

By DNC NLE, Date 10-10-68

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP MEETING

April 26, 1955

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SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

Indo-China - The President told the Leaders that Gen. Collins, who had returned from Indo-China for testimony on the Hill, was discouraged over the future of Diem, the man we had backed to bring order to that country. It was now obvious, to Gen. Collins, that Diem was losing the support of his own people. And Gen. Collins had had to convince some of Diem's people to stay in the Cabinet, if only for appearance' sake.

The President said we told Gen. Collins we would give him what advice we could and then hope he could manage the situation out there. The President considered Gen. Collins to be a very good man who could handle it if anyone could.

The President noted that Diem is a real nationalist, and when we recognized him we were proving our disinterest in colonialism. He added that Gen. Ely is very helpful, that there is no evidence that Communists are inspiring the troubles from the sects. Basically, it is nationalism, but some of the people in the sects may be communists.

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L. A. Minnich, Jr.



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