BY WIRE

TOP SECRET/EYES ONLY

FOR SECRETARY ROGERS

FROM The White House

Thought you might like to know President is thinking of announcing withdrawal of Third U.S. Marine Division at conclusion of Midway meeting June 9 (1st ARVN Division would replace Third U.S. Marine Division (22,000 men) commencing in July).

Bunker currently exploring this proposal with Thieu and has been cautioned on extremely close hold nature of proposal. President considers it desirable that public speculation prior to meeting focus on U.S.-GVN efforts to coordinate respective positions on President's speech and associated Paris negotiating positions.

From here your trip looks like great success.

Best regards,

Henry A. Kissinger
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