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~~SECRET~~ 080105Z SEP 71 CITE PHNOM PENH 17176

18

DIRECTOR INFO SAIGON,

8 SEP

REF: DIRECTOR 177336*

1. EMB ^{ASS} RECEIVED FROM SAIGON AN INFO COPY OF MEMO WRITTEN BY MR. STEVEN WINSHIP IN POL/MIL SECTION SAIGON.

HE ¹ MET

7 WITH MR. PFIEFFER AND MR. WESTING ON 20 AUGUST.

IN BRIEF, MEMO SAYS PFIEFFER MONOPOLIZED 45 MINUTES OF CONVERSATION WITH DIA ^{LOU} ~~OR~~ LGE THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT HAD WILFULLY VIOLATED CAMBODIAN NEUTRALITY AS TYPIFIED BY HERBICIDE-SPRAYING INCIDENT IN SPRING 1969. SAID DEPT OF STATE HAD LIED TO HIM IN PAST ^T BUM THAT HIS MISSION WAS TO FIND TRUTH AND INFORM AMERICAN PEOPLE OF THE PART PLAYED BY CIA IN BRINGING DOWN SIHANOUK. HE SHOWED LETTER FROM SENATOR CHURCH IN WHICH WAS INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT AIR AMERICA RESPONSIBLE FOR CAMBODIAN DEFOLIATION. SAID SENATOR MANSFIELD NOW INTERESTED AND SPECULATED THAT SEVENTH AIR FORCE STUDY MENTIONED IN SENATOR CHURCH'S LETTER WILL CONFIRM SUBSTANCE THAT AIR AMERICA AND CIA DID THE JOB. PFIEFFER PRINCIPAL INTEREST WAS NOT IN

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09-Dec-2009

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PAGE 2 PHNOM PENH 17176 ~~SECRET~~

SETTLING CLAIM SUBMITTED BY CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT BUT TO FIX RESPONSIBILITY ON APPROPRIATE U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

2. REMAINDER OF MEMO COVERS OTHER NON-^PERTINENT SUBJECTS REGARDING ECOLOGICAL DAMAGE IN VIETNAM SUCH AS CONTROLS ON HERBICIDE "ORANGE," "ROME" PLOWING, HEAVY BOMBING, ETC. MR. PFIEFFER WANTS TO COME TO PHNOM PENH BUT AS OF THIS WRITING HAS NOT SHOWN. SINCE WINSHIP POINTED HIM TOWARDS MR. LADD WE WILL KEEP HQS INFORMED IF ANY CONTACT MADE. JUDGING FROM TENOR OF MEMO PROFESSORS PFIEFFER AND WESTING ARE UP-TIGHT ON THE ECOLOGICAL QUESTION AND THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM AND, AT THE DIRECTION OF SENAC^{TOR}~~ER~~ CHURCH, THEY ARE CONDUCTING A FULL STUDY OF THE INCIDENT AND EFFECTS OF DEFOLIATION QUESTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. PARAGRAPH 1 OF CHURCH LETTER STATES, "I HAVE BEEN TOLD HOWEVER THAT AIR AMERICA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CAMBODIAN DEFOLIATION. MY SOURCE WAS NOT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, BUT RATHER AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS IN A POSITION TO KNOW THE FACTS IN THIS MATTER." HENCE, THERE APPEARS LITTLE DOUBT THAT BOTH MEN ARE TARGETTED ON AIR

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PAGE 3 PHNOM PENH 17176 ~~SECRET~~

AMERICA. NO ONE AT THIS STATION RECALLS ANY SUCH
INVOLVEMENT. GP-1

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CS Comment: *Advised that Mr. Westing, Chairman Biology Department, Windham College and Mr. Pfeiffer, Professor of Zoology at the University of Montana had made visits to Vietnam in connection with an ecological review. Queried Stations if these men had come to their attention and ask for an assessment of their attitudes toward the defoliation problem and, specifically, whether or not either of them had targetted Air America.

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