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LEO CHERNE

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Cherise

DIRECTOR

SAIGON

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SAIG 1653 (IN 25122)

1627Z 19 NOV 54

PRIORITY

TO: DIR (ASCHAM)

CITE: SSAIG (VILLIERS)

TUSPIN KAPOK

1. UPON REQUEST PRESIDENT DIEM HAD TWO HALF HOUR CONFERENCE HIM NIGHT 17 NOV. MADDEROM INTERPRETED. REPORTED TUCKER-13 WHO STATED HE UNINTERESTED BUT DESIROUS BE REPORTED TO ODACID.
2. DIEM SHOWED ME INVITATION FROM INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK. 8 NOV SIGNED LEO CHARNE. WANTED HIM VISIT P9PRIIVE TWO WEEKS. STATED GENERAL DONOVAN PLUS BOARD DIRECTORS AGREED. MY COMMENT WAS DIEM HAD BIG JOB DO VIETNAM AND ANY VISITS BE POSTPONED UNTIL SHOW ON ROAD WHICH TAKE LONG TIME YET. DIEM REACTION WAS HE WRITE LETTER COMMITTEE POSTPONING VISIT POLITELY.
3. ASKED DIEM WHY HE WANTED ME SEE GENERAL NGO OF HOA HAO WHO HAD SENT REPS ME WITH THIS MSG. HE REPLIED WANTED ME TEACH NGO HOW GET PEOPLE LOVE HIM. MADE IT PLAIN DIEM MY FEELINGS THAT TOO MANY BARLORD TYPE ARMIES WHO AND AM PERSONALLY OPPOSED HELPING SUCH WHEN WHAT NEEDED MOST.
4. APPARENTLY IN ANSWER TO PREVIOUS COMMENTS (SEEMS ADD) THAT LE VAN TY...

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THAT GENERAL TY WILL EXECUTE ORDERS CORRECTLY. WANTED STRAIGHT
 TY BE NEXT CHIEF STAFF VICE MINH (COMMENT: GENERAL
 IMPRESSIVE AS SCOTT WAS BEGINNING OUR CIVIL WAR VS LEE).

5. DIEM OPPOSED ANY PILOT PROJECT PACIFICATION SOC TRANG
 PROVINCE (PLACE SELECTED BY TUSPUN GOVT ARMY TEAM AS ONE PLACE
 VN GOVT ARMY HAD ~~TEAM~~ IN TAKING OVER AREA HELD BY VN EIGHT YEARS).
 DIEM REASON WAS EVERYBODY IN AUTHORITY THERE ARE PIRATES IN PAY
 HOA HAO. STATED MINH JUST SOLD RIGHT VIA MAJOR HAI (ALSO RECEIVED
 FROM TO ARMY CARNIVAL SOC TRANG GAMBLING CONCESSIONS TO CHOLON
 CHINESE FOR REPORTED 3,000,000 PIASTRES. DELEGATE SOUTH LAM
 REPORTED THIS DIEM AS SOMETHING LAM HAD APPROVED UPON RECOMMENDA-
 TION VNA GENERAL STAFF. SAID 16 MORE CARNIVAL SHOWINGS REQUESTED
 BY VNA SUPPOSEDLY RAISE FUNDS ARMY PACIFICATION AND RELIEF ARMY
 DEPENDENTS WHICH DIEM FELT WAS ONLY COVER MINH SCHEME RAISE
 POLITICAL FUNDS. DIEM SAID WORST ASPECT WAS FACT ARMY SHOWING
 PHOTOGRAPHIC FILMS THESE CARNIVALS WHICH CORRUPT YOUTH.

