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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY: NARA

RECORD NUMBER : 176-10036-10139

RECORD SERIES: National Security Files

AGENCY FILE NUMBER:

ORIGINATOR: CIA

FROM:

TO:

TITLE: CIA Information Report

DATE: 10/15/1963

PAGES: 2

SUBJECTS:

DOCUMENT TYPE :

CLASSIFICATION:

RESTRICTIONS :

CURRENT STATUS :

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 9/10/2000

OPENING CRITERIA:

COMMENTS: National Security Files, Box 200: Vietnam, 10/6/1963-10/14/63, CIA

Reports. Box 2

TELEGRAM INFOLMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

Central intelligence agency This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. CLASSIFICATION - DISSEMINATION CONTROLS CONFIDENTIAL TDCS-3/562,014 SOUTH VIETNAM COUNTRY REPORT NO. 15 OCTOBER 1963 RECOMMENDATION BY CABINET OFFICERS THAT SUBJECT DATE DISTR. NHU BE MADE PRIME MINISTER ROUTINE PRECEDENCE EARLY OCTOBER 1963 DATE OF REFERENCES IN 39851 INFO. VIETNAM, SAIGON (8 OCTOBER 1963) PLACE & DATE ACQ. SEE BELOW APPRAISAL FVS-9764 FIELD REPORT NO. THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. SOURCE THE CABINET OFFICERS MAY HAVE MADE SUCH A RECOMMENDATION. APPRAISAL: ON 8 OCTOBER 1963 SUMMARY. 1. ON 5 OCTOBER VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN NGOC THO THAT AT A MEETING OF CABINET OFFICERS IN EARLY OCTOBER IT WAS DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT NGO DINH NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER. THAT THIS PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD BE VOTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. ON 5 OCTOBER VICE PRESIDENT THO THAT IN EARLY

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AIR

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OCTOBER HE HAD CALLED A MEETING OF ALL CABINET MEMBERS TO

SECDEF | NSA

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

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GROUP 1
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IN 39851 PAGE2

DISCUSS THE STATUS OF NGO DINH NHU IN THE GOVERNMENT. THO
SAID THAT THE CABINET DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT
NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER, REASONING THAT IF THE PRESIDENT
DID NOT INTEND TO REDUCE NHU'S INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
THE LATTER'S APPOINTMENT TO AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POST WOULD
AT LEAST MAKE HIM ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS ACTIONS.

- 2. ON 8 OCTOBER THAT IF THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED
 THIS SUGGESTION, A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED BUT
 THAT THIS WOULD POSE NO PROBLEM AS THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD
 VOTE THE CHANGE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.
- 3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY NAVY AIR USMACV MAAG USOM USIS 9TH FLD STA 2ND AIR DIV CINPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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