

Note from Clark Hesse to A. H. Hesse 1970

A Saigon vernacular newspaper has been running a long series of excerpts from the diary of a certain ARVN officer, now dead, who was very close to the President and his family during the Diem regime. The series has been running under the intriguing title, "How to Kill a President!" Today's (16 September 1970) installment follows:

11Mr. Ngo Dinh Nhu asked, "Have you been following up closely on Rufus Phillips?"

Colonel Tung replied, "Phillips still has his secret contacts with the Xa Loi Pagoda!"

Mr. Nhu then ordered, "Try to collect solid proofs against that man. He must be expelled from the country."

Rufus Phillips came to Viet-Nam in 1955. He was one of the first Americans who supported the Diem Government and had encouraged Diem to stand firm against the French and the religious sects. In 1963, he became the second man in the USAID. According to Colonel Tung, Rufus Phillips maintained his contacts and supported the Joint Committee for the Protection of Buddhist Organizations through the intermediary of some local employees of USAID. Although Phillips held a high position in USAID, he was also working for the CIA.

N.B. 11 As Colonel Tung had a special intelligence net covering Phillips, a net which included many beautiful women, every activity of this man was closely observed.

Mr. Nhu stressed: "You must find all necessary proofs so that we can kick out immediately those USAID guys." "How about Richardson?"

Colonel Tung said, "I had dinner with him last week, and again yesterday evening. We had a party together at the Dong Khanh Restaurant. So far, I don't see anything wrong with Richardson. He is a very understanding man. The man I'm worried about is Smith."

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Another thrilling installment coming up soon!!!!

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Rufus —
Thank you much
Enjoy this — especially
the part about all those
gays and girls (including
under the observation
Courtney, Colins and ... distribution ...