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October 25, 1963

Check-List of Possible U.S. actions  
in Case of Coup

1. Evacuation of American dependents.
2. Movement of U.S. forces into positions outside Viet-Nam from which they can be readily dispatched to Viet-Nam, if the occasion arises, for:
  - a. Protecting Americans in Viet-Nam.
  - b. Removal of U.S. equipment from Viet-Nam.
  - c. Intervention into political struggle.
  - d. Stabilization of military situation vis-a-vis the Viet-Cong.
3. Inducement (financial, political or otherwise) to opportunists or recalcitrants to join in coup.
4. Cessation of all U.S. aid to Diem Government and announcement thereof.
5. Use U.S. facilities in Viet-Nam (military advisors, transport, communications, etc.) in support of coup group.
6. Political actions to point coup toward civilian government.
  - a. Discussions with military officers.
  - b. Protection of potential civilian heads of state and discussions with them.
7. Once coup group has seized power, rally promptly to its support with statements and assistance.

*JM*  
FE:JAMendenhall:aws

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5(b)  
Department of State Guidelines  
By MMK NARA, Date 3/21/97