

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

JAN 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ROY L. ASH

SUBJECT:

Additional 1975 Funds for Indochina

On January 15, you decided to request the Congress to take certain actions to increase fiscal 1975 funding for South Vietnam and Cambodia. The documents necessary to implement your request are attached.

Tab A. A proposed Presidential Message dealing with this entire package of proposals. This draft incorporates the views of State, Defense, NSC Staff, and OMB and has been approved by your speechwriters.

Tab B. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, which would authorize additional military assistance appropriations, eliminate the \$275 million ceiling on military assistance and permit increased P.L. 480 food aid for Cambodia. These authorization changes correspond to the proposed budget amendment and will provide maximum flexibility in meeting Cambodia's needs. The Departments of State and Defense and the NSC Staff concur in this draft bill.

Tab C. The standard letter to the Speaker of the House transmitting the \$300 million supplemental for military assistance for South Vietnam and a \$222 million budget amendment for military assistance for Cambodia. If approved, these requests will result in total military assistance program levels of \$1000 million for South Vietnam, the amount authorized, and \$497 million for Cambodia provided relief from the present authorization ceilings can also be attained. This supplemental and budget amendment are reflected in your 1976 Budget and should be signed immediately.

All concerned recommend that all of these documents be released immediately after the meeting with the congressional leadership on this matter.

Attachments