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~~SECRET~~ 070808Z FEB 73 STAFF

CITE VIENTIANE 66883  ACTING)

TO:  INFO DIRECTOR,

ADMIN  AIRMAN.

1. IN RECENT DAYS THE ENEMY HAS MARKEDLY INTENSIFIED THE TEMPO OF MILITARY ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT LAOS IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A FINAL SURGE TO ACQUIRE REAL ESTATE AND IMPROVE BARGAINING POSITION IN CURRENT CEASE FIRE NEGOTIATIONS. IN VIEW THE RAPIDLY DETERIORATING SITUATION, ALL AVAILABLE FORCES ARE BEING BROUGHT TO BEAR TO COUNTER THE ENEMY THRUST. SHORT TERM DEMANDS FOR VITAL AIRLIFT SUPPORT BY THE CONTRACTORS ARE EXCEEDING ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS BY A CONSIDERABLE FACTOR. IN EMERGENCIES, TO PRECLUDE LOSS OF LIFE OR PROPERTY, AIR CREWS MAY BE REQUIRED TO FLY IN EXCESS OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED  FLIGHT TIME LIMITATION WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE 1 FEBRUARY 1973. WHILE STATION IS EXERTING EVERY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE AIRLIFT UNDER PRESENT UNPREDICTABLE CONDITIONS, ALL TOO FREQUENTLY ENEMY ACTIONS CANNOT BE ANTICIPATED. THIS PLACES EXCEPTIONAL BURDEN ON CREW AND MAINTENANCE SCHEDULING BY CONTRACTORS WHICH IS WELL RECOGNIZED BUT IS UNAVOIDABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
 DATE: 11-Dec-2009

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PAGE 2 VIENTIANE 66883 ~~SECRET~~

2. ACCORDINGLY, FOR THE HOPEFULLY BRIEF PERIOD REMAINING BEFORE A DE FACTO CEASE FIRE IS ACHIEVED IN LAOS, IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE NEED FOR DEVIATIONS FROM [ ] FLIGHT TIME LIMITATIONS BE RECOGNIZED AND THAT THE DELEGATED EMERGENCY AUTHORITY PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 5.10 OF THE [ ] OPERATORS-SEA MANUAL BE EXERCISED AT LOCAL LEVEL WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY WHEN REQUIRED BY CUSTOMER. IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH FULL COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN STATION AIROPS AND [ ] SCHEDULING PERSONNEL OCCASIONS WHERE DEVIATIONS ARE REQUIRED CAN BE HELD TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. E2 IMPDET

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