

46

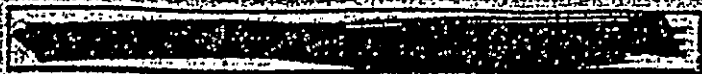
~~TOP SECRET~~

ITEMS SPECIFIED IN THE SPECIAL APPENDIX
FILED ON JUNE 21, 1971 WITH THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

- I. Portions of Exhibits 7 and 7A the disclosure of which would present increased risks to the safety of U.S. forces

VOL. VI, C. 4, pages 21, 22, Summary -
Direct quote of Saigon Embassy message 10856 from Lodge to Secretary of State, TS, dated 14 Nov 66 and Saigon Embassy message 12247 to Secretary of State, TS/MODIS, 30 Nov 66. Presumably would assist enemy in analyzing and possibly breaking codes employed at that time and thereby all traffic of that period.

Section I, Item 9



UNITED STATES - VIETNAM RELATIONS 1945 - 1967

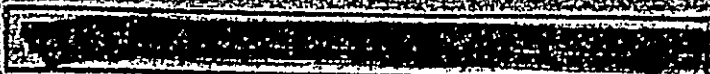
DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 8(D) by (S)
 State Dept. Letter 8/21/78
 By JK NARS, Date 9/1/78

SANITIZED COPY

VIETNAM TASK FORCE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE



COPY LBJ LIBRARY

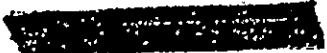


VI. c: 4.

SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT

Negotiations, 1967 - 1968

HISTORY OF CONTACTS



COPY LBJ LIBRARY
COPY

Harriman questioned further on the timing, specifically as to the meaning of "after a suitable length of time." Here, M retreated to the DRV text--"the appropriate and necessary period of time." M explained this as a period in which

"they will try to test (I don't know by what means) the sincerity of your intentions--your wish to have discussions. I could not deduce the period, but I do not think it will be too long. If an understanding is reached that you stop, at a certain established period, discussions, not negotiations, will take place."

* * *

M then read from a document:

"As long as the US acts of war go on we cannot have any contacts with them. As soon as they cease the bombings and discontinue the acts of aggression we shall be prepared to receive any person, even a representative of the United States, who may wish to make known to us the American point of view or to get informed on our viewpoint. We shall regard these future contacts as normal diplomatic activity. The American representatives will be received by our representatives at the former's suggestion."

* * *

"1. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam has communicated to the United States Government this statement of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam position:

'If the United States Government really wants discussions with the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam it should first unconditionally cease bombing and any other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. After the unconditional cessation of all bombing and of any other United States act of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and at the end of an appropriate period of time the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam will enter into serious discussions with the United States Government.'

* * *

DRV (1/16/68). Bo says that talks would begin "after a suitable time following" the halt of attacks, and that the two parties would then meet to agree on the level and scope of their talks.

QUES 2: THE HALTING OF THE BOMBING IS CLEAR. BUT WHAT DOES "THE CESSATION OF ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAME" MEAN TO YOU?

ANS: THE CESSATION OF ANY MILITARY ACTION THAT VIOLATES THE SOVEREIGNTY AND THE TERRITORY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAME

QUES 3: IN WHAT WAY MUST THE AMERICAN GOV'T ANNOUNCE THE END OF THE BOMBING?

ANS: THE US GOV'T MAY ANNOUNCE THIS UNCONDITIONAL HALTING OF THE BOMBING AND OF ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR THROUGH A DECLARATION OR IT MAY MAKE USE OF ANY OTHER PROCEDURE CAPABLE OF ESTABLISHING ITS REALITY.

QUES 4: HOW MUCH TIME WILL ELAPSE BETWEEN THE END OF THE BOMBING AND THE OPENING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS?

ANS: THE TALKS WILL BEGIN AFTER A SUITABLE TIME FOLLOWING THE UNCONDITIONAL HALTING OF THE BOMBING AND OF ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DRVN.

QUES 5: AT WHAT LEVEL IN YOUR OPINION, ARE THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD AND WITH WHAT QUESTIONS ARE THEY TO DEAL?

ANS: FOLLOW THE UNCONDITIONAL CESSATION OF BOMBING AND OF ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DRVN, THE TWO PARTIES WILL MEET IN ORDER TO REACH AGREEMENT ON SUCH QUESTIONS.

(Emphasis Added)

U.S. (1/25/68). Clifford defined the "no advantage" assumption to the Senate Armed Services Committee as assuming the enemy "will continue to transport the normal amount of goods, munitions, men, to SVN."

"SENATOR (STROM) THURMOND: When you spoke of negotiating, in that case you would be willing to have a cessation of bombing. I presume that that would contemplate that they would stop their military activities, too, if we would be expected to have a cessation of bombing.