

Oct 20 1959

REFER TO I-16,041/9

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, JOINT STAFF

ATTENTION: DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: North Viet-Nameese Military Establishment and
Capabilities

The International Control Commission (ICC) has requested that the Government of Vietnam furnish them information regarding U.S. plans for reduction and/or phase out of TERM in Vietnam. The Department of Defense has requested that the Department of State obtain approval from the ICC for an increase in the MAAG ceiling before providing the information requested. The Departments of State and Defense have agreed that Canadian and Indian members of the ICC should be briefed and requested to support the U.S. position. In order to bolster the case for an expanded U.S. training program, it is requested that the Director of Intelligence, Joint Staff, prepare an estimate of North Viet-Nameese capabilities and appraise the unstable political and military conditions in Laos. It is recommended that the estimate be prepared with marginal notes indicating what information is releasable respectively to Canadian and Indian nationals.

(Signed) Charles H. Shuff

Deputy Assistant Secretary