

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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June 3, 1971


MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Reduction of DOD and AID Civilian Personnel
in South Vietnam

To assure that the over-all U. S. presence in South Vietnam decreases as U. S. military redeployments proceed under the Vietnamization program, the President desires that a significant reduction be made in the number of DOD and AID civilian employees. This reduction should include local hire civilian personnel, as appropriate, though it is hoped that their talents and experience could be used in the GVN apparatus.

The President has accordingly directed that a study be prepared by June 10, 1971, to determine ways of achieving a one-third reduction in these personnel categories by the end of FY 1972 without seriously impairing U. S. program objectives in South Vietnam. The study should not address personnel within the CORDS organization, which is being reviewed separately.


Henry A. Kissinger

NSS, OSD, USAID Reviews
Completed

cc: The Director of Central Intelligence
The Director, Agency for International Development

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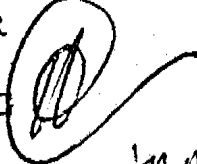
MEMORANDUM

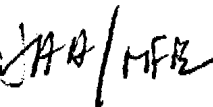
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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May 28, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

THROUGH: GENERAL HAIG 

FROM: JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE 

SUBJECT: Reduction in AID and DOD Civilian Employees in South Vietnam

In accordance with the instructions at Tab B, we have drafted a memorandum from you to the Secretaries of State and Defense requesting a study on the feasibility of a one-third reduction in DOD and AID civilian personnel in South Vietnam by the end of FY 1972 (Tab A). As requested, we have specified that local Vietnamese employees be included in the study. Because of the numerous classifications and arrangements under which U. S. civilians are employed by AID and DOD, we have not listed specific U. S. personnel categories but rather have attempted to generalize in an all-inclusive fashion.

This study should prove to be enlightening, since current AID civilian personnel projections through FY 1972 do not approach the desired one-third reduction. We have also learned that the AID personnel totals listed in the memorandum at Tab B are on the low side. Indeed, current AID planning calls for more than 1,368 Vietnamese AID employees alone by the end of FY 1972. There are no projections of DOD civilian personnel strengths presently available in Washington.

You should also be aware that the study being requested does not include AID or DOD employees in CORDS, the U. S. pacification apparatus. CORDS personnel projections are now being reviewed by the U. S. Mission and the Vietnam Ad Hoc Working Group. The U. S. Mission has already recommended that the current CORDS personnel total of about 6,000 be reduced to 3,000 by the end of FY 1972, nearly a 50% drop.

Wayne Smith has seen our draft, and concurs.

Recommendation:

That you forward the memorandum at Tab A to the Secretaries of State and Defense.


Approve Disapprove

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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May 4, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: ✓ JOHN HOLDRIDGE /WAYNE SMITH
FROM: AL HAIG 
SUBJECT: Reduction in AID Local and Direct Hire Personnel in South Vietnam

John:

The President has directed that a sharp reduction in AID local and direct hire personnel be effected in South Vietnam for the purpose of reducing our overall civilian presence as our military presence continues to lessen. I understand that from a total figure of 2381 AID personnel in 1968, we will have reached a ceiling of 1368 personnel by the end of FY 1972, with an overall 15% reduction scheduled for the next year.

I have discussed this problem with Marshall Green, whose name should not be associated with the proposal, and he believes that we should put out a directive in the name of the President for a one-third reduction in AID personnel, local and contract, to be completed by the end of FY 1972 and to be accomplished without sacrifice of our program objectives in South Vietnam.

Would you please prepare, in coordination with Wayne Smith, a memorandum for Henry's signature to the Secretary of State, with information copy to Director Hannah, directing in the President's name a reduction as outlined above. We should ask for a report by June 1, 1971 of how this reduction will be accomplished, in order to give Bunker an opportunity to reclama, should this reduction prove absolutely impractical.

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