

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

11062

ACTION

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

June 12, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

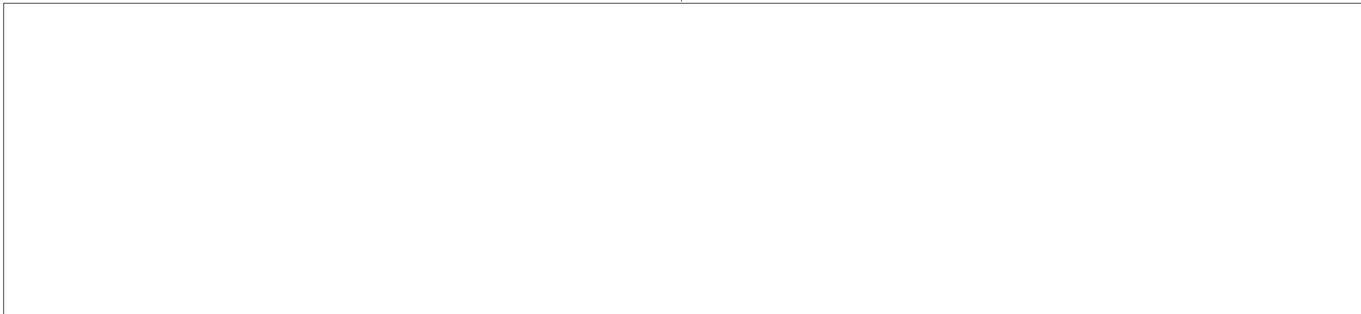
FROM: John H. Holdridge *JH*

SUBJECT: Ambassador Godley's Planned Appearance Before
the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

*Tell State to hold
up till her, can focus
on it
JUN 22 1970
HC*

NSS, State Dept.
reviews completed

Mr. Helms has called your attention to the fact that State has promised the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that Ambassador Godley will be made available to testify before it in mid-July (Tab A).



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State makes no claim that Godley's appearance would be other than troublesome for all of us. It believes, however, that it has an obligation to make Ambassador Godley available, for the following reasons:

- The SFRC has been pressing very hard since February for his testimony, and Secretary Rogers has promised that he would be made available after the coming of the rainy season eased the immediate crisis.
- Godley has not been back since he went to Vientiane last summer. He will need to come out for consultations -- State is very anxious that he participate in an East Asian Chiefs of Mission Conference in Tokyo, July 9-10 -- and it would be very difficult to justify his departure from the post for any such activity if at the same time State is claiming he cannot come back to appear before the SFRC.

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Pgs 2-4

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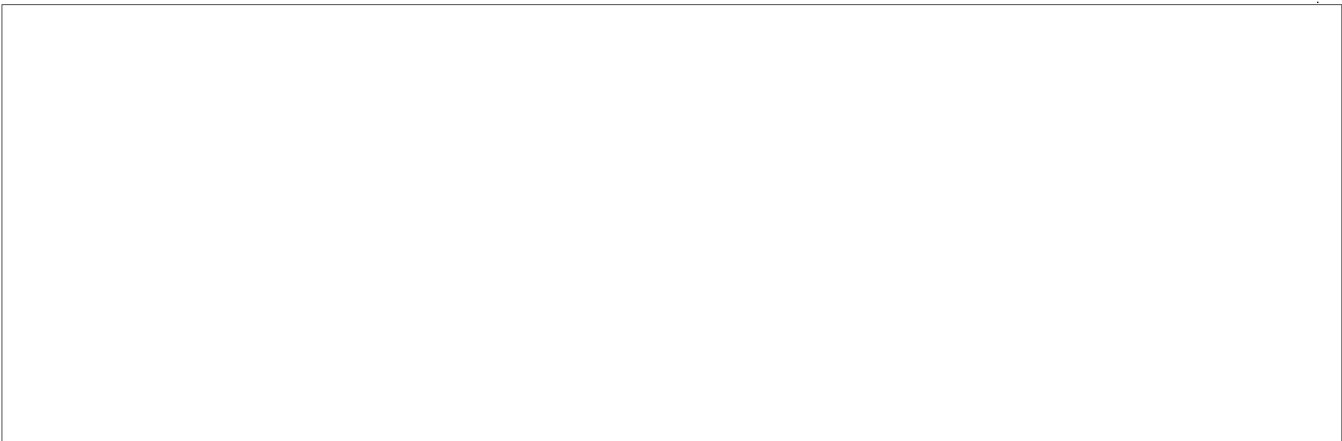
SECRET/SENSITIVE

