

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

State Dept. review completed

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

December 15, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM P. ROGERS  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Message Received from Ambassador Bunker

Attached is a copy of a message received from Ambassador Bunker this morning commenting on the back channel message which you cleared just prior to your European trip which reports on the status of the actions directed therein.

151

Henry A. Kissinger

Attachment

MORI/CDF per  
C03357451,  
C05387746.

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

SENSITIVE

EYES ONLY  
RECEIVED  
WHCA

1969 DEC 15 11 39Z

DLA475



25X1

O 151046Z ZYH  
 FM SAIGON  
 TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM  
 ZEM  
 S E C R E T/SENSITIVE EYES ONLY 151046Z DEC 69 VIA CAS CHANNELS  
 FM AMB BUNKER, SAIGON 052  
 TO THE WHITE HOUSE, EYES ONLY FOR DR. KISSINGER  
 FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS  
 REF: A. WH 93049  
 B. WH 93102

1. I HAVE INFORMED THIEU, KY, AND GOTTEN WORD TO GENERAL MINH SUBSTANCE OF YOUR 93049. I HAVE NOT YET GOTTEN THE WORD TO DON. THIEU EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF PRESIDENT'S AND U.S. GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF DON AND MINH, BUT SAID THAT NEITHER HAD THE SUPPORT NOR CAPABILITY TO STAGE A COUP. IF WE FELT IT NECESSARY TO GET THE MESSAGE TO THEM HE SUGGESTED IT BE DONE "INDIRECTLY" AND IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD NOT LEAD THEM TO BELIEVE THAT WE ATTACHED MUCH IMPORTANCE TO THEIR ACTIVITIES. IN FACT, THIEU HAS COME INCREASINGLY TO FEEL THAT BOTH DON'S AND MINH'S GAMBITS HAVE PRETTY WELL PETERED OUT. MINH HAS, IN FACT, THREE TIMES RECENTLY PUBLICLY BACKED AWAY FROM HIS PROPOSALS FOR A REFERENDUM OR "CONSULTATION OF THE PEOPLE" AND HAS EXPRESSED HIS SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP FOR THIEU.

2. I HAVE APPROACHED THIS PROBLEM CAUTIOUSLY, FOR I DO NOT WANT TO LET EITHER DON OR MINH BE ABLE TO GOVE THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ATTACH UNDUE IMPORTANCE TO THEIR INFLUENCE OR ARE FEARFUL OF IT NOR DO I WANT TO START RUMORS IN THE SAIGON TEA HOUSES.

3. I HOPE TO GET THE WORD TO DON WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

4. BEST REGARDS.

GP-1  
 225

EYES ONLY

SECRET

SENSITIVE

NNNN