

Q. Mr. President, back to the question of troop reductions. Are any intended in the Far East at the present time, particularly in Korea, and is there any speedup in the withdrawal from Vietnam in--

A. As you know, when Secretary McNamara and General Taylor announced ~~XXXX~~ that we expect to withdraw 1,000 men from South Vietnam before the end of the year, and there's been some reference to that by General Harkins. If we are able to do that, that will be our schedule. I think the first unit, the first contingent, would be 250 men, who are not involved in what might be called frontline operations.

It would be our hope to lessen the number of Americans there by 1,000 as the training intensifies and is carried on in South Vietnam.

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As far as other units, we will have to make that judgement based on what the military correlation of forces may be. We are becoming increasingly mobile, as the Big Lift operation suggests.

(Talks a little about Big Lift.)