

# FREDERICK W. FLOTT

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### Background

- Chosen by Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge as his Special Assistant
- Acquainted with the Kennedys
- Lodge's distrust of State Department
- Ambassador Frederick Nolting and Lodge relations
- Diem government

### Concept of duties in Saigon

- Anti-Diem emigrant community
- Talking to the opposition
- Briefing the White House periodically
- "In house" counselor
- Relations with embassy political section
- Access to Vietnam officials
- Rotary Club

### Embassy operations and organization

- Internal disagreements by Agency
- Jocko Richardson (CIA) transfer
- Press relations and guidance
- Lodge Tokyo visit
- Meeting with Buddhists
- Joe Mendenhall
- Military vs. civilian war progress assessments
- General Krulak
- Rufus Phillips
- Lodge presents letters of credence
- General Harkins and Ambassador Lodge relations
- Embassy security (lack of)
- U.S. Marine guards

### Coup of 1963

- Lou Conein
- Coup rumors
- Diem and Nhu killed
- Larry Connel
- Diem asks Lodge about U.S. attitude toward coup
- Lodge's advice to Diem
- Diem rescue plan
- Conein reporting from coup headquarters
- Visit to palace

- Madam Nhu and family escort
- Cordial Cushing briefing
- Archbishop Thuc's hostility
- Madam Nhu's hostility
- Kennedy assassination

#### Revolutionary Military Council regime

- French embassy relations
- Embassy bombed
- U.S. support
- Duong Van Minh
- McNamara visit

#### Khan January coup

- Secrecy
- Lack of U.S. advisors
- Allegations against French
- French suspicion of U.S.
- French assessment of Vietnamese
- Dalat generals
- Christmas at Dalat
- Viet Cong and the French
- French charge Perruche
- Khan's policies
- Le Van Kim
- Personalities
- Ambassador Lodge returns
- Tran Van Don
- David Nes
- Lodge-Nes relations
- Lodge departure from Vietnam
- Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson
- General Maxwell Taylor
- "Cut-out-losses-and-get-out" speculation
- "Third Country Aid" program
- Israel and Soviet Jewry
- International aid to Vietnam
- President Johnson's pressure
- Pleiku incident - February 1965
- McGeorge Bundy

#### U.S. and foreign speaking tour

- Explaining Vietnam War in the U.S.
- Berkeley engagement
- Napalm issue
- Vice President Humphrey

1966-1969

European audiences