

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
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ANNEX A

Representative North Vietnamese Statements on US Troop Withdrawal from South Vietnam

1. [redacted] Aug 67 - [redacted]
Conversation between [redacted] Ambassador
[redacted] and North Vietnamese Ambassador
[redacted] Aug 67.

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[redacted] stated that the time of the withdrawal of the American troops was not a decisive question. In this connection, he pointed to the agreement on the withdrawal of the French troops.

2. [redacted] Aug 67 [redacted]

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A pro-Communist [redacted] who was in Hanoi for three years [redacted] claims that in late April 1967 Nguyen Duy Trinh said peace talks could only be entertained if the US and its allies withdrew from Vietnam or announced a set date before which such a withdrawal would be completed.

3. [redacted] July 67
A reliable [redacted] reports that DRV press officer in Paris [redacted] said "There are a great many intermediary solutions between the extremes of total US victory and total US withdrawal and anything is negotiable except the bombing of North Vietnam."

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4. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] June 67, Tran Ngoc Kha told [redacted] ambassador [redacted] "What we want is the final unification of the Vietnamese people. We are fully aware of the fact that this will take time. North Vietnam is not demanding the immediate withdrawal of US

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forces, but the withdrawal of US forces after the conclusion of peace negotiations and within an "appropriate period of time."

- 5. June 67 Debriefing of [redacted] correspondent in Hanoi.

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On the basis of his eight months in Hanoi and conversations with DRV officials [redacted] believes that Hanoi is prepared to make concessions on details (of a settlement)-- such as timing of US troop withdrawal.

- 6. [redacted] July 67 Pham Van Dong [redacted]

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Ending the war for us has two meanings: an end to the bombings and a withdrawal of US forces. We like the formula of President de Gaulle. Some US troops would have to stay until the end of the process of political settlement. We do not want to humiliate the US.

- 7. [redacted] Aug 66 [redacted] During [redacted] June 66 visit of [redacted] Para 1:

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.."Hanoi officials told [redacted] that in the event of negotiations on the Vietnam crisis NVN would not demand immediate unification, establishment of Socialist system in SVN, immediate withdrawal of US troops from SVN, or SVN severance of relations with third countries."

- 8. [redacted]

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Source is [redacted] Member of a Western Communist party who was in Hanoi in [redacted] 1966 and had meeting with [redacted] public relations officer of Foreign Ministry and head of liaison committee of Lao Dong Party. Dien made fol point:

A. "The Vietnamese condition that Americans must withdraw would be satisfied if they merely made an overt step towards withdrawal to indicate a genuine intention to withdraw in due course."

9. [redacted] May 65. Mai Van Bo [redacted]
[redacted]

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"..When asked if Hanoi recognized that realization of its proposed Principle of Withdrawal of American forces would depend upon the conclusions of a negotiation, Bo responded exactly and indicated that if there were agreement on bases, the ways and means of application of principles would be found and in peaceful manner; possibilities were many; a way out should be found for us; Our suggestion humiliates no one."

10. [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] Mai Van Bo.
[redacted]

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"Bo said that various approaches and means to negotiate remain open. He said the question of the withdrawal of American troops is open for discussion."

11. [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] Mai Van Bo, [redacted] Dec 65.
[redacted]

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Bo acknowledged both US and Hanoi would have a "face-saving" problem. He gave "impression" that Hanoi would contemplate some de-escalation during preliminary peace talk meetings, with a full cease-fire at time of formal conference. When questioned about the continued presence of US forces during negotiations, he gave no clear response but did not contradict the proposition that US forces would remain at least through preliminary talks. He continued at intervals to repeat that "modalities are negotiable."

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[redacted] MEMO OF
[redacted] Sec Rusk dinner for Rumanian
Foreign Minister Manescu, 14 Oct 65.
[redacted]

"The Rumanians, according to Manescu, have had some contacts with Hanoi. Since Hanoi is no longer insisting on withdrawal of American forces from SVN as a prerequisite to negotiations, it is unfortunate that US cannot consider a bomb halt."