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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
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Origin
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Info

ACTION: **Ambassy SAIGON 2229**
INFO Ambassy CANBERRA prIORITY 832 DOD
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 851
SAIGON PASS COMUSMACV

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Authority State Dec 14/78
By JK Long, NARS, Date 1/30/78

EXDIS Ref CINCPAC's 030452Z April (Scharger-Phipps talks)

Reftel and conversation with Australian Minister here indicate strongly that Australia will, if we and GVN request, send infantry battalion to SVN. Unless you perceive objection, you should approach GVN to suggest they make formal request to GCM for battalion. You may inform Qant in general terms of results CINCPAC-Scharger talks, and of present thinking that Australian battalion would be deployed to Danang. FYI This could be base for possible ANZAC Force. NZ contribution subject Septel.
FYI In conversation Apr. 6 Unger asked Australian Minister to relay to GCM proposal, from General Johnson's visit to Saigon (ref.), that Australia take on responsibility for training Regional Forces. Min said he would relay request, but thought GCM would have trouble finding enough personnel in view expanded demands of conscription. Speaking for himself, however, he speculated that if infantry battalion were sent to SVN, some trainers -- perhaps 100 -- might be attached to it END FYI.

GP-3

End

BALL

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| Dated by: <u>J. Broekman</u> <u>FE: [unclear] 4/6/65</u> | Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: THE ACTING SECRETARY |
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Clearance
DDP/ISA -A dm. Blouin (J3-Gen. Reaves)
FE - Mr. Green
S/S - Mr. Bartley
FE - Leonard Unger

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