

24
—
Wednesday, August 9, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Pres file

Mr. President:

Attached is the daily situation
report on Vietnamese politics.

W. W. Rostow

Attachment

~~SECRET~~ Attachment

34a

~~SECRET~~

Viet-Nam Political Situation Report

August 9, 1967

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NEJ 94-191

By 4-8, NARA, Date 9-12-94

Thieu-Ky Agreement

According to a Ky confidant, a second, "somewhat broader" signed agreement between Thieu and Ky has been signed. It further defines post-election responsibilities of the two men and stipulates that Ky will be charged with selecting the Prime Minister and cabinet if their ticket is elected. We are doubtful that terms of any such agreement are as explicit as Ky's followers maintain.

Pro-GVN Political Bloc Meets

The "All Viet-Nam Bloc", reportedly comprising several major pro-GVN (initially pro-Ky) political groups, convened publicly yesterday for the first time. The Bloc will openly back three senatorial slates and, while publicly non-committal so far, will undoubtedly wind up endorsing the Thieu-Ky ticket. The Embassy comments that the Bloc is not particularly impressive in its attempt to present itself as a broad political organization.

Campaign Incident at Quang Tri

Thieu stated at his press conference yesterday that he would accept blame if GVN errors were responsible for the miscarriage of the candidates' first joint campaign appearance Sunday in Quang Tri. This should help ease tensions on this issue, which is still holding up resumption of the other candidates' campaigns.

~~SECRET~~