

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

File: Congressional Relat

DDI-2142-69

TO : O/DD/I
ATTN :
FROM : DD/OER

DATE: 23 July 69

SUBJECT: Congressional Use of Shipping Data

1. The attached has been sent up as a recent example of Congressional releases on shipping to North Vietnam. This press release from the Office of Congressman Chamberlain is one of a series that he has been issuing for sometime and the data on numbers of free world arrivals and their flags is accurate.

2. The release was sent up with a comment indicating that we should try to put a stop to this because the shipping data cannot be fully substantiated from unclassified data. I think it is a little late in the game. It has been going on much too long and would undoubtedly arouse an inordinate amount of Congressional ire. In any event, the release of the data in this form doesn't seem to really compromise any of our sensitive sources,

Finally, I would note that the primary responsibility for ship movements does rest with DOD, and as long as it is DIA that is furnishing the data there doesn't seem to be much room for us to exercise leverage.

PAUL V. WALSH

Attachment:

Article re "Congressman Chamberlain Reports Decline in Free World Shipping to North Vietnam"

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CONFIDENTIAL

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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