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MFG. 1-72

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: MCCOY BOOK AND GENERAL QUAN RATHINKOUN

1. VIENTIANE DAILY XAT LAO OCTOBER 14 CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH FORMER FAR COMMANDER IN CHIEF AND PRESENT NA DEPUTY GENERAL QUAN RATHIKOU ON SUBJECT OF MCCOY BOOK AND HIS MEETING WITH MCCOY. EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT. GENERAL QUAN RATHIKOUN, DEPUTY FROM LUANG PRABANG AND RETIRED C-IN-C OF THE ROYAL LAO ARMED FORCES, DENIED A REPORT BY ALFRED MCCOY TO THE U.S. SENATE, IN WHICH HE SAID THAT AIR AMERICA IN LAOS AND THE CIA HAVE BEEN INVOLVED BY ALLOWING THEIR PLANES TO BE USED FOR OPIUM TRAFFIC IN LAOS. THE ACCUSATION WAS WRITTEN BY MCCOY IN A BOOK CALLED "POLITICS AND HEROIN IN S.E. ASIA." PARA

3. MCCOY SAID GENERAL QUAN HAD GIVEN HIM AN INTERVIEW FOR THREE HOURS CONCERNING OPIUM TRAFFIC IN LAOS. GENERAL QUAN ASSERTED THAT HE MET WITH MCCOY ONLY 30 MINUTES WHILE HE WAS DRINKING COFFEE AT THE HOTEL LANE XANG. PARA

4. THERE IS NO FOUNDATION TO THE CHARGE THAT AIR

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~~AMERICA PILOTS AND PLANES HAVE BEEN USED FOR OPIUM TRAFFIC, BECAUSE OPIUM TRAFFICKERS HAVE THEIR OWN PLANES FOR TRAFFICKING SUCH AS THE "VIENTIANE AIR TRANSPORTATION COMPANY."~~ PARA

5. GENERAL QUAN ALSO INDICATED THAT THE CHARGE THAT OPIUM HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED TO TON SON NHUT AIRPORT IS A MISUNDERSTANDING, BECAUSE IN FACT, TRAFFICKERS USED TO TRANSPORT OPIUM TO THE SEA, THEY WOULD NOT SEND IT TO ANY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. PARA

6. IN CONCLUSION, GENERAL QUAN SAID HE AGREES AND SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THE NARCOTICS LAW.
END TEXT, GODLEY

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