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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

1972 JUL 17 11 15

SECRET SENSITIVE 170945Z JUL 72 VIA CAS CHANNELS (BUNKER)
FROM: AMBASSADOR BUNKER SAIGON 0110 IMMEDIATE
TO: THE WHITE HOUSE, EYES ONLY FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER
1. IF SITUATION HERE CONTINUES TO DEVELOP FAVORABLY, AS I ANTICIPATE IT WILL, I HAVE BEEN THINKING OF TRYING TO GET AWAY TO KATHMANDU FOR A FEW DAYS THE FIRST PART OF AUGUST. EXCEPT FOR MY VISIT THERE AT EASTER, WHICH WAS ABORTED BY THE ENEMY'S OFFENSIVE, I HAVE NOT BEEN AWAY SINCE CHRISTMAS AND FEEL THAT I COULD USE A FEW DAYS R&R. WHILE I EXPECT THAT WE SHALL HAVE SOME MORE HEAVY FIGHTING, ESPECIALLY IN MR 1 (THIEU THINKS THIS IS APT TO COME ABOUT MID-AUGUST, BUT IT MAY COME EARLIER), I THINK THAT WE ARE IN GOOD SHAPE TO HANDLE IT WITH OUR PREPONDERANCE OF AIR POWER. IN THIS CONNECTION YOU WILL HAVE SEEN FRED WEYAND'S ASSESSMENT OF 16 JULY OF LAM SON 72 (SE-2198-09).
2. I REALIZE ALSO THAT I SHALL NEED TO BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THIEU ON QUESTION OF PARIS TALKS, ESPECIALLY IF, AS I HOPE, YOUR MEETING ON THE 19TH INDICATES A FAVORABLE TREND. CONSEQUENTLY, IF I DO GET AWAY I SHALL KEEP FLEXIBLE AS TO DATES. I DID NOT, HOWEVER, WANT TO PUT IN A REQUEST FOR PERMISSION THROUGH CHANNELS WITHOUT GETTING YOUR VIEWS.
3. WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

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