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ACTION UNIT C/FE/WO 3 FILE, VR OPP, C/SADA C/FE 2

ACTION NO. 240

~~SECRET~~ 011032Z JUN 72 CITE SAIGON 49756

DIRECTOR INFO HONOLULU

RYBAT

REF: A. DIRECTOR 272256

B. DIRECTOR 272257

MISSION REPLY TO REFS FOLLOWS HEREWITH:

"1. MISSION PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY WITH SOME OF PROJECTS PROPOSED IN REFS AND SUPPORTS OTHERS FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, UNAVAILABLE HERE, IS NECESSARY. SAME TIME BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO KEEP IN MIND PRACTICALITIES. DESIRABLE TO EMPLOY ALL POSSIBLE TECHNIQUES TO DRIVE WEDGES AMONG LEADERS OF NVN AND PLAY UPON KNOWN OR SUSPECTED DRV POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRESSES AND STRAINS; NEVERTHELESS WE POSSESS MUCH LESS KNOWLEDGE OF INTERNAL CONDITIONS IN NVN THAN WE WOULD LIKE OR, FOR EXAMPLE, USG HAD ABOUT EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THUS:

A. THERE IS GREAT SHORTAGE OF DATA USEABLE FOR TACTICAL PROPAGANDA OPERATIONS.

B. THERE IS NO INDICATION OF A BREAKDOWN OF INTERNAL SECURITY IN DRV.

1 JUN IN 625131

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

GAC JPH ~~WAC~~ EFH

JHW ~~hae~~ JJM JFR POO

EKH MEE LCP DSS

LJS JES

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C. DIRECT IMPACT OF PUBLIC OPINION ON DRV POLICY-  
MAKING IS PROBABLY NEGLIGIBLE, AS IN OTHER TOTALITARIAN  
COUNTRIES, ALTHOUGH PUBLIC RESISTANCE OR TROUBLE CAN  
FORCE LEADERS TO MAKE CERTAIN POLICY CHANGES.

D. OUR EXPERIENCE FACTOR ON HOW TO MOVE NVN  
PUBLIC OR LEADERSHIP OPINION IS ALMOST NONEXISTENT.  
WE HAVE NO TRUE MEASUREMENT OF IMPACT OF MANY HEARS  
OF U.S. PSYWAR OPERATIONS AGAINST NVN.

2. AGAINST THIS BRIEF BACKGROUND, MISSION HAS SET IN  
MOTION WHAT WE BELIEVE IS MEANINGFUL CAMPAIGN OF RADIO  
OPERATIONS, WHITE AND GRAY, AND WE PLACE FOLLOWING  
PRIORITIES ON REF MESSAGES PROJECTS:

A. INSERTION OF RADIOS EXCELLENT IDEA, AND MESHES  
WITH CURRENT USG RADIO BROADCASTING TO NVN. THEORETI-  
CALLY, MORE RADIOS SHOULD INCREASE OUR AUDIENCES. WE  
FAVOR SMALL TRANSISTOR SETS, MEDIUM WAVE BAND, MANU-  
FACTURED (OR MARKED AS IF MANUFACTURED) IN EAST GERMANY,  
USSR, PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA. SO FAR AS WE CAN LEARN,  
IT IS COMMUNIST COUNTRY (NOT JAPANESE) SETS THAT ARE  
LEGITIMATELY ON SALE IN DRV.

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PRESENTLY UNUSED PRINTING PRESSES WHICH COULD BE ACTIVATED ON SHORT NOTICE WITH VIETNAMESE PERSONNEL.

I. TOYING WITH HO CHI MINH IS OPPOSED BY MISSION SAIGON TASK FORCE. HO IS A RESPECTED ALL-VIETNAMESE SYMBOL, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT HE IS DEAD. NOT ONLY ANTI-US STUDENT, BUT ALSO ANTI-COMMUNIST BUDDHIST IN SOUTH VIETNAM CONTINUES TO LOOK ON HO AS GREAT NATIONALIST WHO BROKE THE COLONIAL YOKE (REGARDLESS OF WHAT HE DID AFTERWARD). ATTEMPT TO CAPITALIZE ON HIS WILL AND TESTAMENT AND VARIOUS STATEMENTS RUNS SERIOUS RISK OF BEING PROVEN WRONG -- OR AT BEST WHOLLY DISBELIEVED -- AND THUS COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE."

GP-1.

S E C R E T

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B. PROPAGANDA TO ENCOURAGE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO WRITE TO VARIOUS ORGANS ABOUT MISSING RELATIVES IS FINE IDEA. FITS WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF POW NAMES NOW BEING MADE BY VOICE OF FREEDOM, VOICE OF AMERICA, AND GRAY RADIO. NVN PUBLIC CAN WRITE TO THIRD COUNTRIES (FRANCE IS BEST KNOWN), WHILE ALL MAIL TO SOUTH VIETNAM IS BLOCKED.

C. RUMOR CAMPAIGN AGAINST NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES IS CLEARLY DESIRABLE AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS.

D. GENERATION OF WAR ESCALATION HINTS CAN BE IMPLEMENTED RAPIDLY AND EASILY. SPECIFICS WILL HAVE TO BE AGREED UPON AND CLEARED TO ENSURE THAT WE DO NOT ACCIDENTALLY COMPROMISE ACTUAL MILITARY PLANS.

E. WE FAVOR OPERATION TO COMPROMISE NVA PILOTS. IS INTELLIGENCE ON PILOT NAMES AND ADDRESSES OR OTHER IDENTIFICATION AVAILABLE; CAS HERE DOES NOT HAVE ANY.

F. ALTHOUGH PARIS HAS LARGE GVN PRESENCE, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO TRAIN AND SEND SPECIAL SOUTH VIETNAMESE TEAM TO TRY ENGENDER DRV DEFECTIONS. HARD

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TO DO, BUT WORTH TRYING. ACTION WOULD BE IMMENSELY POPULAR WITH THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE SELECTED FOR THE ROLE.

G. INSERTION OF BOGUS DOCUMENTS DEPENDS ON AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENT INTELLIGENCE RE VALIDITY AND APPLICABILITY OF SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS. CAS SAYS SUCH

I NFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE IN SAIGON. DOCUMENTS SHOULD REFER TO SPECIFIC PERSONS AND QUESTIONS, IF WE HAVE DATA BANK FOR MEANINGFUL EFFORT. WE ARE SKEPTICAL ABOUT PRACTICABILITY OF THIS IDEA.

H. INSERTION OF BOGUS CURRENCY: WE DO NOT FAVOR THIS. TO PREPARE THE BOGUS NOTES AND ATTACHED MESSAGES REQUIRES USE OF UNCLEARED VIETNAMESE PERSONNEL, AND THIS AND OTHER FACTORS (SUCH AS THE EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF PROBING U.S. CORRESPONDENTS IN SAIGON) ALMOST GUARANTEES LEAKS; A DOCUMENTED NEWS REPORT ON U.S. COUNTERFEITING OF VIETNAMESE MONEY WOULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECTS IN WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE. IT IS UNFORTUNATE, BUT THE USG HAS NO "IN-HOUSE" CLASSIFIED PRINTING FACILITIES IN SAIGON. CAS DOES, HOWEVER, HAVE

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