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TO: Ambassador Bunker DATE: September 12, 1967
FROM: Ed Lansdale
SUBJECT: The Ky Camp

The attached memo by Rufe Phillips reports a conversation with Dang duc Khoi the morning of September 12, which probably is indicative of feelings of persons in the entourage of Nguyen cao Ky at this moment.

cc: Ambassador Locke
General Westmoreland
Mr. Calhoun
Mr. Hart

SLO:EG Lansdale:rm

DeLassie file

27 MAY 1968

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TO: General Lansdale DATE: September 12, 1967

FROM: Rufus C. Phillips

SUBJECT: Talk with Dang duc Khoi, September 12

1. Khoi stopped by the house after seeing General Ky off for Tam Ky the morning of September 12. Ky was accompanied by Generals Vien and Thang. Khoi said that when he asked Ky how the meeting yesterday of the generals had gone Ky just shook his head, grimly. Khoi asked him if he had seen Ambassador Bunker. Ky said no, that he had been tied up in the meeting but now wished rather that he had talked to the Ambassador.

2. Khoi said he had gone to dinner on 11 September with some of Ky's "hawks". They were in a bitter mood, claiming that after doing all the work for Thieu during the campaign, Thieu was now double-crossing Ky. They said they were sure that Thieu had managed through the SCA to have the vote totals of the bottom two Senatorial lists changed. Also they accused Colonel Lam on Thieu's staff of personally threatening them. They felt the only solution was another coup. Khoi said he tried to persuade them that this would be the end of American support for Viet Nam, but they were not in a mood to listen.

3. Khoi went on to say that Ky, for the moment, was moving cautiously. General Loan also was being cautious and was not one of the "hawks." The main problem lay with the extreme elements among the entourages.

4. Khoi said he also had the impression that Kieu, Thieu's brother, was playing it both ways. A few days ago Kieu had asked Khoi to help get Bui Diem back and had indicated that he wanted to work together with Bui Diem to produce harmony between the two camps. On the other hand, more recently, Kieu had confided to a friend of his (who also happens to be close to Khoi), that he did not like Bui Diem whom he characterized as one of Ky's "crocodiles."

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5. Khoi said he thought a real test of strength would come in the Assembly's approval of the election results.

SLO:RCPhillips:rm

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