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TO WHITE HOUSE (ATTN: MR. D. MCHANIS FOR SERIES CHECK)

TO P. S. E. C. R. E. T. UHBRA GAMMA CONTROLLED ITEM

TRANSMITTED HEREWITH IS: A SOUTH VIETNAMESE HESSAGE. NORMAL DISTRIBUTION FOR THIS MESSAGE IS IN THE GAMMA SERIES. PLEASE ADVISE IF ANY LINITATIONS OVER AND ABOVE EXISTING GAMMA RESTRICTIONS ARE REQUIRED. THIS MESSAGE WAS TRANSH— ITTED TO THE WHITE HOUSE ONLY. XXMHENPOIFOU73009 VIETNAMESE (SOUTH) CIPHER/ ----73 (USVNFA) GADDA AVS, KUS, LIT, AVN/BOVT, FORP-C, OPIN-Y/B, O. U.S. AMBASSADDR TO ROME REPORTEDLY TO SUCCEED BUNKER IN SAIGONS: KISSINGER REPORTEDLY APPREHENSIVE ABOUT POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS FAI-LURE, SURPRISED BY NIXON'S DEFENSE OF THIEU ER PARIS: DELEGATION; ((AMBASSADOR)) PHAM DANG LAM 9 JAN 73 1700 TO SAIGON: PRESIDENT'S OFFICE; ((PRESS SECRETARY)) HOANG DUC NHA IMMEDIATE DOTYPOVNCH/P/M SECRET. PLEASE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO PRESIDENT ((THIEU)). TO USE AS HE SEES FIT:

- 1. A FRIEND COMING FROM WASHINGTON, WELL KNOWN AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND KNOWN FOR HIS ANTI-COMMUNIST SENTIMENTS, REVEALED TO US THAT THE PRESENT U.S. AMBASSADOR TO ROME, GRAHAM MARTIN, (B VALURGED) TO SUCCEED U.S. AMBASSADOR ((ELLSWORTH)) BUNKER, HAS ACCEPTED PROVIDED THAT THE FUTURE PEACE AGREEMENT HOULD NOT PERMIT A COMMUNIST SETZURE OF SOUTH VIETNAM. ((PRESIDENT)) NIXON HAD REASSURED HIM, STATING THAT HE WILL NEVER ALLOW SUCH A POSSIBILITY TO TRANSPIRE, AMBASSADOR MARTIN WILL TAKE UP HIS NEW POST ONLY AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT, FOR AMBASSADOR BUNKER!S PRESENCE IN SALGON DURING THIS CRITICAL PERIOD IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY.
- 2. HURREY MARDER. A WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT PASSING THROUGH PARIS AT THE PRESHET TIME. DISCLOSED TO US IN ANOTHER CONNECTION THAT ((DR. HENRY A.)) KISSINGER, WHOM HE HAD SEEN SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE

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LEAVING WASHINGTON, SEEMED TO HIM ((TO BE)) RATHER DISTURBED. MARDER REMARKED THAT KISSINGER HAD LOST MUCH DE HIS CUSTOMARY ASSURANCE AND EVEN SHOWED GREAT APPREHENSION WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBLE RAILURE OF NEGOTIOATIONS WITH LE DUC THO. KISSINGER ALSO LET IT BE UNDERSTOOD THAT HE WAS SUPPRISED BY THE BEHAVIOR OF PRESTO-ENT NIXON, MUCH HAD ENERGETICALLY DEFENDED CERTAIN POINTS OF VIEW OF PRESTOENT ((THIED)).

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