

MEMORANDUM

TO : THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM : THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

SUBJECT: Vietnam, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Secretary of Defense regarding the current situation in North Vietnam. The information is based on reports received from reliable sources in the region. The situation in North Vietnam is characterized by a high degree of secrecy and a lack of communication with the outside world. The North Vietnamese government is known for its harsh policies and its refusal to negotiate with the United States. The situation in the region is highly volatile and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

The information is being provided to the Secretary of Defense for his information and guidance. It is not to be used for any other purpose without the express approval of the Secretary of Defense.

It is recommended that the Secretary of Defense take the following actions:

1. To ascertain whether the North Vietnamese government is providing any information regarding the situation in the region.

2. To reserve until further notice the use of any funds that may be available to the Department of Defense for the purpose of providing aid to the people of North Vietnam.

3. To provide by Monday, May 1, 1967, a list of the Vietnamese people who are in need of food, clothing, housing, dispensary, medical, domestic and garden watering needs for vegetable and rice planting, and other services needed, water requirements (wells) and places where it is desirable to establish STOL landing sites.

4. Mr. Kelly, SA, will undertake an immediate reassessment of security for surface travel by Americans to these areas, to be completed in order to permit operations to move forward next

has services established at the base (with hospital, barber, etc.) dispensary (first aid), and adequate water source adequate for all the population, and means of access of some kind, if possible usable during the winter or alternatively, access by air, preferably STOL aircraft.

