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ACTION NO. 166 C/FE/WR4 C/FE/CA4 DDJ 2 CP/DS SAVA C/

OLC C/CA 3 C/FI2 EXDIR

~~SECRET~~ 071252Z SEP 71 CITE SAIGON 36889

DIRECTOR INFO [ ] PHNOM PENH

[ ] 7 SEP [ ]

REF: DIRECTOR 177336 X

1. AMBASSADOR BUNKER RECEIVED LETTER DATED 25 AUGUST 71 FROM MR. ARTHUR J. WESTING OF WINDHAM COLLEGE WHICH PRESUMABLY IS OF SAME TENOR AS LETTER SENT TO [ ] AND CITED REF. WESTING'S LETTER TO AMBASSADOR BUNKER MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. WESTING HAD FRUITFUL TIME IN SVN BECAUSE OF EXCELLENT COOPERATION FROM MACV AND LENGTHY CONVERSATIONS WITH TWO MEMBERS OF EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION.

B. WESTING GRATIFIED TO LEARN OF CESSATION IN MAY 71 OF USE OF HERBICIDES BY U.S. FORCES BUT DISQUIETING NOT TO BE ABLE TO FIND OUT EXTENT OF CURRENT HERBICIDE PROGRAM OF GVN AND ARVN.

C. WESTING'S MAJOR CONCERN IS FUTURE DISPOSITION OF 1.5 MILLION GALLONS OF AGENT ORANGE STILL IN SVN. WESTING HOPED AMBASSADOR BUNKER WILL ARRANGE TO HAVE THIS EITHER DESTROYED OR SHIPPED TO U.S.

D. WESTING ASKED IF AMBASSADOR WOULD CARE TO COMMENT

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
 DATE: 09-Dec-2009

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ON ALLEGATION OF SENATOR FRANK CHURCH THAT [ ] ATTACK  
 ON CAMBODIA IN SPRING OF 69 WAS CARRIED OUT BY [ ] AND  
 [ ] PRESUMABLY WITHOUT CONSENT OR EVEN KNOWLEDGE OF MACV  
 OR SEVENTH AIR FORCE.

2. EMBASSY CALLED STATION'S ATTENTION TO ABOVE LETTER AND  
 POLITICAL SECTION AND STATION COLLABORATED IN REPLY TO PARA 1 D  
 WHICH BEING SENT AS EMBTEL ON 7 SEPTEMBER.

B  
 3. WESTING AND PROFESSOR E.W. PFEIFFER VISITED SVN FROM  
 AOUT 10-21 AUGUST 1971 TRAVELING AS JOURNALISTS ACCREDITED TO  
 R  
 "ENVIRONMENT" AND "NATURAL HISTORY" MAGAZINES. PFEIFFER IS NO  
 LONGER IN SVN AND HE AND WESTING TRAVELED TO PHNOM PENH AFTER  
 LEAVING HERE.

4. NO ONE IN STATION WAS IN CONTACT WITH PFEIFFER OR WESTING  
 BUT THEY HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS. PFEIFFER  
 HAS AN AXE TO GRIND ON CAMBODIA AND WAS THE MORE VITRIOLIC OF THE  
 TWO. IN FIRST MEETING WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS HE MONOPOLIZED FIRST  
 45 MINUTES OF CONVERSATION WITH DIATRIBE CHARGING USG WITH <sup>WI</sup> ~~W~~ ALLFULLY  
 VIOLATING CAMBODIAN NEUTRALITY AS TYPIFIED BY HERBICIDE SPRAYING  
 INCIDENT IN SPRING 69. HE ALSO SAID HIS MISSION WAS TO FIND OUT  
 TRUTH AND REVEAL TO AMERICAN PEOPLE PART PLAYED BY [ ] IN

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BRINGING DOWN SIHANOUK REGIME. PFEIFFER CITED LETTER FROM SENATOR CHURCH WHICH INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT [ ] WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CAMBODIAN DEFOLIATION. PFEIFFER SAID HE HAD LEARNED OF [ ] RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CAMBODIAN DEFOLIATION OPERATIONS FROM OTHER SOURCES AND HE SPECULATED THAT SEVENTH AIR FORCE STUDY MENTIONED IN SENATOR CHURCH'S LETTER WOULD CONFIRM HIS SUSPICIONS THAT [ ] AND [ ] DID THE JOB. WHEN WESTING FINALLY GOT CHANCE TO SPEAK, HE RAISED ONLY THREE MATTERS OF CONCERN: ARVN CUSTODY OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF AGENT ORANGE; ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ROME PLOWING; AND DAMAGE CAUSED BY B-52 STRIKES AND INCREASING USE OF 15,000 POUND GIANT BOMBS.

5. RE PARA <sup>THREE REF</sup> 5#133 434, STATION INVESTIGATION REVEALED

FOLLOWING:

A. ACCORDING TO [ ] MANAGER IN SAIGON, [ ] WAS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY DEFOLIANT OPS IN CAMBODIA IN APRIL/MAY 61. FURTHERMORE, [ ] NEVER DROPPED DEFOLIANTS IN MR-3 SVN. ALSO, [ ] HAS ONLY ONE AIRCRAFT CONFIGURED FOR DEFOLIANT OPS AND THIS AIRCRAFT WAS IN LAOS IN SPRING 69.

B. ACCORDING TO SEVENTH AIR FORCE, NEITHER SEVENTH OR SEVENTH/THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE DROPPED DEFOLIANTS IN CAMBODIA

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IN APRIL/MAY 69. SEVENTH AIR FORCE SAID IT POSSIBLE THAT  
HERBICIDE DROPPED BY THEM IN MR-3 SVN NEAR CAMBODIAN BORDER  
MIGHT HAVE DRIFTED INTO CAMBODIA.

6. POUCHING COPIES OF MEMCONS AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RE  
THIS MATTER TO HQS ONLY. ONE MEMCON ON PFEIFFER/WESTING MEETING  
WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS POUCHED 30 AUGUST 71 VIA FVSA 36,495.

7. NO FILE.

C/S Comment: \* [ ] had received a letter from Mr. Arthur H. Westing,  
Chairman Biology Dept. Windham College, stating that he had  
learned indirectly through Senator Frank Church that [ ]  
was responsible "for the herbicidal attack on Kompong Cham  
Province, Cambodia in the spring of 1969."

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