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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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✓ Bundy

SECRET

TO : WASHINGTON []
FROM : SAIGON 0966, 17 SEPTEMBER 1963

1. AFTER MAKING AND BREAKING FOUR APPOINTMENTS WITH CAS OFFICER, [] SENT MESSAGE ON 5 SEPT VIA [] THAT HE CONSIDERED IT BEST IN PRESENT CLIMATE THAT CAS OFFICER NOT COME TO [] OWING HEAVY SURVEILLANCE. TRANSPARENCY THIS EXCUSE INDICATED BY ASSURANCES THAT [] THOUGHT IT PERFECTLY IN ORDER TO CONTINUE VISIT HIS [] [] NOT MORE THAN FIFTY FEET FROM MAIN GATE. ONE SURVEILLANCE WOULD COVER BOTH.

2. IN HOUR CONVERSATION [] AND CAS OFFICER WENT OVER VARIOUS SUBJECTS, FIRST BEING ARTICLE ON CAS IN VIETNAM TIMES, AND CAS OFFICER ASKED [] TO GIVE [] FULL ACCOUNT OF CONVERSATION. CAS OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT LIKE MOST EXPOSES THIS WAS MISHMASH OF FACT AND FANCY, THAT TO EXTENT IT WAS ACCURATE THE WRITER DISCUSSED [] WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY U.S. AND GVN, IN MOST CASES BY [] IT WOULD THEREFORE BE HEIGHT OF ILLOGIC FOR U.S. TO SPEND LARGE SUMS AND EFFORTS ON BEHALF GOVERNMENT WHICH WE SIMULTANEOUSLY ATTEMPTING OVERTHROW. CAS OFFICER TOLD [] TO TELL [] THAT IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES CAS HAD NO CHOICE BUT REVIEW ALL PROJECTS.

3. [] BROUGHT VARIOUS MESSAGES ON WHICH [] ASKED FOR CAS OFFICER' S OPINION. FIRST WAS QUERY WHETHER CAS OFFICER AGREED WITH [] THAT PRES KENNEDY ERRED IN STATING GVN OUT OF TOUCH WITH PEOPLE AND ALSO THAT BUDDHISTS BEING REPRESSED. CAS OFFICER SAID HE DISAGREED [] ON BOTH COUNTS AND CONCURRED

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COMPLETELY WITH PRES KENNEDY, CITING IN BOTH CASES EARLIER AND FAIRLY DETAILED CONVERSATIONS WITH [] WHO HAD SPOKEN STRONGLY AGAINST GVN FOR HANDLING OF BUDDHISTS AND ALSO DENOUNCED DIEM AND NHU BY NAME FOR MOUTHING THEORIES WHICH WERE MEANINGLESS TO POPULATION, WHO [] HAD LOST 150,000 KILLED IN PAST TEN YEARS. IT DISAPPOINTING TO SEE SUCH CRAVEN, [] CHANGE OF HEART ON PART OF SENIOR AND INTELLIGENT OFFICER, AND NOT SURPRISING HE EMBARRASSED DELIVER SUCH OPINIONS PERSONALLY. STATION HAS HAD NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH [] OFFICER SINCE 5 SEPTEMBER.

4. APART FROM FOREGOING, STATION IS TAKING GOOD LOOK AT

[] FOR ANOTHER REASON, NAMELY POSSIBLE []

[]

HAS ALWAYS PROVIDED [] TO STATION PER OUR SPECIFICATIONS, BUT THEY COULD OBVIOUSLY BE MEANINGLESS SINCE [] CANNOT BE CHECKED. REQUEST HQS RESERVE JUDGMENT UNTIL STATION [] HAVE HAD CHANCE TO PIN DOWN. NEXT STEPS INCLUDE CONSULTATION [] (NOTE: THIS HANDLED WITH [] WHO HAS FULL CAS CLEARANCE), FOLLOWED BY JOINT MEETING WITH [] AND REQUEST FOR EXPLANATIONS WHERE NECESSARY. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER [] CAN BE PROVED, STATION [] HAVE TENTATIVELY AND INFORMALLY CONCLUDED THAT BEST GENERAL GROUND RULES WILL BE FOR []

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(2)

SUPPORT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
ALTHOUGH THIS SOLUTION MAY BE TOO PAT BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE

[REDACTED] AT LEAST
THIS PROBLEM HAS NOT ARISEN YET. EFFECT OF THIS TYPE ARRANGEMENT
WILL BE FOR STATION TO CONCENTRATE ON [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATION
WILL ADVISE SOONEST, PROBABLY WITHIN WEEK.

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET