

21
1
2. Pre. file

Saturday, July 22, 1967
2:15 p.m.

Mr. President:

Herewith is today's situation report on the political developments in Viet Nam.

W. W. Rostow
Att.

~~SECRET/EXDIS Attachment~~

Mr. Rosten
Leibowitz

270

~~SECRET-LIMDIS~~

Situation Report in Viet-Nam

July 22, 1967

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NEJ 94-163

By [redacted], NARA, Date 7-20-94

New Developments

Saigon 1601 gives the text of a letter from Foreign Minister Do to Secretary-General U Thant inviting UN observers to witness the September elections in Viet-Nam. Do said (Saigon 1600) the letter will be made public as soon as information was received of its delivery to U Thant. Invitations to observe the elections are also being sent to local diplomatic missions and to all countries in which the GVN has representation, and the GVN desires to invite parliamentary observers especially from troop-contributing nations and other friendly Asian nations.

COMMENT

This is the culmination of efforts we have been making to assure good election coverage and international acceptance. The propaganda usefulness of the invitation to U Thant would be enhanced by allowing U Thant a decent interval to reply before making the letter public. We are asking the Embassy to suggest this to Do.

~~SECRET-LIMDIS~~