

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP, INDO-CHINA
SAIGON (Vietnam)

MAAG/EF6/ARJtkwv
A4-3
Ser 096
15 Oct 1954

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From: Chief, Military Assistance Advisory Group, Indo China
To: Commander-in-Chief, French Forces In Indo China

Subj: U.S. Shipping Requirements, Request for Information Concerning

1. The Chief, Military Assistance Advisory Group has just been informed by Admiral Sabin that firm recommendations must be submitted to the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet by 25 October concerning future requirements for U.S. shipping in Indo China. The Admiral further advised that informal discussions he has held with CO BOTK, ALFMEO, COMAR SAIGON and COMAR HAIPHONG concerning shipping needs have indicated a general opinion that no U.S. shipping should be necessary from approximately the end of November until May, at which time the movement of final troop increments would require some LST and cargo ship assistance.

2. As the last official request from your headquarters concerning U.S. shipping was dated 17 September, and the material evacuation program has now been underway long enough to allow better predictions of future needs, it is requested that you advise the Chief, Military Assistance Advisory Group as early as possible of the U.S. shipping which you now consider necessary, by type of ship and time required, up through the final clearing of Haiphong.

3. The Military Assistance Advisory Group concurs in the opinion stated in paragraph 1, except that in view of the many uncertainties connected with harbor operations in the Haiphong area, it would seem advisable to have assistance by U.S. shipping commence again in March or April in preference to the final month of May.

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B. L. LEARMAN
Colonel, U.S. Army
Executive Officer

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