

INFORMATION

Friday, February 2, 1968
8:55 a.m.

Mr. President:

This Viet Cong psywar trick
reveals something of their mind.

Amb. Bunker responds herewith
promptly and well.

Pres file

W. W. Rostow

Saigon 17402

WWRostow:rln

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ACTION EA 15

INFO CIAE 00,DOODE 00,NSAE 00,NSCE 00,SSO 00,USIE 00,CCC 00,GPM 03,
H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SC 01,SP 02,SS 20,SAN 23,
SAL 01,IO 13,NIC 01,MM 01,RSR 01,AID 28,/116 W

O R 020535Z FEB 68 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5444
INFO CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 3419
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 5642
AMCONSUL DNNANG 1647

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. ASSISTANT TO PRIME MIN DOAN BA CANG CALLED POLITICAL
COUNSELOR MORNING FEB 2 TO REPORT THAT VIET CONG RADIC IS
BROADCASTING STATEMENT TO EFFECT US FORCES ASSISTING
VIET CONG TAKE OVER CITY. ACCORDING CANG, BROADCAST SAYS US
IS WORKING WITH VIET CONG TO SET UP COALITION GOVERNMENT.
CANG RELAYED REQUEST FROM THE PRIME MINISTER THAT AMBASSADOR

~~PAGE 01 SAIGON 17402 020805Z~~ C O N F I D E N T I A L L I M I T E D O F F I C I A L U S E
MAKE A STATEMENT DENYING THIS VIET CONG CLAIM.

2. STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR DENYING FALSE VIET CONG REPORT
WAS PASSED TO CANG AT 1130 HOURS AND WE UNDERSTAND SUB-

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STANCE REPEAT SUBSTANCE WILL BE BROADCAST OVER VIETNAMESE RADIO AS SOON AS TRANSLATION PREPARED. IN MEANTIME, WE ARE BROADCASTING AMBASSADOR'S RECORDED TEXT IN ENGLISH OVER OUR ARMED FORCES RADIOS.

3. TEXT OF AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT FOLLOWS: QUOTE I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE VIET CONG RADIO HAS BEEN TRYING TO TRICK THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM BY BROADCASTING CLAIMS THAT THE US ARMED FORCES ARE COOPERATING WITH THE VIET CONG FORCES TO INVEST THE CAPITAL OF SAIGON AND TO SET UP A COALITION GOVERNMENT FOR SOUTH VIETNAM. NOTHING COULD BE FARTHER FROM THE TRUTH THAN THIS RIDICULOUS CLAIM. THE US IS GIVING ITS FULL AND COMPLETE SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. THE

PAGE 3 RUMORS 1746Z CONT'D - 020605Z - LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
VIET CONG BROADCAST IS A DESPERATE AND SHAMEFUL EFFORT TO COMPENSATE FOR VIET CONG FAILURE TO DESTROY LAW AND ORDER IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS.

I HAVE BEEN IN CONTINUING TOUCH WITH PRESIDENT THIEU DURING THESE DAYS AND GEN WESTMORELAND HAS BEEN COOPERATING CLOSELY WITH THE CHIEF OF THE JOINT GENERAL STAFF OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. THE SITUATION IN THE SAIGON AREA, AS WELL AS IN OTHER POPULATION CENTERS, IS RAPIDLY BEING RESTORED. MEANWHILE, THE VIET CONG ARE SUFFERING UNPARALLELED LOSSES.

I REPEAT THAT THE US WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE ITS FULL AND COMPLETE SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, IN ORDER TO ASSURE CONTINUING FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG AGGRESSORS. THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, SUPPORTED BY ITS ALLIES, WILL CONTINUE TO DEFEAT THE ENEMY. THE VC WILL DOUBTLESS CONTINUE TO PUT OUT FALSE RUMORS. I ASK YOU NOT TO BELIEVE THEM.

END QUOTE

BUNKER

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NO
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