

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

61/818

RAD

I.23820

FROM:

DATED: 18TH JULY, 1964.
1840

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

REC'D: 19TH JULY, 1964.
1059

2008 CONFIDENTIAL.

AID TO VIET-NAM.

1. DURING THE ANZUS COUNCIL MEETING RUSK SAID THAT THE R.V.N. HAD RECENTLY SENT LETTERS TO THE FOLLOWING THIRTY-THREE COUNTRIES ASKING FOR ASSISTANCE: -

ITALY, PHILIPPINES, KOREA, NETHERLANDS, UNITED KINGDOM, INDIA, CANADA, NORWAY, BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN, PORTUGAL, GREECE, PANAMA, DENMARK, CHINA, THAILAND, JAPAN, MALAYSIA, GERMANY, ARGENTINA, AUSTRIA, BRAZIL, SPAIN, TURKEY, IRAN, ISRAEL, VENEZUELA, COLUMBIA, LUXEMBOURGE, IRELAND, JORDAN, PAKISTAN.

2. THE MINISTER TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT HE WOULD HAVE EXAMINED IN CANBERRA THE QUESTION WHETHER AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN SUCH OF THE ABOVE COUNTRIES WHERE AUSTRALIA HAD REPRESENTATION COULD USEFULLY SUPPORT THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY THE R.V.N.

3. THE MINISTER WANTS THIS QUESTION EXAMINED QUICKLY SO THAT HE CAN CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK.

HIS THINKING IS THAT IF IT IS DECIDED THAT AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD SUPPORT THE R.V.N.'S REPRESENTATIONS, THOSE REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE INVITED TO CONCERT WITH THEIR AMERICAN COLLEAGUES UPON THE BEST WAY IN WHICH AUSTRALIA COULD GIVE HER SUPPORT.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE MINISTER IS PREPARED TO SEND PERSONAL MESSAGES TO HIS OPPOSITE NUMBERS IF THIS SHOULD APPEAR TO BE THE BEST COURSE TO ADOPT.

4. THE SECRETARY IS AWARE OF THE MINISTER'S THINKING AND HAS THE LIST OF COUNTRIES SET OUT ABOVE.

RENOUF.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

19TH JULY, 1964.

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1961/818 PART 2

Military aid for South Vietnam