

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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 CHARGE TO

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 Classification

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ACTION: Amembassy SAIGON

STATE

LIMDIS

JOINT STATE/AID MESSAGE

Understand from MacDonald discussions here that Ambassador may not have personally reviewed proposed assistance to CVT. A year or so ago, understand made to CVT by US Mission in Saigon for direct financial assistance but understand that various proposals for providing same have come to naught. A number of proposals for various types of assistance to CVT have been made by later Attache, USAID and George Lodge. More recently consideration being given to direct arrangements between AFL-CIO and CVT for union-to-union assistance with AID contract with AFL-CIO providing part of the financing. This might involve AID channeling funds to CVT either through contract with AFL-CIO or through some special body similar to AIFLD in Latin America. We hope ultimately to have a regional organization like AIFLD for Asia. But that will take time and early action seems required in Vietnam. In any event, we hope AFL-CIO will make substantial contribution of its own to any such endeavor. Phil Delaney has discussed matter informally with Buu in Saigon and Geneva and last week with President Meany of AFL-CIO who prepared to send delegation to confer with officials of CVT and US Mission regarding "union-to-union" assistance.

Approved for transmission to LIMTEL post by AA/VN, WJStoneman

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Deaney suggests a mission headed by Allan Burch, Training Officer of International Operating Engineers, and Irving Brown, for approximately ten-day visit beginning about August 12. Delaney, Director of Office of Labor Affairs, AID/W, would accompany mission. Would need assurance Bau of CVT available at time of visit. This would not be a "survey" mission but rather would be to negotiate with CVT, with US Mission guidance, possible union-to-union arrangements. It is envisaged that this would be a modest beginning focusing primarily on strengthening Tenant Farmers Union and that it would not become effective until after the elections.

We understand that US Mission generally favors working with CVT as most promising of various labor groups and factions in Vietnam.

Request (a) Ambassador's view as to whether a general proposition of assistance to CVT is politically appropriate at this time and (b) if so, US Mission reaction to AIT-CIO proposal above.

GP-4.

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