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5- Presid. T-6 file  
124

Monday, August 21, 1967  
11:50 p.m.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Legal Aspects of the Viet-Nam Conflict

In response to your call for background material on the legal problem in Viet-Nam and the President's authority, the attached may be of use.

1. State Department paper on the Legality of U.S. Participation in the Defense of Viet-Nam (key portion is Section IV, pages 11-15 (TAB A).

2. Under Secretary Katzenbach's statement of August 17, 1967 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (TAB B).

3. Memorandum by the Acting General Counsel of the Defense Department (June 10, 1965) on the President's authority to commit combat forces in Viet-Nam (TAB C).

4. The Legal Adviser's Opinion: The Legal Basis for United States Forces in Viet-Nam (August 5, 1964) (TAB D).

5. A key portion of the legal report on The Lawfulness of United States Assistance to the Republic of Viet-Nam prepared by a special committee of the American Bar Association (May 1966) (TAB E).

William J. Jorden

Atts.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4(b)

White House Guidelines, Feb. 24, 1983

By AG, NARA, Date 9-9-91

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