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INFORMATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Saturday, November 18, 1967
4:25 p.m.

Pres file

Mr. President:

Probably nothing in it -- but worth noting.

As we know, \$700 million plus in annual foreign aid for one country is serious business.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NLJ 94-479
By Cly, NARA, Date 4-5-95

W. W. Rostow

Rome 2642

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WWRostow:rln

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November 18, 1967

TEXT OF CABLE FROM ROME (2642)

SUBJECT: Soviet Position on Vietnam

[redacted] (protect source), who was in Moscow for the Soviet anniversary celebrations, tells us that a journalist member of the Italian Communist delegation there told him he believed the Soviets were likely to change their stand on Vietnam within several months and take steps to bring an end to the conflict, supposedly because the Soviet aid burden was onerous. The communist told [redacted] that the PCI (Italian Communist Party) was concerned about the possibility, since the Vietnam war is a main element in their present campaigning.

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(a) (4)

The only PCI journalist we know of who was in Moscow specially for the celebrations is Maurizio Ferrara, Director of "L'Unita", who presumably is well keyed in to PCI top leaders' thinking.

We understand [redacted] that the Soviets have frequently impressed on visiting delegations how much they are doing for Hanoi. Whether such declarations are all that is behind the PCI journalist's statement, we do not know, but in any event it is interesting that the PCI is apparently worried about possibilities of Vietnam peace.

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SANITIZED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NIJ 94-480
By CB, NARA, Dec 17-95

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