

PS
FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
11/74

1. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION ON 26 NOVEMBER 1974,
TRAN VAN HUU, FORMER PRESIDENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM, SAID
THAT PHAM VAN BA, CHIEF OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM (PRG) MISSION IN PARIS, HAD TOLD HIM ON
5 23 NOVEMBER THAT HE THOUGHT THAT LE DUC THO AND HIS 5
4 PARTY, DUE TO ARRIVE IN PARIS ON 25 NOVEMBER, WOULD BE 4
3 ABLE TO OBTAIN FRENCH ASSISTANCE IN CONVINCING THE 3
2 AMERICANS TO REMOVE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN) PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU FROM 2
1 OFFICE. HUU SAID THAT BA HAD RECENTLY DISCUSSED THIS 1
SUBJECT WITH HENRI FROMENT-MEURICE, DIRECTOR OF THE
ASIAN BUREAU OF THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. HUU SAID THAT BA HAD ALSO TOLD HIM THAT
VO VANSUNG, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV)
AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, HAD TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF A VISIT
WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING
TO ASK HIM TO USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES IN
THIS MATTER.

3. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: HUU WAS NOT PRESIDENT, BUT A FRENCH-
INSTALLED PRIME MINISTER IN THE PERIOD BEFORE THE GVN AND DRV
GAINED INDEPENDENCE IN 1954. HUU MAY HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH
BA BECAUSE OF BEING CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE "THIRD FORCE" POLITICAL
PERSONAGE AMONG THE VIETNAMESE EXILES IN PARIS. LE DUC THO ARRIVED
AS SCHEDULED IN PARIS ON 25 NOVEMBER.)