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DIST 13 APRIL 1966

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 11 APRIL 1966

SUBJECT DR. PHAM QUANG DAN'S REFUSAL TO HEED THICH TRI  
QUANG'S AND STRUGGLE COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS THAT  
HE NOT ATTEND POLITICAL CONGRESS

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ACQ

VIETNAM, SAIGON (13 APRIL 1966) FIELD NO. [REDACTED]

SOURCE [REDACTED]

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: FEB 2001

1. DR. PHAM QUANG DAN, ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING  
COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLITICAL CONGRESS CONVENED ON 12  
APRIL 1966, [REDACTED] HAD BEEN ASKED NOT TO  
ATTEND THE CONFERENCE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STRUGGLE COM-

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MITTEE IN THE I CORPS AREA AND OF THICH TRI QUANG. THE STRUGGLE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE, WHO HAD BEEN SENT BY HUE STUDENT LEADER VINH KHA, TOLD DAN THAT HE WAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS WHO WAS WELL-KNOWN AND ESTEEMED BY THE POPULATION AND THAT, IF HE ATTENDED, THE CONGRESS WOULD BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE CERTAIN OF ITS OBJECTIVES WHICH WOULD BE HARMFUL TO THE STRUGGLE COMMITTEE'S FIGHT AGAINST THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. TRI QUANG'S REPRESENTATIVE, [REDACTED] SAID MUCH THE SAME THING.

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2. DAN TOLD EACH REPRESENTATIVE THAT, LIKE THEM, HE IS OPPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF NGUYEN CAO KY, WHICH HE REGARDS AS TOTALLY INCOMPETENT, AND THAT HE "DOES NOT DISAPPROVE" OF THE STRUGGLE BEING CONDUCTED IN I CORPS. HE FEELS, HOWEVER, THAT COMMUNISM IS VIETNAM'S NUMBER ONE ENEMY, THAT IT MUST BE DEFEATED AT ALL COSTS, AND THAT IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD THAT END. HE TOLD THE REPRESENTATIVES THAT IF, WHILE ATTENDING THE CONGRESS, HE CAN ASCERTAIN THAT KY IS CAPABLE OF ARRANGING FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS WITHIN THREE OR, AT THE MOST, SIX MONTHS AND CAN RESTORE ORDER IMMEDIATELY, HE WILL THEN SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, HE FINDS THAT THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCOM-

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PLISH THIS, HE WILL "RAISE HIS VOICE" AGAINST KY.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE USAID JUSPAC USMACV USARV NAVFORV  
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