

now. Giap has already bluntly warned Menon of his displeasure at Indian support and for this and other reasons Indians might react strongly against American repudiation of any article.

6. Nolting advised me today wire from Washington received June 21 indicates decision re method has been "definitely put on ice" and thinking appears now to be against "frontal assault" previously contemplated and more in line with paragraphs 3 and 5 of your telegram Y-337 June 14.

7. Re paragraph 2 your Y-337 June 14 we are unaware of any increase in MAAG military personnel as check of report of FDRT Saigon period May 6 to June 10 shows total of 280 incoming against 313 outgoing. However we have observed more USA military personnel than usual around Saigon and Cap St. Jacques. Of course this could merely mean internal redistribution.

[C.J.] WOODSWORTH

747.

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*Note de la Direction de l'Extrême-Orient  
pour le sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Far Eastern Division  
to Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

SECRET

[Ottawa], June 23, 1961

VIETNAM – MAAG INCREASE

Telegram No. 1991 from Washington (copy attached)† appears to relieve the worst of our fears concerning the possible effects of the proposed MAAG increases. It now seems certain that the United States have abandoned any intention to connect MAAG increases with a repudiation of specific articles of the Cease-fire Agreement. Moreover, the contemplated increases appear, at this stage at least, to be much smaller than we had once feared. (There now appear to be one hundred more MAAG advisers in Vietnam than the number of 685 that last year's decision of the Commission in effect authorized. The Commission is still considering the accuracy of 1956 and 1957 figures for movement of United States personnel into and out of Vietnam, and the Indians have so far consistently refused to discuss the figures for more recent years until the earlier record has been straightened. It therefore seems fair to say that this and some further increase, so long as it is not unduly large, and so long as the intention to exceed the allowed ceiling is not explicitly stated, could probably be undertaken without serious repercussions. The State Department officer with whom our Embassy talked stated that the number still to be sent to Vietnam "would not be large.")

2. From this it would appear that there is, for the present at any rate, no urgent reason for putting to the Americans the questions Miss Allen raised with you in a recent conversation, and that it would be difficult to do so on the evidence we now have of United States intentions. I suggest, therefore, that for the time being we defer raising these questions with the Minister, unless or until it appears that the United States is again changing its mind concerning the methods it intends to use to implement its decision. You will note that the Vietnamese have been asked not to publicize the MAAG increases and that the United States intends to consult the Indians directly about the proposed increased assistance.