

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

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ALFRED MC COY'S BOOK

JOHN ROLLAND: Alfred McCoy has written a book accusing the CIA of aiding narcotics traffic in southeast Asia for political reasons and using their Air America Airlines for that purpose. As we reported Monday, after our interview with McCoy, the CIA General Counsel denies those charges.

Well, now, analyst Dr. Martin Abend has learned from Congressional sources that the CIA may not be revealing the full story.

MARTIN ABEND: A report put out by a special study mission of the House Foreign Affairs Committee approximately a year ago comments very much indeed on the traffic in Southeast Asia, the heroin traffic and what and who are involved in it. The most comprehensive study and it isn't alleging, it is stating ipso facto that that these things exist.

On page twenty-one I am quoting from this study by Congress: heroin has also been smuggled in Air America aircraft et cetera. This presentation was made to Mr. Valtrie(?) of Air America today by myself. He categorically denied it, saying that Air America has never been involved in such traffic, that it is, in fact, slanderous.

I questioned him as to the number of natives employed by Air America. These are some eighty-five hundred in total. These natives are surely involved, he conceded, to some extent in this traffic. And from time to time they have apprehended various individuals carrying small amounts of drugs on Air America aircraft. However, he denied that Air America itself could have ever been involved and would not tolerate such traffic. He denied again that the Congressional Report was in any way correct.

One must add, by the by that the Nixon Administration has denied that from Southeast Asia there comes much heroin.

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Again, the Narcotics Bureau of the Justice Department contradicted, stating that the flow is considerable and increasing all the while.

The point again and again should be made concerning heroin traffic, Southeast Asia and American agencies and that's it, that it's next to impossible to control the growing the poppies. This can be done from Iran clear through to Japan. Secondly, that official corruption is rife. It's on a level which is probably staggering. Third, the reason for this corruption and the reason for the fact that it's so difficult to control this traffic is there are tremendous profits involved, making it almost impossible to keep individuals from engaging in this matter.