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"Discussion with U.S. Secretary of State (Mr. Dean Rusk) - Wednesday, May 9th, 1962

Australian Military Aid to Vietnam

1. It was established during the discussion, that the way was now open for a concrete request to be made to Australia for assistance in military training to be given to Viet Nam. It was suggested that one course would be for an Australian delegation to visit Vietnam for discussion. The Secretary of State confirmed earlier information from Admiral Felt that one cause of the holdup had been the attitude of mind of a section of MAAG which saw no benefit in having other countries sharing its tasks. This attitude had now been over ridden by higher American authority. Mr. Rusk said he thought it would be most valuable to have Australians in Vietnam flying the Australian flag.