

Dispatched 5/9

Repts nos. 124-132

Cys To :

Leonhart ^{exp'd} _{Cy 5/21 12/21}

Rush

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Fowler

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Bardner C. Johnson

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1967

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 362

MEMORANDUM TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Responsibility for U. S. Role in Pacification
(Revolutionary Development)

U. S. civil/military responsibility for support of Pacification (Revolutionary Development) in Viet Nam will be integrated under a single manager concept to provide added thrust forward in this critical field.

Because the bulk of the people and resources involved are military, COMUSMACV will be charged with this responsibility in Viet Nam, under the overall authority of the Ambassador.

To carry out these responsibilities, under COMUSMACV, Mr. Robert W. Komer will be appointed Deputy for Pacification (Revolutionary Development) with personal rank of ambassador.

To this end the present functions and personnel of the Office of Civil Operations of the U. S. Mission will become a part of MACV. For the time being its civilian components will continue to be supported with funds, personnel, and other requirements by the civil agencies involved, such as State, AID, USIA, CIA, and Department of Agriculture. COMUSMACV is expected to call on these agencies, as well as the relevant military agencies, for all resources needed for accomplishment of his mission. I hereby charge all U. S. departments and agencies with meeting these requirements promptly and effectively.

One purpose of unifying responsibility for Pacification (RD) under COMUSMACV is to permit logistic and administrative economies through consolidation and cross-servicing. I expect sensible steps to be taken in this direction. Any inter-agency jurisdictional or other issues which may arise in country will be referred to the U. S. Ambassador.

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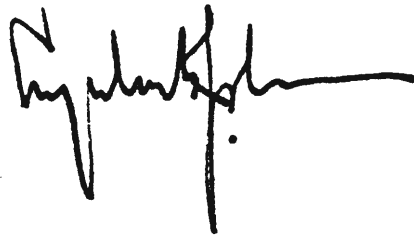
Authority F8200772-NSC
By lig, NARA, Date 12-9-87

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-2-

Ambassador William Leonhart will assume from Mr. Komer the Washington supervisory responsibilities already assigned in NSAM 343, and will be appointed Special Assistant to the President for this purpose.

This new organizational arrangement represents an unprecedented melding of civil and military responsibilities to meet the overriding requirements of Viet Nam. Therefore, I count on all concerned -- in Washington and in Viet Nam -- to pull together in the national interest to make this arrangement work.

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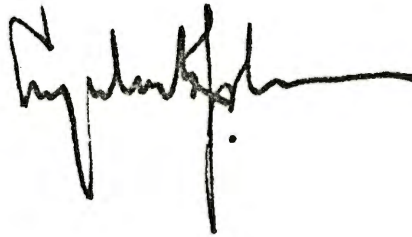
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Tuesday, May 9, 1967 -- 10:00 a.m.

Mr. President:

With Bunker announcing the reorganization of pacification in Saigon tomorrow, it will be important to have available and signed by you the relevant NSAM which is, I believe, on your desk for signature.

The reason: We shall wish to give the bureaucracy simultaneous authoritative guidance here as to how they will be organized to back-stop the new set up. There is already some questioning and uneasiness in the wake of Joe Alsop's story yesterday, May 8, on the reorganization.

Walt. Rostow

3a

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Thursday, March 30, 1967
4:15 p. m.

MR. PRESIDENT:

Herewith the draft NSAM which I have cleared carefully with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense.

Secretary Rusk tells me that he went over it carefully also with Ambassador Bunker.

You will, I am sure, wish to give us detailed guidance as to the whole scenario by which this matter shall be managed: the timing of announcement; the place; the substance of the backgrounding we should all do, etc.

Walt. R.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ attachment

P.S. I assume, after our conversation, that you wish to hold this; but you may wish change. Therefore, I am forwarding now.

W

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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The Secretary of Defense

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Authority NSC F8200772

By ing, NARA, Date 12-9-87

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lj

LBJ:RWK:WWR:mz

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Authority NSC F8200 772
Ex. 119 NARA Date 12-9-87

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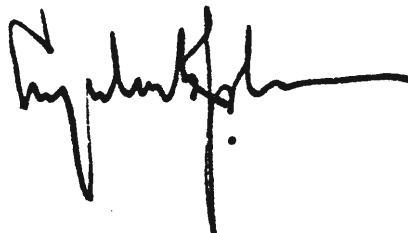
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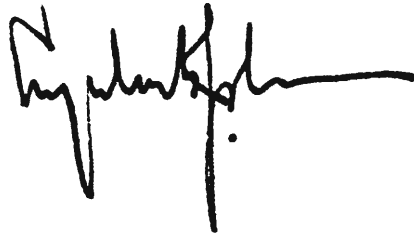
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