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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

18 July 1972

**MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs**

SUBJECT: Enemy Reactions to Psywar Programs

1. A sensitive source in Europe has provided us with an authoritative and unsolicited enemy reaction to our black radio broadcasting to North Vietnam. This information, coupled with statements made over Radio Hanoi in early July, indicates that these broadcasts have become a clear source of discomfort to the enemy.

2. CIA black radio messages have been beamed continuously to North Vietnam since 1961, when Radio Red Flag, ostensibly representing a pro-Soviet, anti-Chinese splinter group within the Lao Dong Party, went on the air. This programming was supplemented, in 1965, with the Voice of the Sacred Sword Patriots League, which purported to emanate from an anti-Party resistance group inside North Vietnam. Our most recent black radio effort, begun in December 1971, has been targeted against North Vietnam as a daily half-hour mimic of Radio Hanoi. Still another broadcast, beamed at the Vietnamese Communists in the South, and started some years earlier, is a daily half-hour mimic of Radio Liberation.

3. According to the sensitive source, Le Chan, Director of the North Vietnamese Information Agency in Paris, told a small group of Vietnamese Communist sympathizers in Paris on 21 June that there are now some "very strange" broadcasts on the air, which have such names as "Red Flag," "Sacred Patriotic Sword" and even one identifying itself as "Liberation Radio." Le Chan said that the sponsors of the

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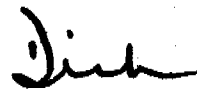
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broadcasts claim to be groups of revolutionaries, but actually they are CIA people who do the broadcasts as "part of their psychological warfare." He said that he knew this because he had heard a lot about it when he was in North Vietnam. Le Chan went on to say that "They sound like real patriots, supporting this or that policy of the Front, but occasionally inserting one or two sentences which you know right away are 'false merchandise.' Those who are a little bit intelligent know right away that it is false. But, if you are not sharp, or have no knowledge of politics, or if you are not familiar with this kind of thing and you listen to it only occasionally -- then you can be taken in easily. You can even get confused because this radio says this and that radio says that, and you don't know what to believe."

4. Le Chan did not mention our Radio Hanoi Mimic, the one begun in December 1971, but this may be because he has not been back in North Vietnam since that station went on the air. In a series of three broadcasts on 3, 4 and 5 July, however, Radio Hanoi itself spoke out against the mimic, claiming that "the birth of this forged monster" goes to prove the "weakness of the U. S. puppets and increases the confidence of the South Vietnamese urban people toward the voice of the just cause." (Our mimic has subsequently taken up similarly outraged diatribes against the "phony program of the Thieu clique," warning that Thieu will "sooner or later be boycotted by his own South Vietnamese people if they ever discover the truth.")

5. The above reactions would appear to justify the continued operation of Radio Sacred Sword, Radio Liberation (mimic) and Radio Hanoi (mimic). Radio Red Flag was recently terminated in order to supply facilities and personnel to Mother Vietnam, our new Tokyo Rose-type gray broadcast to the North. We have still to receive our first enemy evaluation of this latter effort.



Richard Helms
Director

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