

C O P Y

1.002DEPARTMENT OF STATE
The Under Secretary~~SECRET~~

May 7, 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. George E. Aurell

Subject: CAT Role in Indochina

RETURN TO
FE/6/AIR

It will be appreciated if you will have transmitted the following telegram:

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

"Priority. Personal for General Smith from Murphy and Berry.

"Possibility of CAT air operations in Indochina on French contract again raises question of use of Chinese air crews and ground maintenance as well as whether CAT aircraft with Chinat markings should be employed.

"Embassy Saigon states French military agree use of Chinese air crews and recommends use of Chinese be permitted provided they not Nationalist Chinese from Formosa. CIA states O'Daniel concurs use Chinese air crews. No indication Saigon views regarding Chinese in ground crews.

"FE and EUR Bureaus believe French should determine whether permit use of Chinese of whatever origin and consider important that CAT planes employed in Indochina bear markings other than Chinese. CIA has already requested CAT explore possibility change markings. Department asking CIA instruct CAT obtain views competent French political authority Saigon on use Chinese.

"Request your views."

In accordance with the penultimate paragraph of the foregoing telegram it will be appreciated if you will instruct CAT to obtain the views of the competent French political authority in Saigon regarding use of Chinese personnel both as air crews and for ground maintenance.

/s/ Lampton Berry
Deputy Operations Coordinator

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