

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

Friday, August 11, 1967
1:15 p.m.

Pres file

Mr. President

Herewith Sec. Rusk's personal draft
of the message which we would permit
Dr. Kissinger to give in Paris to his
contacts for delivery to Pham Van Dong.

Sec. Rusk seeks your modification
or approval.

W. W. Rostow

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NII 94-225
By LJG, NARA, Date 6-22-95

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

You may give your contacts the following message and ask that they deliver it to Pham Van Dong:

The United States is willing to stop the aerial and naval bombardment of North Vietnam if this will lead promptly to productive discussions between representatives of the US and the DRV looking toward a resolution of the issues between them.

You should say further to Messrs. Marcovich and Aubrac that the United States is prepared to negotiate either openly or secretly. It would seem, however, that a total cessation of the bombing is inconsistent with keeping secret the fact that negotiations are taking place. Accordingly, the DRV may prefer to consider the alternative of a cutback in the magnitude or scope of the bombing while secret negotiations are in progress.

We would assume that, while discussions proceed either with public knowledge or secretly, the DRV would not take advantage of the bombing cessation or limitation. Any such move on their part would obviously be inconsistent with the movement toward resolution of the issues between the US and DRV which the negotiations are intended to achieve.

The US is ready to have immediate private contact with the DRV to explore the above approach or any suggestions the DRV might wish to propose in the same direction.

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Authority 89-111
By SP-44 Date 11/18/99
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