions you have helped organize among other poets. So I have some idea of how revolted you have been at Dickey's inclusion in WHERE IS VIETNAM. For you know him and know about his war views. I don't know him or anything about him, except that he wanted to be in the book, and gave permission to use the extract I selected. Had you written me before the anthology # went to press, I could have excluded him. I don't want a Dickey to stand between our friendship and our common views on peace and poetry. Do you recall the story about having included Cummings in your book, and then being forced to X him out because Marion said he was for the war, or would have been.

One critic wrote that WHERE IS VIETNAM? Is xxxxx [better] than any poem in it and greater than any poet in it. Th Asselineau has proposed that the French title be "L'Honneur des Poetes Americaines." # I don't think anything I can say is going to change your views. Nevertheless I'm hoping oyu will see

[signed] Wallt

what the book as a whole has done and not let Dickey come between us and my admiration for your work. as ever