- 2 -

-- The SFRC is on strong grounds in claiming a right to call upon Ambassadors to appear before it. To deny it that right hands it an issue which it can use to unite waverers within the Committee and generally throughout the Senate against the Administration. Without such issues, the SFRC leadership is less effective against the Administration, since it tends to be farther out than the majority of the Senate in many of its claims to prerogatives.

25X1

I have tried to explore whether temporizing for another few months would offer any advantages. I have not been able to identify any specific advantages in waiting, though the Congressional liaison staff may be able to throw some light on this question.



Mr. Lehman is out of the country until June 17. I would like to learn his reaction to this issue.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you authorize me to work with Mr. Lehman and the Congressional liaison people, to develop recommendations as to

- (a) whether the White House should step in and block State's proposal to make Ambassador Godley available to the SFRC.
- (b) whether we should instruct State to require that especially sensitive testimony be given in Executive Session without any transcript being taken.

Approve HK

Disapprove _____

cc: Mr. Lehman

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

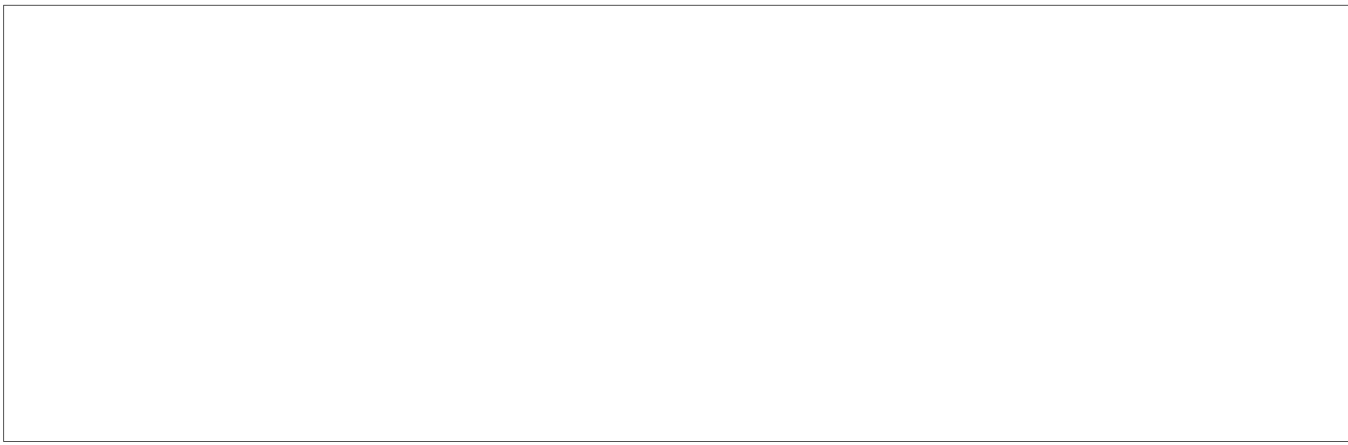
10 June 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Cable from Station Chief, Vientiane

1. I received today a cable from my Station Chief in Vientiane saying that the Department of State has committed Ambassador Godley to testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee sometime in mid-July. According to the Station Chief, the Department has explained to Ambassador Godley that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has exerted considerable pressure and the Department does not feel it can put off the Committee any longer.

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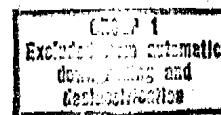


3. I bring this to your attention and, in your discretion, to the attention of the President, since I am not sure that you have been made aware of this particular development and since it would be coming at an unfortunate time in the general context of our current WSAG concerns.

Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

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