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GAC JPH WAC EFH

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505 JHW [redacted] JFR POO

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR EKH MEE LCP DSS

LJS JES

10 February 1972

D F

SVN: Phoenix

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William H. Sullivan
Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on Vietnam

SUBJECT : Phung Hoang

1. I have received via the Saigon station the following personal message from [redacted] which constitutes an initial response to our Committee's Phung Hoang paper which, per my memorandum of 21 January, was sent to the Mission via Agency channels: 25X1

"A. I have read with interest your working paper and after further study we will be developing a Mission position on the points you raise. In the meantime, please consider this an informal interim reply. Regarding the discussion part of the paper, we agree with most points. However, in certain important aspects, the paper has inevitably been overtaken by events. When your paper was written, of course, you did not have the benefit of the report regarding our 27 December meeting with the Prime Minister.

"B. As you know, [redacted] will be available for consultation in Washington the week of 7 February. Also, [redacted] will have returned from his TDY in Vietnam. I suggest you take advantage of their presence to talk to them about GVN plans to implement the Prime Minister's recent decisions and generally to discuss Phung Hoang. It should be understood, as [redacted] will explain in more detail, that every proposal we have made to the GVN about Phung Hoang has been motivated by a desire to improve the total anti-VCI effort and certainly not as the paper seems to imply to rationalize an early curtailment of the advisory structure. 25X1 25X1 25X1 25X1

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"C. Reference your conclusions, we do plan to maintain a reduced advisory effort at national, regional, and in selected cases provincial levels through CY 72. A survey of anti-VCI training as you suggested was planned prior to receipt of your working paper and is in progress. Your final recommendation as to an ideal in-country advisory effort is not so easy to cope with considering the accelerated personnel draw-down now in progress. Here again I hope you will consult with [redacted], who will report to me upon his return to Saigon." 25X1

25X1 2. [redacted] is now in Washington on consultation and mid-tour leave. If you have no objection, I would like to bring him with me to our Friday, 11 February, Committee session to express in somewhat greater detail the Mission's current thinking on the Phung Hoang issue. If this is agreeable, I would also recommend that Mr. Nooter arrange to 25X1 have [redacted] join us so that we can have a discussion of this matter 25X1 in which both [redacted] can participate simultaneously.

/s/

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

cc: General Karhohs
General Burrows
Mr. Holdridge
Mr. Cutler
Mr. Nooter
Mr. Bennett

GAC/lp
1 - JJMC
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25X1 [redacted]

SAUA

FILE, VR [redacted] 25X1

ACTION NO 7552

~EYES ONLY~

SECRET 250452Z JAN 72 CITE SAIGON 43689

DIRECTOR

25X1 RYBAT [redacted]

25X1 REF: [redacted] DTD 10 JAN 72

25 JAN IN 52100

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted] TO MR. CARVER FOR THE SULLIVAN COMMITTEE:

QUOTE I HAVE READ WITH INTEREST YOUR WORKING PAPER AND AFTER FURTHER STUDY WE WILL BE DEVELOPING A MISSION POSITION ON THE POINTS YOU RAISE. IN THE MEANTIME PLEASE CONSIDER THIS AN INFORMAL INTERIM REPLY. REGARDING THE DISCUSSION PART OF THE PAPER WE AGREE WITH MOST POINTS. HOWEVER, IN CERTAIN IMPORTANT ASPECTS THE PAPER HAS INEVITABLY BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. WHEN YOUR PAPER WAS WRITTEN, OF COURSE, YOU DID NOT HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE REPORT REGARDING OUR 27 DECEMBER MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

B AS YOU KNOW [redacted] WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR [redacted] CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON THE WEEK OF 7 FEB. ALSO 2 [redacted] WILL HAVE RETURNED FROM HIS TDY IN VIETNAM. I SUGGEST YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR PRESENCE TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT

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PAGE 2 SAIGON 43689 S E C R E T

GVN PLANS TO IMPLEMENT THE PRIME MINISTER'S RECENT DECISIONS AND GENERALLY TO DISCUSS PHUNG HOANG. IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD, AS [redacted] WILL EXPLAIN IN MORE DETAIL, THAT EVERY PROPOSAL WE HAVE MADE TO THE GVN ABOUT PHUNG HOANG HAS BEEN MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO IMPROVE THE TOTAL ANTI-VCI EFFORT AND CERTAINLY NOT AS THE PAPER SEEMS TO IMPLY TO RATIONALIZE AN EARLY CURTAILMENT OF THE ADVISORY STRUCTURE. 25X1

(C) REFERENCE YOUR CONCLUSIONS, WE DO PLAN TO MAINTAIN A REDUCED ADVISORY EFFORT AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND IN SELECTED CASES PROVINCIAL LEVELS THROUGH CY 72. A SURVEY OF ANTI-VCI TRAINING AS YOU SUGGESTED WAS PLANNED PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF YOUR WORKING PAPER AND IS IN PROGRESS. YOUR FINAL RECOMMENDATION AS TO AN IDEAL IN-COUNTRY ADVISORY EFFORT IS NOT SO EASY TO COPE WITH CONSIDERING THE ACCELERATED PERSONNEL DRAWN-DOWN NOW IN PROGRESS. HERE AGAIN I HOPE YOU WILL CONSULT WITH [redacted], WHO WILL REPORT TO ME UPON HIS RETURN TO SAIGON. UNQUOTE. GP-1 25X1

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25X1 [redacted] 25X1

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SAVA

[redacted]

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25 JAN IN 52099

25X1 [redacted] VNO

REF: SAIGON 43689 (IN 52100)

25X1 IDENTITY A: [redacted]

IDENTITY B:

GP-1

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