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FM SFCSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMPASSY SAIGON FLASH 3544

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EXDIS  
E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

FOR CHARGE

1. PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT THIEU. IF RECIPIENT NOT AVAILABLE, DELIVER TO HIGHEST OFFICIAL AVAILABLE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: AS I ASSUME THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ONE OF MY FIRST THOUGHTS CONCERNS THE SAVAGE ATTACKS YOUR ARMED FORCES ARE NOW SUCCESSFULLY RESISTING WITH SUCH COURAGE AND BRAVERY. I DO NOT THINK I REALLY NEED TO INFORM YOU THAT AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY HAS ALWAYS BEEN MARKED BY ITS ESSENTIAL CONTINUITY AND ITS ESSENTIAL BIPARTISAN NATURE. THIS IS EVEN MORE TRUE TODAY AND THE EXISTING COMMITMENTS THIS NATION HAS MADE IN THE PAST ARE STILL VALID AND WILL BE FULLY HONORED IN MY ADMINISTRATION.

THESE REASSURANCES

- ARE PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. WE HAVE TRAVELED A LONG AND HARD ROAD TOGETHER. I HAVE LISTENED TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S REPORT ON THE REMARKABLE PROGRESS THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS MADE UNDER YOUR

LEADERSHIP. IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS, I HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY HIS REPORT OF YOUR PERSONAL DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE THE IMPROVEMENT OF YOUR GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES TO INSURE THAT OUR AID, AND THE INCREASING AID WE CONFIDENTLY EXPECT FROM OTHER DONOR



DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NCC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines

WT, NARA, Date 12/15/99

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COUNTRIES, CAN BE RAPIDLY AND EFFECTIVELY UTILIZED TO BRING THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ECONOMY TO A SELF-SUSTAINING LEVEL IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. AS THE PROFESSIONAL EFFICIENCY, THE HIGH MORALE, AND THE COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BECOME INCREASINGLY EVIDENT TO THE LEADERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IN HANOI, IT IS MY EARNEST HOPE THAT THEY WILL AGREE TO RETURN TO PARTICIPATION IN THE MECHANISMS SET UP BY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS AND BEGIN TO SERIOUSLY WORK OUT WITH YOU MODALITIES FOR THE FULL AND COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENTS WHICH I KNOW IS YOUR DESIRE.

I KNOW YOU MUST BE CONCERNED BY THE INITIAL STEPS TAKEN BY THE CONGRESS ON THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR APPROPRIATIONS FOR BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. OUR LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IS A COMPLICATED ONE AND IT IS NOT YET COMPLETED. ALTHOUGH IT MAY TAKE A LITTLE TIME I DO WANT TO REASSURE YOU OF MY CONFIDENCE THAT IN THE END OUR SUPPORT WILL BE ADEQUATE ON BOTH COUNTS.

IN THESE IMPORTANT ENDEAVORS I SHALL LOOK TO DR. KISSINGER, WHOM I HAVE ASKED TO REMAIN AS SECRETARY OF STATE, FOR GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT. HE HAS MY FULLEST CONFIDENCE, AS DOES AMBASSADOR MARTIN.

SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD    END TEXT    KISSINGER  
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