

SECRET

Page 2

137-5-27
(VIETNAM)

11 Oct 66

UTILITY, @Holm

4. The discussion turned to Vietnam. [] briefly touched on a WOFACT development in the scientific field to which it could be determined that a man has recently touched or rubbed his clothing against metal such as in a gun or a light machine gun. This was proving very useful to the Armed Forces in Vietnam. This obviously intrigued UTILITY, a certified gadget-man. The discussion of Vietnam went on a little further, especially UTILITY's offer (after a [] presentation of the problem as seen in our eyes) to plant some Vietnamese material in the German press. From a Base point of view, the interesting thing was that @Holm commented that the material could not be simply spread broadcast in, for example, a handout form but had to be given personally to each newspaperman ~~as~~ as an "exclusive." This solves one of our problems here in that if we can send over smaller bundles of specific story material, CATUSK can use its modus operandi of reporting to give an "exclusive" to one newspaperman after another.

5. In a turn of the conversation concerning Vietnam, [] (based on previous briefing material) commented that "I understand that McNamara is not the most popular man in Germany." This brought an appreciative chuckle from UTILITY, who had been particularly harsh on McNamara to me the day before. [], however, developed the theme a little to say that the fact that the American Army was for the first time prepared for the war it was fighting could be attributed to McNamara's insistence that troops be prepared to fight as our Special Forces are prepared. This was easily understood by UTILITY, who knows that we have Special Forces troops down here in Bad Toelz. In fact, they do some training for the CATUSKERS. The conversation veered around to the Sino-Soviet situation and UTILITY got an opportunity to comment, as he and his organization do, about his contention that the Soviet attitude vis-a-vis Europe is "offensive." The day before, he had been speaking to me about the great American error in believing that the Soviets wanted a detente.

6. [] briefly mentioned one of the peculiarities of the American political scene today, being the far-out "new left" who regard normal Communists as something of sticks-in-the-mud. UTILITY was reassured that these people were not a political factor of any importance.

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