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Authority NWD 959 000
By ME NARA Date 7/61

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SECRET

Action R 141120Z ZEA
 FE FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
 TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC
 INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC
 Info STATE GRNC 1964 JAN 14 PM 10 51
 SS BT
 G S E C R E T ACTION DEPT [1304] INFO CINCPAC 675 FROM SAIGON 084
 SP JANUARY 14, 6:35 PM
 AIDA CINCPAC FOR POLAD
 INR CINCPAC FOR POLAD
 RMR JOINT EMBASSY/MACV/USOM MESSAGE
 YOUR 1055. 14 6:35 1055 1. 2.

1. EVER SINCE THE BRAIN TRUST IDEA WAS FIRST PROPOSED, THERE HAS BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP BY THE GVN AND EFFORTS OF EMBASSY TO GO ALONG WITH IT HAVE NOT BEEN PICKED UP ON THE VIETNAMESE SIDE. AS THINGS STAND AT PRESENT, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH IT WAS MORE JUST PHRASE UTTERED IN CONVERSATION THAN A SERIOUS BUSINESS-LIKE PROPOSAL.

2. VERY MUCH DOUBT WHETHER GVN WOULD LIKE THE IDEA OF CFN 1304 675 14 6:35 1055 1. 2.

PAGE TWO RUMJIR 14A S E C R E T
 HIGH-POWERED AMERICANS ON AN "OPPOSITE NUMBER" BASIS IN ADJACENT OFFICES TO THEM ALL THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT. BELIEVE THIS WOULD HAVE A "COLONIAL" TOUCH WHICH THEY WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME EXPLAINING AWAY.

3. I SINCERELY THINK THAT THE BEST WAY TO PERSUADE THESE PEOPLE IS TO PRESENT THEM WITH A VERY GREAT DEAL OF WELL THOUGHT OUT ADVICE AND DO IT ON A PURELY ADVISORY, FRIENDLY BASIS. IF YOU PRESENT THEM WITH A GREAT DEAL OF GOOD ADVICE, THEY WILL PROBABLY TAKE SOME OF IT, AND THAT IS THAT MUCH TO THE GOOD.

4. IN THE POLITICAL FIELD, FOR EXAMPLE, THEY APPEAR TO HAVE TAKEN SOME OF OUR ADVICE, BOTH AS REGARDS HAVING A PROGRAM TO HELP THE INDIVIDUALS AND AS REGARDS HAVING SOME SORT OF POLITICAL STRUCTURE REACHING DOWN TO THE GRASSROOTS. THEY ARE NOT APPROACHING THIS IN THE WAY WE WOULD DO IT IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT STILL THEY ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. I BELIEVE THAT THROUGH MY FREQUENT MEETINGS WITH THE GENERALS AND OUR OTHER CLOSE CONTACTS AT ALL LEVELS, WE CAN BRING OUR WEIGHT TO BEAR.

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-2- 1304, JANUARY 14, 6:35 P.M. FROM: SAIGON.

5. THERE IS ALWAYS THE DANGER THAT IF WE PUT IN TOO MANY ADVISERS GVN WILL LEAN EXCESSIVELY ON THE ADVISERS AND THEN CFN 3. 4. 5.

PAGE THREE RUMJIR 14A S E C R E T
HOLD US RESPONSIBLE FOR THINGS NOT GOING WELL.

6. MANY TIMES YOU HEAR IT SAID "WHY DON'T THE AMERICANS COME IN AND TAKE OVER THE COUNTRY FOR TEN YEARS AND DO ALL THESE DIFFICULT THINGS AND THEN TURN IT BACK TO US AT THE END." THAT IS WHAT SOME OF THEM SAY IN CONVERSATION, BUT IT IS NOT A COURSE WHICH CAN POSSIBLY WORK. THESE PEOPLE SIMPLY MUST DEVELOP THE MUSCLE TO DO ALL THE DISAGREEABLE THINGS, AND IF YOU SURROUND THEM WITH TOO MANY HIGH POWERED ADVISERS, THEY NEVER WILL DEVELOP THE MUSCLE.

7. OUR AIM MUST BE TO MAKE THEM FEEL THE RESPONSIBILITY, TO BE ALWAYS AWARE THAT WE ARE COUNTING ON THEM, THAT WE LOOK TO THEM TO PROVIDE THE DRIVE AND THE FIERCE DESIRE TO WIN.

GP-3. LODGE

BT

CF N 6. 7. 3

Note: Distribution coordinated with SS-O

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