

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

1 2 8 9 3

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

~~SECRET~~

VERBATIM
TEXT

12

002

81
Origin
55
Info

ACTION: CIRCULAR IMMEDIATE 128

JUL 25 5 14 PM '61

EXDIS

See Par 8 for Cambodge

FOR AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE

earlier

Message referred to in ~~separate~~ telegram is as follows:

QUOTE Dear Blank:

I have asked my Ambassador (Charge) to bring to you my frank
the
assessment of/situation in South Vietnam.

In recent months open aggression against ^{the} people and government
of Vietnam has increased and very heavy strains have been placed upon the
the
South Vietnamese armed forces and/South Vietnamese people.

In this same period, as you know, repeated and imaginative
efforts by many governments ^{the} including your own ^{the} have been unsuccessful
in moving this problem to/conference table because of/determined and
rigid opposition from Hanoi and Peiping.

I have been reviewing this situation during ^{the} last few days in the
light of up-to-date reports from my most trusted associates. While final
decisions have not been made here, I can tell you that it now appears
certain that it will be necessary to increase United States armed forces
in

Drafted by: FE:WPBundy:aws
7/25/65

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by: FE - William P. Bundy

Clearances:

FE - Miss Bacon WH - Mr. McG. Bundy ~~XXX~~ U - Mr. Ball
NEA - Mr. Talbot EUR - Mr. Leddy ARA - Mr. Sayre
S/S - Mr. Mills

~~SECRET~~

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FORM
8-63 DS-322

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.5
NLJ-S 98001
By dm NARA, Date 6-19-01

~~SECRET~~

in South Vietnam by a number which may equal or exceed ^{the} 80,000 already there.

I want you to know that as we make this major additional effort we will also continue to make every political and diplomatic effort that we can to open way to a peaceful settlement.

We will also continue to use every care and restraint to ensure that ^{the} fires of war do not spread on ^{the} mainland of Asia. Our objective remains ^{the} end of external interference in South Vietnam so that ^{the} people of that country can determine their own future.

In this situation I must express to you my own deep personal conviction that prospect of peace in Vietnam will be greatly increased in ^{the} measure that ^{the} necessary efforts of ^{the} United States are supported and shared by other nations which share our purposes and our concerns. I know that your government has already signalled its interest and concern by giving assistance. I now ask that you give most earnest consideration to increasing that assistance in ^{ways} ~~ways~~ which will give a clear signal to the world--and perhaps especially to Hanoi--of ^{the} solidarity of international support for resistance to aggression in Vietnam and for a peaceful settlement in Vietnam.

I have asked my Ambassador (Charge) to make himself available to you ^{the} for consultation as to ^{the} types of additional assistance you might provide and for liaison with ^{the} South Vietnamese Government.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson UNQUOTE

1.

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1. Phrase in brackets is optional depending on position taken by host government.
2. Re last paragraph of Presidential message, EUR and other posts where reference to liaison with South Vietnamese Government may not be appropriate should substitute following for that paragraph: QTE I have asked my Ambassador (Charge) to make himself available to you for any consultation which you may wish on this matter. UNQTE
3. For ANKARA: In penultimate paragraph of message, substitute QTE offering assistance UNQTE for QTE giving assistance UNQTE and QTE offering additional assistance UNQTE for QTE increasing that assistance UNQTE.
4. For BERN and VIENNA: Substitute following for last sentence of penultimate paragraph of message: QTE I now ask that you give most earnest ^{the} consideration to increasing that assistance in accordance with great humanitarian tradition of your country. UNQTE
5. For BONN: In light Harriman conversation with Chancellor, ^{changes} following ~~changes~~ should be made in letter: (a) in first paragraph add: QTE I had already asked Ambassador Harriman to discuss this situation with you, but I wish you to have my own personal statement as well. UNQTE (b) After 4th paragraph, insert new paragraph: QTE In making this additional commitment, I shall be considering additional decisions, and my Ambassador will be in touch with you on these

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10.

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10. For Ottawa, London, Tokyo: In addition to including bracketed phrase per paragraph numbered 1, you should add following to 5th paragraph of letter: QTE In this connection, I want to reiterate my appreciation of the efforts of your government and of yourself personally. We shall continue to welcome constructive initiatives. UNQTE

REX GP-3

End.

SEND TO:

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TEL AVIV ✓

RUSK

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