

SERIES DESCRIPTION and FOLDER TITLE LIST

Collection: National Security Files

Series: Komer-Leonhart Files, ca. 3/1966 - 1/20/1969 [NAID 12010023]

<http://discoverlbj.org/exhibits/show/loh/pres/nsf>

For list of folder titles, see page 3.

Scope and content note:

In National Security Action Memorandum No. 343, dated March 28, 1966, President Lyndon Johnson charged Special Assistant Robert W. Komer and Komer's deputy, Ambassador William Leonhart, with responsibility for the "direction, coordination and supervision in Washington of U.S. non-military programs for peaceful construction relating to Vietnam." William Leonhart later stated that it was the President's determination that such programs "be speeded up, given priority with military operations, and conducted with wartime urgency."

The Komer-Leonhart File, an alphabetically-arranged subject file containing material dated 1966-1968, reflects the operation of the White House office created by NSAM 343. The file should be consulted in conjunction with the Files of Robert W. Komer, which reflect the operation of this office during the period that Komer headed it, March 1966-May 1967.

The responsibilities of the office included a broad range of U.S. non-military programs in Vietnam, involving such issues as pacification, land reform, Chieu Hoi (a program for encouraging Viet Cong defections), economic stabilization and control of inflation, rice production, port congestion, corruption, and postwar planning.

By November 1966 the office consisted of Robert Komer, Special Assistant to the President; William Leonhart, Komer's deputy; Richard Holbrooke, assistant to Robert Komer; Colonel Robert Montague, military adviser; Peter Rosenblatt, assistant to William Leonhart; Richard Moorsteen, economist; five secretaries; and a file clerk.

On May 1, 1967, Robert Komer left Washington for Saigon to become General Westmoreland's Deputy for Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS). On May 11, 1967, President Johnson named William Leonhart as Special Assistant to succeed Komer as head of the White House office for U.S. non military

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programs in Vietnam. Leonhart's deputies during 1967 and 1968 included Vincent Heyman and David Cuthell.

On September 14, 1967, William Leonhart recommended to President Johnson that he abolish the office "as a separate White House staff" and that its pacification functions be integrated with Walt W. Rostow's "Vietnam staff section." However, the office remained in operation during 1968 with Leonhart as head.

When William Leonhart submitted his letter of resignation to President Johnson on January 8, 1969, near the close of the Johnson presidency, he noted the following:

"in the first year of this inter-agency staff, there was established a unified direction of Vietnam non-military operations and the first fully integrated civil-military field organization in our nation's history.

In the second year, a unified civil-military pacification concept was further elaborated. . . . And the process of transferring pacification support to the departments and agencies responsible for its funding was begun. Today, every pacification program element developed since 1966 is lodged in the department or agency with primary funding accountability."

Some folders in the Komer-Leonhart File include material generated exclusively during Komer's tenure as head of the office, other folders have material only from Leonhart's period as head, and some folders were started under Komer but also used under Leonhart.

- Date range: 1966-1969
- 11 linear feet, 4 linear inches
- Available for research (Opened in 1987)

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Box #	Folder Title
1	Agriculture [1]
1	Agriculture [2]
1	Airlift
1	ARVN
1	Blueprint Vietnam
1	[Buddhists and Catholics]
1	Cam Ranh Bay
2	Casualties/Civilian
2	Chieu-Hoi [1]
2	Chieu-Hoi [2]
2	Chieu-Hoi [3]
2	Chieu-Hoi [4]
3	CIP [1]
3	CIP [2]
3	CIP (Cables)
4	Civilian Contractors
4	Congressional
4	Constitution VN
4	Contingency Planning
5	Corruption
5	Data Task Force
5	Defense Briefing
6	Defense Funding
6	Delta-South Vietnam
6	Doan Ket Nat'l Reconciliation
6	Economic Indicators
7	Economic Stabilization [Vol. I]
7	Economic Stabilization [Vol. II]
8	Economic Strategy
8	Economic Trends
8	Economic Warfare

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Box #	Folder Title
9	Education
9	Election - South Vietnam
9	Film Feature on Vietnam by Arthur Daley
9	Forestry
10	Free World Assistance
10	GVN Foreign Exchange
10	Hamlet Evaluation & Statistics
11	ICEX
11	Infrastructure
11	Inst. for Defense Analyses
12 [1 of 2]	Komer's Papers
12 [1 of 2]	Land Reform [1 of 7 through 3 of 7]
12 [2 of 2]	Land Reform [4 of 7 through 7 of 7]
13	Leverage
13	Lilienthal, David
13	Manpower
14	Medical Relief
14	Mekong Committee
14	Memoranda and Reports from Amb. Wm. Leonhart
15	Memorandums [Leonhart]
15	Memos - The President - 1967 (WmL)
15	Military Posture - VN
16	Monday Group
16	Montagnards
16	Moss Committee
17	Negotiations
17	Opinion Poll
17	Organization/Vietnam, U.S. Mission
18	Pacification
19	Pacification
19	Paraplegics

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Box #	Folder Title
19	PL-480
19	Police National Development
20	Population
20	Port Congestion [Vol. I]
20	Port Congestion [Vol. II]
20	Public Safety
21	Postwar Planning - Lilienthal
21	Program and Planning
21	Private Channel Messages (WmL)
21	Psychological Warfare
22	RD - Cadre
22	RD - Combine Campaign
22	RD Planning
22	RD Reports
22	Refugees
23	Regional/Popular Forces
23	Rice Agreement
23	Rice Situation
23	Rice Studies
24	Sensitive Documents - Various Subjects
24	Social Welfare
24	Special Studies - Vietnam
24	Stockpile
24	Transportation
25	Urban Development
25	Viet Cong - NLF
25	Volags -- Houston Jaycees
25	Volags -- [IVS]
25	Volags -- Jewish
25	Volags -- Mennonites
25	Wages