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VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS STAFF  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE: 13 May 1970

TO: The Director

FROM:

SUBJECT:

REMARKS:

1. Attached is a cable from Ted Shackley on materials relating to the Chau case pulled together by the Mission to support Ambassador Bunker in his appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, now scheduled for Thursday, 14 May. This cable came via the restricted handling channel and all copies were sent to me. I am distributing its text to the persons enumerated below.

2. The Agency has excellent relations with Larry Pickering, Bunker's senior Saigon aide who accompanied the Ambassador to Washington and is now in the Department. I will arrange with [redacted] for one of us to get hold of Pickering and take a quick and quiet look at the final version of Bunker's back-up materials.

25X1A

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[redacted]

Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

- cc: DDCI            C/VNO
- DDP             Leg. Counsel ✓
- C/FE

C O N F I D E N T I A L I N F O R M A T I O N

*Ret to glc*  
*W*  
*R*  
*glc*

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Paper

S E C R E T 131120Z MAY 70 CITE SAIGON 995

PRIORITY HEADQUARTERS

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RYBA [REDACTED]

1. IN PREPARATION FOR AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S TDY TO WASHINGTON AND APPEARANCE BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, ENTIRE MISSION WAS TASKED TO PREPARE VARIOUS PAPERS CONTAINING "TALKING POINTS." STATION, EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION AND AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S IMMEDIATE STAFF, WORKED ON PULLING TOGETHER FOUR PAPERS ON TRAN NGOC CHAU CASE. MAJOR INPUT INTO THESE PAPERS WAS MADE BY STATION. THESE PAPERS ARE TITLED AS FOLLOWS:

A. SEQUENCE OF DEMARCHES TO THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT REGARDING TRAN NGOC CHAU.

B. CHRONOLOGY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY TRAN NGOC CHAU AFTER THE ARREST OF HIS BROTHER.

C. THE RECORD OF THE TRAN NGOC CHAU CASE.

D. AN OVERVIEW OF THE TRAN NGOC CHAU CASE.

2. IT HAD BEEN OUR INTENT TO FORWARD COPIES OF PARA 1 PAPERS BY TELEPOUCH AS SOON AS "FINAL VERSIONS" WERE PREPARED BY EMBASSY. EMBASSY STAFF HOWEVER KEEPS MODIFYING THESE PAPERS LITERALLY ON DAY-TO-DAY BASIS. SOME MODIFICATIONS BEING MADE BY WASHINGTON

*Paper*

PAGE TWO SAIGON 995 S E C R E T

TO SAIGON TELEPHONE CALLS. IT CLEAR THEREFORE THAT STATION WILL NOT SEE "FINAL" VERSION BEFORE AMBASSADOR BUNKER TESTIFIES BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. RECOMMEND THEREFORE THAT HEADQUARTERS CONTACT MR. PICKERING WHO TRAVELING WITH AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND IS NOW IN WASHINGTON AND REVIEW CHAU DATA THAT HE PRESENTLY HAS IN HAND. OUR BELIEF IS THAT THESE CHAU TALKING PAPERS ARE SUFFICIENTLY STERILE SO AS NOT TO BE OF ANY POTENTIAL

25X1A EMBARRASSMENT TO [ ] MUST REITERATE HOWEVER THAT AS FINAL VERSIONS NOT SEEN BY STATION, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PRUDENT FOR HQS TO TAKE ONE LAST LOOK AT THIS DATA TO MAKE CERTAIN NOTHING HAS CREPT INTO IT SINCE WE LAST SAW IT WHICH COULD EMBARRASS [ ] PLEASE ADVISE RESULTS OBTAINED. GP-1.

S E C R E T

25X1A

16 February 1970

JMM:

I talked to <sup>25X1A</sup> [ ] about this suggesting that now was the time to face up to the Pincus and Paul problem and possibly to include in the guidance cable a statement to the effect that intelligence sources and methods and intelligence operations were not to be discussed with P&P.

(Note that Secretary Laird strongly opposes any discussion of nuclear defense matters and that this was being referred to the "White House Committee!")

25X1A

[ ] says that Karamessines and Meyer are focusing on the cable but added that you might want to focus the Director's attention on this whole matter as the latest chapter in the Symington Subcommittee episode. I also think it would be desirable to have a permanent Agency representative on the Interdepartmental Committee rather than to run in various division representatives on an ad hoc basis.

GLC