5-5-72 to C.D.

K-tell D - we don't want to hit Soviet Ships. ask what Buchan would like - (give several)

~~Since my report [illegible]~~ 10 days ago - There have been new developments & a new decision to answer - designed to bring this long war to an end -

1. For 5 weeks with massive Soviet military equipment they have been attacking S.V. Nam.
2. there have been heavy casualties - ~~and~~ on both sides.
3. 15,000 civilians have been killed.
4. We have been helping by air & sea - limited to military targets only -

We have ~~had~~ ~~reopened~~ opened negotiations made new effort for negotiation.

~~Private~~ 1. 4 days in Moscow because Cuns come in -
2. Private talk - Public talk -

offered - ~~no~~
offered -

They ~~for~~ said no have flatly refused ~~in~~ to discuss - they say overthrow govt & impose Communist govt something they have not been able to do themselves.

Continuation risks U.S. forces.

This leaves us a hard choice:

1. To continue to bleed white
2. To get out - accept defeat - & impose surrender on people of S.V. Vn -

It is time to take steps to end the war -

1. Buy getting out?
2. Buy negotiation - failed - take two -
3. There is another way - to deny to involve, the wequanthy use to continue this war -

I am ordering blockade -

Mining limited to
bombing of mitchers
Targets only.

This will be ~~[illegible]~~ be ~~[illegible]~~ maintained until
- P.O.W.
Cum Fin.

Not directed against other countries.
all Soviet ships. Get out -
~~[illegible]~~ Enter only at their risk.

II

Tonight I am announcing the most
important decision of since becoming President.
~~I have decided to take the action~~
~~that no now is~~ The time has come
to take the strong action required to
end the war in Vet Nam -

~~For 10 da 5 on On~~ 5 weeks ago (Easter week end)
N. V. Nam launched a massive
invasion of S. V. Nam -
1. The S. V. Nam fight bravely -
2. Heavy casualties on both sides -
- Thousands of women & children killed
by brutal assault -
3. S. V. Nam ~~do with S. Nam do~~
~~do major groups~~ have met
assault on ground - bravely.
4. U.S. as I announced - role limited to air & naval
strikes.
We have launched an effort to end war at
conference table:
1. K to Moscow -
① Moscow showed retreat - but
(& Secret goes forward) Secret
grows & takes continue to pour in.
② We went back to conference table
Secret talks & public talks -
Everything offered -
Cease Fire deadline -
~~Thin~~ New election -
- Met them all with
insolence & insult.
~~2. They a~~ - They say - get out
- & get ~~thin to resign~~
Thin head - condition
- overthrow & imposition of Laurent gov't

We face hard-clear choice.

I want to end war -

① Withdraw 500,000 -

② Official total withdraw for reason fin & Pow -

They want to continue the war -

1. to Conquer S. Vi. Nam -
2. Endangering 60,000 [illegible] -

What do we do -? -

1. Get out -? -

① ~~[illegible]~~ Blood bath -

② Defeat - Surrender of 17,000,000 Allies to brutal Torture & murder of Int'l outlaws -

③ Defeat for U.S. - Leary friend would live in terror -

④ Encourage this kind of ~~[illegible]~~ Aggression all over world. Threat to Peace -

2. Negotiate - we prefer - they want -

3. They seek a military solution -

① We have shown restraint - unequalled - 50,000 pay price -

② But now they leave no choice.

We must end the war -

1. Get out - end the war lead to other war -

2. Negotiation they reject.

3. They demand Military solution. We must use ~~[illegible]~~ the military power fast except for Number one - to end the war.

We must deny the weapon of war to Int'l outlaws -

I have ordered blockade -
Mining of harbor -
Continued strike on Military only -
There are strong measures -
1. But when every leave no
choice strong measures ~~at~~ only
~~of~~ recourse
~~The Blockade is~~
Conclusion not directed against other nations
1. All ships allowed to leave -
2. None allowed to enter -
Lifted:
1. Return of P.O.W.s - (living ~~in~~ 6 years in filthy prison (violating all rules of Int'l Law
2. Intentionally surprised ~~Sense~~ fire -
3. We will ~~stop~~ ~~lift blockade~~
~~lift~~ lift blockade, stop bombing,
withdraw all Armies in 4 months
after all P.O.W.s - + Cease fire -

Killing
Must stop
Take weapons out
of hands of the killers.

We have been there 6 years.
1. Not seek to conquer U.V.Nam
no bases -
no territory -
- seek ~~to~~ peace by ~~do~~ enforcing
principle that ~~no~~ nation aggressive
against other will be ~~pu~~ punished -
Korea -
V. Nam -
Lets not let it happen again
2. Our action
1. To U.V.Nam - live in peace -
2. To other Nations - allies -
not directed against you -
- but to defend ourselves -
our men -
our allies

Soviet: Acts when in tanks threatened
We act

1. Difficult – ~~test~~:
   ① you help you allie.
   We help our Allie –
   But only for defense –
   – ~~test~~ a thrown Peace –
2. Predict – we can't act to
   defend our men –
   – same Soviet reacting – That
   is their choice – But ~~fut~~
   but ~~les~~ future of world
   is in our hands – let
   us not miss chance to
   seize amount for –

To Amer.

1. You want to end it. Cop here
   I want to end it.
   You want Peace –
   want Harmon – No defeat –
2. This is the way –
   I ask ~~up~~ for your support
   for this fateful claim to
   end this war & win that
   ~~thus~~ Kind of peace –