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FROM: CHMAAG SAIGON VIET-NAM  
TO: OSD/ISA WASH DC  
INFO: CINCPAC CP H M SMITH HAWAII, JCS WASH DC  
NR: MAGCH-CH 691 200711Z MAY 60

Reference UNCLASS DEF 487183 to CHMAAG Saigon DTG  
182016Z May.

Attn Asst to Secy for Legislative Affairs. Re-  
quest you pass following to Senator Mansfield soonest.

Dear Senator Mansfield: Your letter of 5 May passed to me by DOD received Saigon 19 May. Full reply enroute by airmail. As interim reply UPI dispatch number 31, May 5, 1960 to which you refer not entirely factual. Specifically US training staff not being doubled as stated in UPI dispatch. The 350 US "civilian technicians" mentioned in news items as sorting and shipping arms left by French forces undoubtedly refers to US military personnel of the temporary equipment recovery mission, short title TERM, now in process deactivation. Maintenance of total overall MAGG-TERM advisor strength of 385 for time being is at urgent request GVN with full concurrence Ambassador, CINCPAC, DOD, State Department and myself. Total advisor strength to be considerably lower than total 850 US and French MAAG at time of Geneva accords and slightly lower than total MAAG-TERM strength. Following sentence classified CONFIDENTIAL: Change over of TERM excess to MAAG ends subterfuge as actually TERM has had undercover mission as logistical advisors since activation. Project began before current step-up guerrilla activities. Small number US experts in guerrilla warfare recently brought in on TDY as substitutes for regular MAAG advisors and are within previous overall strength. It is my personal opinion MAAG should and can work itself "out of job" with possible reduction approximately 15 per cent in June 61 and approximately 20 per cent reduction

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