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INFORMATION

SECRET

Wednesday, March 20, 1968 -- 7:35 p.m.

Mr. President:

Herewith three papers from Clark Clifford.

1. A memorandum on the reserve call-up, showing:

- the units called up to back up the additional South Vietnam deployment;
- additional call up to replenish the strategic reserves;
- the resulting positioning ^{of} ~~the~~ troops in South Vietnam.

2. A memorandum on the M-14 rifle availability.

3. A memorandum on the present state of Project 100,000.

W. W. Rostow

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WWRostow:rla

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4(b)
White House Guidelines, Feb. 24, 1983
By 19, NARA, Date 4-1-92

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55a
March 20, 1968

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING CALL-UP OF RESERVES

I.

Army Reservists and National Guard Units	31,600
Army Support Troops to support the 82nd Airborne and the 27th RLT already sent	13,500
Navy personnel	1,524
Air Force personnel	<u>3,500</u>
TOTAL	50,124

Out of the above call-up, 43,000 are to be deployed to South Vietnam.

II.


An additional call-up of Reserves to replenish the depleted strategic Reserves would be as follows:

Army units	45,300
Air Force personnel	<u>3,100</u>
TOTAL	48,400

III.

The deployment figures to Vietnam after the call-up would be as follows:

Personnel present in South Vietnam or in the pipeline	525,000
Units of the 82nd Airborne and the 27th RLT	11,000
New increment to be sent in accordance with General Westmoreland's request	30,000
Support Troops for the 82nd Airborne and the 27th RLT	<u>13,500</u>
TOTAL	579,500





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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

(2)

556

20 March 1968

INSTALLATIONS AND LOGISTICS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Availability of Rifles for Vietnamese Forces

The Problem

- Colonel Pursley asked that you be provided with an answer to the following question: "Are there surplus M-14 rifles which can be issued to the Vietnamese forces?"

Answer

- The Army will have available by May 25 a quantity of about 39,000 M-14 rifles. These are planned for assignment to U.S. Army Reserve units expected to be called to active duty to reconstitute STRAF.
- In addition to this quantity, there are approximately 149,000 M-14 rifles assigned to U.S. Army troops in Southeast Asia which are being progressively replaced by M-16 rifles. As these rifles are replaced they become available for overhaul and reissue. If required, such a quantity could be made available for issue during the next 9 to 12 months. Most are now planned for issue to active U.S. Army and Reserve forces.
- However, if the objective is to equip additional Vietnamese units, the M-14 rifle is not recommended for this purpose because:
 - It offers no advantage for the Vietnamese over the M-1 rifle, with which the Vietnamese forces are now equipped. As M-16s become available to the Vietnamese they are replacing the M-1s.
 - There are ample quantities of M-1s which can be made available if required for the Vietnamese. 45,000 are now in U.S. depots ready for immediate issue. An additional 400,000 require only inspection or overhaul and could easily be prepared for issue at the rate of 10,000 per month.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DDO DIR 5200.10

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Authority DDO DIR 5200.10

By rg, NARA, Date 4/4/92

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Thus, if the problem is one of rifles to outfit new Vietnamese units, the M-1 should be used at this time.

Status of the M-16

- A plan of maximum acceleration of M-16 production involving 3 sources has been approved and is being effectuated.
- The attached table prepared last night by the Joint Staff shows the recommended distribution of new M-16 rifles by month. It will be noted that 53,000 will be delivered by June 30, 1968 to the Vietnamese, and an additional 227,000 during FY 1969.

Tom Morris

THOMAS D. MORRIS

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DAYS SUPPLY
ON HAND

PREVIOUS STATUS
8:00 PM 19 Mar EST
(9:00 AM 20 Mar SVN)

c. Antipersonnel

ROUNDS ON HAND

106-mm BEEHIVE

1,517

CLASS V (COFRAM)

105-mm howitzer	5	5 days
155-mm howitzer	5	5 days
40-mm grenade launcher	5	5 days
Hand grenades	10	10 days

2. On 20 March, Khe Sanh was resupplied with 265.5 tons as follows:

CLASS I	67 tons
CLASS II	20 tons
CLASS III	34 tons
CLASS IV	26 tons
CLASS V	105 tons
MISCELLANEOUS	13.5 tons

Marshall B. Garth
MARSHALL B. GARTH
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

Distribution:

SECDEF
DEPSECDEF
CJCS (3)
DJS (3)
J-30
J-31
J-32
J-33
J-34
J-4
AWR
MCCC
AFCP
NFP
DDO
ADDO
CCOC
PAC DIV
PAC DESK

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APPENDIX F TO ENCLOSURE A
JRPAS RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION

M16/M16A1 RIFLE

- = Withdrawn for redistribution
+ = Added from Redistribution

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION, REQUIREMENTS, AND ALLOCATION FOR REMAINDER
OF FY 1968 and FY 1969

As of 15 March 1968

Mo.	Production and Source		Total No. Production	Army	RVN	Allocation					Coast Guard	USMC	USAF	USN	Total Requirement
	Colts	GM				Thai	RORS	N. Zealand	Malaya	Philippines					
	Requirement														
68 Mar	30,000		30,000	13,000	14,000	35,000	254,630	1,548	250	3,661	1,700	47,000	208,155	9,650	1,712,840
Apr	30,000		30,000	13,000	13,000		1,500					5,000			
May	31,000		31,000	13,000	13,000							2,500		2,250	
Jun	32,000		32,000	13,000	13,000							2,000			
FY 68	123,000		123,000	52,000	53,000		1,500					12,000		2,250	1,591,840
Jul	16,000		16,000	8,000	8,000										1
Aug	33,000		33,000	17,000	16,000										1
Sep	35,000		35,000	15,000	15,000							5,000			1
Oct	36,000		36,000	17,000	16,600										1
Nov	38,000		38,000	14,000	13,400	4,600						6,000		2,400	1
Dec	40,000		40,000	19,000	18,250	2,750									1
69 Jan	40,000	1,000	41,000	16,500	16,000							6,000		2,500	1
Feb	42,000	4,000	46,000	23,000	23,000										1
Mar	44,000	6,000	50,000	22,000	22,000							6,000			1
Apr	46,000	8,000	54,000	25,000	24,952			1,548						2,500	1
May	48,000	10,000	58,000	26,000	26,000							6,000			2
Jun	50,000	12,000	62,000	28,000	28,000							6,000			2
69 FY	468,000	41,000	509,000	230,500	227,202	7,350		1,548				35,000		7,400	1,082,840

GROUP 4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority Group 4
By 14, NARA, Date 4-7-92

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J-4 1725/812/1

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Appendix B to Enclosure A