

[88/2/13]

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~~SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY~~

April 22, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Conveying Word to Hanoi of US Threat to Sanctuary Areas

Attached is a progress report from Director Helms on actions being taken to give the North Vietnamese leadership clear reason to believe that if Phnom Penh is attacked US forces will mount sharp attacks on enemy base camps in Cambodia. Director Helms states that:

- The general theme being planted is that North Vietnamese moves against Phnom Penh will provide an excuse for the US to accomplish a long-desired goal of clearing up the sanctuary problem by attacking VC/NVA forces from the rear.
- Great care has been taken to avoid raising North Vietnamese or Soviet suspicions of deception.



- Attempts will also be made to plant the story in the UN in the next day or two.
- Your Monday's statement on Vietnam will make the message more credible.
- The best possible support for the story's credibility would be the movement of US troops in South Vietnam to the immediate vicinity of the Cambodian Frontier.

Attachment

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DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526, Section 3.5

NLN 07-59/2 per sec 3.2(b)(1), 11/13/20
By AM NARA, Date 11/24/2010

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