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1. DURING MEETING WITH GENERAL HARKINS, TRUEHEART, MECKLIN AND COS ON MORNING 26 AUG, LODGE MADE DECISION THAT AMERICAN OFFICIAL HAND SHOULD NOT SHOW. CONSEQUENTLY, HARKINS WILL TAKE NO INITIATIVE WITH VIETNAMESE GENERALS. DECISION WAS IN LINE WITH HARKINS'OWN VIEW.

2. WE AGREED ALSO THAT COLONEL CONEIN WOULD PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO CONVEY POINTS LISTED BELOW TO GENERAL TRAN THIEN KHIEM. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT MR. SPERA WOULD PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO PLEIKU TO ADVISE GENERAL NGUYEN KHANH. CONEIN AND SPERA ARE ALREADY UNDER WAY TO CARRY OUT THESE CONTACTS. CONEIN WILL TELL GENERAL KHIEM THAT SPERA IS ENROUTE TO TALK WITH GENERAL KHANH.

3. DURING SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION, TRUEHEART AND COS AGREED THAT CONEIN WILL ASK KHIEM'S ADVICE ON CONEIN'S TALKING WITH GENERAL TRAN VAN DON. IF KHIEM AGREES, CONEIN WILL MAKE IMMEDIATE CONTACT WITH DON. IF KHIEM DEMURS, CONEIN WILL RETURN TO HER OBTAIN FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. AT MOMENT, OUR PLANNING IS TO INFORM ONLY THESE THREE GENERALS.

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4. CONEIN AND SPERA CONVEYING TO GENERALS KHIEM AND KHANH THE FOLLOWING POINTS.

A. SOLICITATION OF KNEW FURTHER ELABORATION OF ACTION ASPECTS OF PRESENT THEM THINKING AND PLANNING. WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

B. WE IN AGREEMENT NHU'S MUST GO.

C. QUESTION OF RETAINING DIEM OR NOT UP TO THEM.

D. BONZES AND OTHER ARRESTEES MUST BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY AND FIVE-POINT AGREEMENT OF 16 JUNE BE FULLY CARRIED OUT.

E. WE WILL PROVIDE DIRECT SUPPORT DURING ANY INTERIM PERIOD OF BREAKDOWN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MECHANISM.

F. WE CANNOT BE OF ANY HELP DURING INITIAL ACTION OF ASSUMING POWER OF THE STATE. ENTIRELY THEIR OWN ACTION, WIN OR LOSE. DON'T EXPECT BE BAILED OUT.

G. IF NHU'S DO NOT GO AND IF BUDDHISTSITUATION IS NOT REDRESSED AS INDICATED, WE REAR WOULD FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE CONTINUE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT.

H. IT HOPED BLOODSHED CAN BE AVOIDED OR REDUCED TO ABSOLUTE

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I. IT HOPED THAT DURING PROCESS AND AFTER, DEVELOPMENTS CONDUCTED IN SUCH MANNER AS TO RETAIN AND INCREASE THE NECESSARY RELATIONS BETWEEN VIETNAMESE AND AMERICANS WHICH WILL ALLOW FOR PROGRESS OF COUNTRY AND SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION OF THE WAR.

5. DURING MEETING WITH LODGE REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 ABOVE, YOUR PROPOSAL IN DIR 63869 PARA 2, WAS DISCUSSED. WE AGREED NOT TO PROCEED WITH THIS PROPOSAL UNDER OBVIOUS POLICY GUIDANCE OF NOT REVEALING OFFICIAL AMERICAN INTERVENTION.

END OF MESSAGE

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