6. DIEM SHOWED ME LETTER FISHEL THUS PROBABLY UNCLEARED
 COME BUT IF COME MUST BE ON TUCKER 13 PERSONAL STAFF).

7. DIEM THEN DISCOURSED NEARLY TWO HOURS RE COMPLAINTS VS
 HIGH ACTIONS CIV IN COASTAL SECTOR NOW COMMANDED BY GENERAL VAN
 WHO FORMERLY MEMBER THREE VN DEFENSE COMMITTEE HANOI. VAN HAD

18 50
CA 1653 (IN 25122)

DECLARED ALERT STATUS THEN WITHIN PARTIAL MILITARY LAW AND
GIVEN COMMAND FRENCH TROOPS IN AREA INCLUDING NUNG. DIEM
STATED HAD TOLD THIS ELY MORNING 17 DEC WITH COMMENT ELY UNWANT
THINGS. TOOK UP CASE LT COL LE IN DETAIL. STATED ELY HAD
PROMISED IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION.

8. DIEM SAID COL LE BEEN RECALLED SAIGON FROM NHA TRANG BY
HINH AND TOLD "SEE I AM NOW THE ONE WINNING. YOU HAVE BEEN
AGAINST ME. TELL ME WHERE YOU LIVE AND WILL HAVE YOU WATCHED."
LE BEEN FURTHER INTIMIDATED BY HINH WITH THREATS IMPRISONMENT IN
FAR PLACE WHICH HE INTERPRETED AS DEATH SENTENCE. LE PRESENTLY
UNDER PERSONAL PROTECTION DIEM. (COMMENT: DIEM WITHOUT ANY
PRACTICAL PHYSICAL SECURITY).

9. POINTED OUT DIEM THAT VNA MEN BEING MURDERED BY PRO DIEM
ELEMENTS. DIEM SMILED BRIEFLY SAYING THESE MEN WERE PIRATES AND
HINH SELECTED AUTHORITIES THERE NOW ARRESTING PRIESTS AND OTHERS
WHO HAD BACKED DIEM. SAID ONLY MURDERED MAN WAS HATED BY PEOPLE
AND SELECTED BY G-6 LAN WHO MOVED 200 AGENTS INTO AREA CREATE
TROUBLE. (LAN TOLD ME NIGHT BEFORE THIS THAT FIVE HIS MEN
MURDERED IN THREE DAYS).

10. DIEM GAVE ME LIST OF ONLY OFFICERS WHO BACK HINH.
(COMMENT: DIEM HAD ALREADY GIVEN ME OF HINH

19 NOV 54

SAIG 4657 (IN 25122)

PAGE 11

VEN'. DIEM INSISTED MY WRITING THESE DOWN. THEY ARE: LAM
VI PHAT, QUACH XIEN, COL DON NOW ALL IN FRANCE. IN VIETNAM
ARE COL LE AN KIM, LT COL TRAN DINH LAN, CAPT CHAU, CAPT (NOW
MAJOR) GIAI, CAPT DINH DOAN MAO, LT COL (ACTUALLY MAJOR) NGUYEN
KHANH, TRUONG VAN XUONG (AT HUE), AND LT COL (ACTUALLY MAJOR)
HOANG PHUC HAI. ANY OTHERS WHO BACK ARE ATTENTISTES.

11. DIEM SAID GOVT HAS TWO VM DIRECTIVES STATING THAT HINH
MUST BE SUPPORTED. DIRECTIVES ASSIGNED TWO INTELLECTUALS WORK
ON VI OPINION PLUS TRUNG QUAN WORK ON FRENCH. (THIS APPARENTLY
IS DIEM PERSONAL VERSION ANY HINH VM COLLUSION.)

12. AFTERNOON 17 NOV DIEM RECD REPORT FROM SOUTH RE
SMUGGLING ARMS FROM CAMBODIA OR THAILAND INTO HATTIEN AREA VIA
JUNKS. SAID HOA HAO GENERAL LAM THANH NGUYEN RECEIVING THESE
ARMS. SOME JUNKS BEEN SUNK. DIEM HAD ONLY BARE REPORT WITHOUT
DETAILS.

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~