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News Release #68-103

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NEWS from Congressman CHARLES W. WHALEN, Jr.

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#68-103

June 10, 1968

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

Congressman Charles W. Whalen, Jr. (R-Ohio) has requested a House Armed Services Committee investigation of corruption and scandal in Vietnam as depicted in a recent Saturday Evening Post article by William J. Lederer.

Whalen, a member of the committee, asked for the investigation in a letter to Rep. L. Mendel Rivers, committee chairman.

The article was titled "Our Own Worst Enemy" and it appeared in the June 1 issue of the magazine. The piece is part of a forthcoming book.

Whalen said "I am deeply shocked and dismayed by Mr. Lederer's disclosures of corruption and scandal within the Saigon regime and frankly believe that we cannot continue to tolerate this abuse of our generosity."

Whalen said he believed all Americans, regardless of their views on the war, "wish to put an end to these ludicrous schemes which only add to our war cost."

The story cited instances of American war material falling directly into black market hands. It also gave examples of kickbacks and theft on a large scale within South Vietnam, resulting in extensive waste of U.S. funds.

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(A copy of Congressman Whalen's letter to Chairman Rivers is enclosed).

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DATE 10 June 68

NO. 103

RELEASE TOPIC CNN asks Armed Services Committee investigation of corruption scandal in Vietnam as per Sat Eve Post article.

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