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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 7, 1967

### SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE TO VISIT VIETNAM

Rep. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, today announced the appointment of a ~~subcommittee~~ subcommittee to visit Vietnam during the period March 23-April 4. The subcommittee will particularly be looking into U.S. military construction programs in Vietnam and living conditions of American troops.

The Honorable James A. Byrne (D-Pa.) was named chairman of the group.

In announcing the appointment of the special subcommittee, Chairman Rivers made the following statement:

"The Committee on Armed Services has responsibility for a great many programs bearing on the effectiveness of our operations in Vietnam and the well-being of our servicemen there. Billions of dollars are involved. In order to carry out these responsibilities we must have periodic, first-hand reports of the type I am asking this subcommittee to make.

"I am asking the members to give particular attention to the military construction program in Vietnam, including the development of port facilities and construction of airfields. Our committee will shortly be holding hearings

on the military construction authorization measure for fiscal 1968 which includes projects in Vietnam.

"I am also asking the subcommittee to give special attention to the cantonments where our troops are living.

"I want to express my appreciation to each member of the subcommittee for voluntarily sacrificing his Easter Recess that he would normally spend with his family and his constituents in order to undertake this important assignment."

Members of the subcommittee in addition to Mr. Byrne are:

Democrats: Samuel S. Stratton, New York  
G. Elliott Hagan, Georgia  
Donald J. Irwin, Connecticut

Republicans: Charles S. Gubser, California  
Charles A. Halleck, Indiana  
William L. Dickinson, Alabama

An unclassified version of the subcommittee's report will be made public following its return from Vietnam.

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