

/LIAISON #5/CH/G

D R A E T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Washington 25, D. C.

Assistant Professor Joel Halpern
Department of Anthropology
and Sociology
University of California
Los Angeles 24, California

Dear Professor Halpern:

Your monograph, America and Laos: Two Views of Political Strategy and Technical Assistance, was received and reviewed with interest by this office. In our work it is important to understand the basic physical and cultural setting in which foreign activities take place. Consequently, it is gratifying to note your appreciation of the vital importance of ethnic and sociological factors in the development of Laos.

Our responsibility for analysis of assistance programs to underdeveloped areas is, of course, limited to non-U.S. programs, with emphasis on those of the Sino-Soviet Bloc. Analyses of American and other Free World aid programs are valuable, however, for illuminating the differences in the Communist approach to the same or similar situations.

We are pleased to learn of your forthcoming book on the Peoples of Laos and shall look forward to receiving it as well as the additional series of monographs on Laotian political and economic problems as they become available.

Sincerely,

Otto E. Guthe
Assistant Director

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