

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM**

AGENCY : NARA
RECORD NUMBER : 176-10036-10095
RECORD SERIES : National Security Files
AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

ORIGINATOR : CIA
FROM :
TO :
TITLE : Central Intelligence Agency Information Report
DATE : 4/22/1963
PAGES : 2
SUBJECTS :
DOCUMENT TYPE :
CLASSIFICATION :
RESTRICTIONS :
CURRENT STATUS :
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 9/10/2000
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : National Security Files, Box 197: Vietnam, 4/63-5/63. Box 2

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

NO FOREIGN DISSEM/BACKGROUND USE ONLY/NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM REPORT NO. TDCSDB-3/654,285

SUBJECT INDICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM PLAN TO REQUEST REDUCTION OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN VIETNAM DATE DISTR. 22 APRIL 1963 PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. MID-APRIL 1963 REFERENCES IN 22329

PLACE & DATE ACQ. VIETNAM, SAIGON (18 APRIL 1963)

APPRAISAL SEE BELOW FIELD REPORT NO. FVS-8806

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE A VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL (F), WITH EXCELLENT CONTACTS AT THE PRESIDENCY.

APPR IT IS POSSIBLY TRUE THAT BOTH DIEM AND NHU HAVE BECOME AT LEAST PARTIALLY UPSET OVER CERTAIN AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND OVER THE LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL CURRENTLY IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

1. BY MID-APRIL 1963 A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TENSION HAD DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OVER OPERATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. BOTH DIEM AND NGO DINH NHU WERE CONCERNED OVER RECENT "INFRINGEMENTS" OF VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY. MAAG WAS CITED AS A VIOLATOR IN THIS CONNECTION, BUT THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES WERE SINGLED OUT AS THE MAIN IRRITANT. DIEM IS ALLOWING ADDITIONAL TIME FOR FURTHER BLUNDERS AND, AFTER BUILDING UP A STRONG CASE, HE PLANS TO CONFRONT AMBASSADOR NOLTING AND USMACV CHIEF GENERAL HARKINS WITH IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE OF U.S. RESPONSIBILITY, DEMANDING A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF U.S.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

STATE/INR	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	XXIX	DDOXX	OCJ	ONE	OCR	XXIX	XXIX	XXIX	EXD
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TDCS DB-3/654,285

IM 22329

PAGE 2

PERSONNEL IN SOUTH VIETNAM ON THE BASIS THAT THE FORCE IS TOO
LARGE AND UNMANAGEABLE.

2. SOME VIETNAMESE INVOLVED IN CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH AMERICANS WERE BEING QUESTIONED IN DETAIL BY PRESIDENCY
STAFF MEMBERS AS TO U.S. ACTIVITIES. SOME OF THE INDIVIDUALS
QUESTIONED HAD INDICATED TO THE PRESIDENCY THAT THE U.S. MILITARY,
AND PARTICULARLY THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES, ALTHOUGH GENERALLY
WELL MOTIVATED, DID NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITY FOR
COORDINATING THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH APPROPRIATE VIETNAMESE
AUTHORITIES.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE (AMBASSADOR NOLTING), USMACV
(GENERAL HARKINS), MAAG (GENERAL TIMMES), CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC
PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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