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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : Amembassy CANBERRA
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FROM : Amembassy WELLINGTON

DATE: September 1, 1965

SUBJECT: Prime Minister Holyoake Statement on Viet-Nam

REF :

1. The Wellington Dominion on August 13 carried an article by Richard Hughes of the Melbourne Herald service concerning "blueprints of a master plan" for a Viet-Nam settlement which are "circulating in the twilight world of underground South Vietnam politics". According to Hughes, the plan calls for an international conference which would provide for (1) a guarantee by the major Powers of the independence, sovereignty and political integrity of North and South Viet-Nam; (2) the establishment by friendly nations of token forces at agreed points in North and South Viet-Nam; (3) an agreement that neither North nor South Viet-Nam be used as bases for military or political aggression against another state; and (4) an agreement that North and South Viet-Nam would settle their bilateral relations and negotiate reunification at a second conference. The North-South Viet-Nam conference would provide, among other things, for (1) cessation of all hostile action by each state against the other; (2) agreement that each state maintain its own government, constitution, diplomatic representation, police and army; and (3) establishment of a Confederation of North and South Viet-Nam.

2. On August 19 Prime Minister Holyoake was asked in Parliament whether he favored these proposals and whether he would commend them to the United States Government. Enclosed is a press report of the Prime Minister's reply which was limited to a restatement of New Zealand's basic policy on Viet-Nam. The Prime Minister pointed out that North Viet-Nam and Communist China had categorically rejected every proposal

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FORM DS-323

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Herbert B. Powell, Ambassador

Drafted by: POL:JFKnowles:mms:9/1/65

Cleanances: Howard F. Newson, First Secretary

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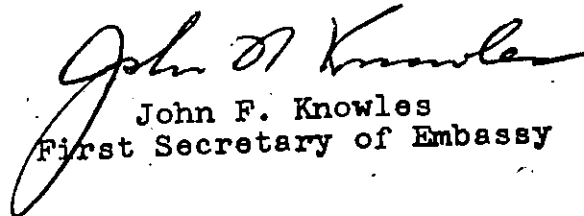
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for a peaceful settlement and expressed the opinion that there was little likelihood of North Viet-Nam accepting a conference at this time. He emphasized that both New Zealand and the United States support a negotiated settlement in Viet-Nam.

For the Ambassador:


John F. Knowles
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Press Report of Holyoake
Statement on Viet-Nam

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