

*Mr. Phillips*  
*Dana Reynolds*

STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR SELF-DETERMINATION AND PEACE IN SOUTH VIET-NAM

PROPOSAL: Subject to reconfirmation of the Vietnamese Government's invitation of February, 1970, the following may visit Viet-Nam April 8-15:

Senator Fred R. Harris	Democrat	Oklahoma
Senator William B. Saxbe	Republican	Ohio
Neil Staebler	Democratic National Committee	Michigan**
Mrs. Elly Peterson	Republican National Committee	Michigan**
Dana D. Reynolds (?)		

PURPOSE: Confer with Government, political, and citizen leaders on matters such as the following--and possibly others:

- .Organizing for political development.
- .Foreign assistance policies and programs as they relate to critical economic-social-political issues in Vietnam.
- .Interest in setting up a political center in Saigon--with rotating visits by political leaders of various friendly countries.
- .Proposed meeting of Southeast Asia political leaders--possibly in New Zealand or other selected place.
- .Collaboration with Asian Parliamentary Union.
- .Possible subsequent reciprocal visits by Vietnamese, American, and other friendly countries party-legislative leaders.
- .Planning in U.S. for visit by Vietnam National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee--possibly in April or May, 1971.
- .Possible cooperation among citizens' groups of Vietnam-Southeast Asia, U.S., and other friendly countries.\*\*\* For example:

- Women
- Youth
- Religious
- Small business and cooperatives
- Farm and labor

ONE OVERALL AIM: Probe possibilities from this--and visits by subsequent groups--to form U.S. Committee for Peace and Development in Southeast Asia.

- \* The background for this proposal is included in a report of activities in 1969, including: (1) Mr. Staebler's visit to Southeast Asia; and (2) about 25 discussion-meetings with about 130 persons sponsored by the Senate Staff Foreign Policy Seminar and the Washington Chapter, Society for International Development.
- \*\* Mr. Staebler and Mrs. Peterson might go to Vietnam prior to Senator Harris and Senator Saxbe to confer on plans for the Senators' visit.
- \*\*\* If Mr. Reynolds joins the group, he would focus on development plans, and citizens' groups.

FINANCING OF VISIT:

Senator Saxbe expects to be in Vietnam April 8-15 on Senate Armed Services Committee business. He would reserve time to participate in the discussions as indicated in the proposal.

Senator Harris would make a special trip.

Both Senator Saxbe and Senator Harris would travel on Senate Committees' funds.

An application has been made to the Asia Foundation for financing of trips by Mr. Staebler, Mrs. Peterson, and possibly Mr. Reynolds.

Dana D. Reynolds

578-4627