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WHCA

MORI C05142802

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

1971 AUG 21 05 45

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~ 210512Z AUG 71 VIA CAS CHANNELS

FROM: AMBASSADOR BUNKER, SAIGON 0618

TO: THE WHITE HOUSE, EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

REF: WHS 1078

SUBJECT: DOLE COMMENTS ON MINH WITHDRAWAL

1. I AM AFRAID THAT THE WIRE REPORTS, AS IS SO OFTEN THE CASE, HAVE DRAWN INFERENCES FROM SCANTY INFORMATION. I ACCOMPANIED SENATOR DOLE ON HIS VISIT TO THIEU. IN RESPONSE TO THIEU'S QUESTION AS TO WHAT CONGRESSIONAL REACTION WOULD BE TO MINH'S WITHDRAWAL, DOLE SIMPLY RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY AROUSE CRITICISM. HE DID NOT GO BEYOND THAT. HE MADE NO STATEMENT CONCERNING POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF AMERICAN AID.

2. AS I STAYED ON TO TALK WITH THIEU AFTER SENATOR DOLE LEFT THE PALACE, I WAS NOT PRESENT WHEN HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE TALKED TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WHERE HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID "THERE WILL BE SOME STRONG REACTION. I TRIED TO MAKE THAT CLEAR BY INFERENCE IN MY VISIT." THE SENATOR LEFT THIS MORNING AT 0830 FOR PHNOM PENH AND BANGKOK BEFORE I RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE, BUT THERE HAS SO FAR BEEN NO REACTION TO HIS REMARKS HERE AND I DOUBT THAT THERE WILL BE ANY.

3. BEST REGARDS,

XFM

DOS Review  
Completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY

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