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PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

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DIST 20 MAY 1966

COUNTRY: JAPAN VIETNAM FRANCE BRITAIN ITALY

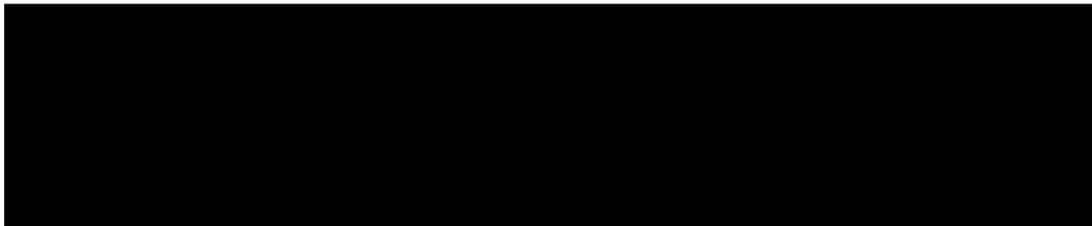
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SUBJ: STATEMENTS TO JAPANESE PEACE ENVOY YOKOYAMA
ON VIETNAM BY WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AND THE VATICAN

ACQ:

SOURCE:



EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)-25
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(C)

1. ACCORDING TO A [REDACTED] REPORT
[REDACTED] ON THE YOKOYAMA MASAYUKI PEACE MISSION TO EUROPE AND
ASIA, YOKOYAMA MET WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER COUVE DE MURVILLE
AND ASIAN BUREAU DIRECTOR MANA'CH DURING HIS VISIT TO PARIS (LATE
FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH). COUVE DE MURVILLE TOLD YOKOYAMA THAT
IT IS NOT USEFUL FOR THE UNITED STATES TO CONTACT THE SOVIET UNION
OR OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES IN AN EFFORT TO SETTLE THE VIETNAM CON-
FLICT. ACCORDING TO MURVILLE, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTACT

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NORTH VIETNAM AND THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT DIRECTLY. IF JAPAN DESIRES TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PEACE IN VIETNAM, JAPAN MUST ASK THE UNITED STATES TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TOWARD BOTH NORTH VIETNAM AND THE VIET CONG. MURVILLE ALSO STATED THAT FRANCE IS NOT CONSIDERING ANY CONCRETE PLAN FOR SOLUTION OF THE VIETNAM CRISIS BECAUSE A SOLUTION DOES NOT APPEAR IMMINENT.

2. ASIAN BUREAU DIRECTOR MANA'CH STATED THAT BEFORE VIETNAM PEACE NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE UNDERTAKEN, THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT POINTS MUST BE CONSIDERED AND ACCEPTED BY THE UNITED STATES:

- A. PARTICIPATION OF CHINA IN A PEACE CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM;
 - B. CESSATION OF UNITED STATES BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM;
 - C. INDEPENDENT PARTICIPATION OF THE VIET CONG IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE SEPARATE FROM NORTH VIETNAMESE PARTICIPATION.
- COMMENTING ON CHINA'S ATTITUDE ON VIETNAM, MANA'CH STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH CHINA HAS URGED NORTH VIETNAM AND THE VIET CONG TO CARRY ON THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE, FINAL SETTLEMENT OF THE PROBLEM WILL BE BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG THEMSELVES.

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3. IN LONDON [REDACTED] YOKOYAMA MET WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY MICHAEL STEWART, WHO STATED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

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IS NOT STICKING TO THE FORMALITIES OF THE 1954 GENEVA CONFERENCE SINCE IT CONSIDERS THAT OTHER COUNTRIES COULD NOW PARTICIPATE IN A NEW CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM. ALSO BRITAIN CONSIDERS THAT THE NEUTRAL NATIONS CAN PLAY AN INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN BRINGING THE COMMUNISTS TOWARD ACCEPTING PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. IN ROME, YOKOYAMA MET WITH ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS GAJA (PHONETIC) WHO STATED THAT ITALY'S POSITION ON VIETNAM IS CLOSE TO THAT OF BRITAIN. ITALY, BECAUSE OF INTERNAL POLITICAL FACTORS, CANNOT UNDERTAKE ANY INITIATIVE OR ACTIVE ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAM PROBLEM, GAJA SAID. YOKOYAMA ALSO MET WITH POPE PAUL [REDACTED] WHO STATED HIS BELIEF THAT JAPAN WILL BE THE SOLE NATION WHICH CAN HAVE AN EFFECTIVE ROLE IN BRINGING A VIETNAM SETTLEMENT. ALTHOUGH THE VATICAN'S APPEAL FOR PEACE DID NOT BRING ANY RESULTS, POPE PAUL ADDED THAT HE HAS NOT ABANDONED HIS EFFORTS.

EO 12958
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5. [REDACTED] DISSEM: CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC STATE [REDACTED]

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