



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JCSM-544-60

1 DEC 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Helicopters for Vietnam (U)

1. Reference is made to a memorandum, dated 9 November 1960 from the Director of Military Assistance, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs, to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning a recommendation to provide H-34 helicopters to the Republic of Vietnam.
2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider that there is a valid requirement to increase the helicopter lift capability of the Vietnamese Armed Forces at this time, in view of the deteriorating internal security situation in Vietnam.
3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff concur with the recommendation of the Director of Military Assistance, OASD (ISA), to provide 11 H-34 helicopters from service inventories for delivery to the Republic of Vietnam, subject to immediate reimbursement to the providing department.
4. It is the understanding of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that emergency funding action will be required to provide the required increased helicopter lift capability to the Vietnamese Armed Forces, and that the Director of Military Assistance concurs in the Commander in Chief, Pacific request for such emergency funding action, rather than providing the increased capability by deviation from the FY 61 Military Assistance Program for Vietnam.
5. The provision of the requested number of H-34 aircraft from active service inventories, plus the provision of the necessary ground support equipment and follow on spares, will result in a reduction in the capabilities of the providing service until such time as the aircraft, equipment and spares can be replaced. In view of this, and since shortages of this model aircraft already exist in the service inventories, rapid

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