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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

37a

11 March 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROSTOW

SUBJECT: Bombing of NVN

1. At present there are eight authorized priority targets which have not been struck or restruck under current authorizations (Tab A).

2. There are an additional 79 targets not yet authorized which merit consideration (Tab B). These fall in two categories:

- 27 recommended by the JCS for future programs
- 52 not recommended by the JCS at this time

3. If the circles were reduced (to 3 miles around Hanoi and 1.5 miles around Haiphong), 12 targets would be uncovered (Tab C):

- 7 in the first category
- 5 in the second category

4. This would leave 20 targets (including three mining approaches) in the first priority within the control circles -- which required specific authorization for strike. There would be an additional 47 targets in the second priority.

5. As far as civilian casualties are concerned, CINCPAC would have greater flexibility if he were instructed to minimize endangering the civilian populace not directly involved in support of military operations.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

NLJ 96-258

By ing, NARA Date 4-23-96

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6. In addition to modifying instructions on civilian casualties there are three broad options available -- short of mining the ports:

- Option A - Reduce circles - 12 additional targets
- Option B - In addition authorize strikes on all targets in Category 1 except port approaches - 17 additional targets
- Option C - In addition authorize strikes on all targets in Category 2 - 47 additional targets

Encls
a/s

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ROBERT N. GINSBURGH

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