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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	SOUTH VIETNAM	REPORT NO.	TDCS DB-3/656,771
SUBJECT	PHAM NGOC THAO AND TUYEN GROUP READY TO LAUNCH COUP D'ETAT	DATE DISTR.	21 SEPTEMBER 1963
		PRECEDENCE	PRIORITY
DATE OF INFO.	18-19 SEPTEMBER 1963	REFERENCES	IN 24185
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	VIETNAM, SAIGON (18-19 SEPTEMBER 1963)	FIELD REPORT NO.	FVS 9674

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE [redacted]

APPRAISAL: PLANS BY THE TUYEN GROUP TO LAUNCH A COUP D'ETAT ARE PROBABLY CONTINUING, BUT THE PRECISE TIMING AND CAPABILITY ARE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE.

1. THE MOVE TO OUST THE NGO FAMILY FROM POWER WAS SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 22 SEPTEMBER 1963, [redacted] GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY IN THE SAIGON MUNICIPAL COURTS AND MEMBER OF THE TRAN KIM TUYEN COUP GROUP. [redacted] SAID ON 19 SEPTEMBER THAT LIEUTENANT COLONEL PHAM NGOC THAO, STRATEGIC HAMLET INSPECTOR FOR NGO DINH NHU AND MEMBER OF BOTH THE TUYEN GROUP AND THE GROUP LED BY HUYNH VAN LANG, ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AT SAIGON UNIVERSITY, HAD GIVEN HIM THIS INFORMATION. THAO HAD ALSO TOLD [redacted] THAT GENERALS DUONG VAN MINH, MILITARY ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT, AND LE VAN KIM OF THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, WERE INVOLVED IN THE PLANS.

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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

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2. BRIGADIER GENERAL NGUYEN KHANH, COMMANDING GENERAL, II CORPS, WOULD MOVE ON HUE AT THE SAME TIME THAT THAO LAUNCHED HIS MOVE IN SAIGON, [redacted] ON 18 SEPTEMBER. [redacted] ALSO SAID THAT THAO WAS READY TO MOVE WITHIN A WEEK TO OVERTHROW DIEM.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE AMBASSADOR LODGE, USMACV (GENERAL HARKINS), CINCPAC PACAF ARPAC PACFLT.

END OF MESSAGE