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TO THE WHITE HOUSE EYES ONLY FOR DR. HENRY KISSINGER

- 1. AS WE AGREED, I CAREFULLY LEFT DOOR OPEN FOR US TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING A MEETING IF WE THINK DISCUSSION WOULD BE DESIRABLE.
- 2. THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF MAY 8 PROVIDES AMPLE BASIS FOR MEETING WHEN TIMEING IS RIGHT FROM YOUR VIEWPOINT. AT MINIMUM, A READING HERE IN PARIS OF OPERATIVE PARTS OF THE STATEMENT, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHICH BEAR ON GENEROUS TERMS FOR CESSATION OF ACTIVITY AGAINST THE NORTH AND WITHDRAWAL, WOULD BE BENEFICIAL FROM PUBLIC RELATIONS POINT OF VIEW. SECTION I HAVE IN MIND FOR EMPHASIS BEGINS WITH PHRASE "THESE ACTIONS I HAVE ORDERED WILL CEASE, ETC." THROUGH "THEY DESERVE IMMEDIATE ACCEPTANCE BY NORTH VIET-NAM."
- 3. However, I do not repeat not recommend meeting before hanoi feels pressure of our activities or before we can assess nature of other reaction. Perhaps by first of June these conditions will make u.s. initiative useful. If situation seems to be developing satisfactorily we could make proposal couple of weeks prior to date we have in mind for meeting. This would help keep public mind on continued efforts to negotiate. Otherwise media will concentrate on military activity only.
- 4. I WILL BE SENDING SOME GENERAL THOUGHTS ALONG THIS LINE THROUGH STATE CHANNEL, THIS IS TO GIVE YOU MORE OF ESSENCE OF MY THINKING.
 - 5. WARM REGARDS.

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DOS Review Completed.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MORI/CDF per C05105822

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