

SECRET

brig pham xuan chieu - only northerner. in disgrace since nov 1960, always suspected because of northern origins. trained in dai viet movement under japs. had to be made general because was senior officer in bao dai army.

DPU (?)

failure of nov 1960 coup: paras hacked around trying to get politicians interested because they didnt want military junta. wasted time and diem outwitted them. (cf dr dan)

nov 1962 - talk of coup by armored force. wave of arrests about this time and nothing made public.

feb 1962 - during air attack on palace, mysterious major nam was supposedly link between pilots and colonels. colonels were to move in troops as soon as known that family killed. major disappeared on evening of coup to break link.

thao:

example of military interference: early in year, pres ordered khiem to initiate operation with 5th division in zone B. at same time, nhu told division cmdr not to embark on operations but protect strathams. division cmdr told general khiem that nhu countermanded operation. "but what will i tell the president?" asked khiem. went to nhu, who told him to fool diem by sending out token units and say he was running big operation

text of message from le van thai to tuyen, oct 16th 1963

our situation is not the same as when you left vietnam (9/12). the affair can still work, but we must have patience. at present, all those in saigon who want to do something cannot act. there are military groups that want to take to the maqui. if they do, that will change circumstances.

those who want to go into dissidence are in phuoc tuy, binh long and phuoc thanh provinces, and in high plateau area. mostly capt and majors.

nobody among us has been arrested. some watched. one most in danger is ho tieu (cmdr 5th para bn at bienhoa).

do not return to vietnam in present circumstances, but justify your presence in hongkong, e.g., say you're awaiting answer from cairo, etc. make contact with foreign ministry as they're telephoning your wife to learn of your whereabouts.

those who want to take to maqui worried about logistical problems. marine lt col khang formerly with us, bought over for \$24,000.

possible movements to maqui in november. about 6000 men in saigon. general dinh disappointed because not made minister of interior.

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