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PBS/FILE
SECRET

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

4 June 1954

2003

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

SUBJECT: Concern Over Agency Air Activity

EYES ONLY

REFERENCES: A. [] 648 (IN 14177)
B. LINC 3477 (IN 14287)

1. Reference A informs the Director of the concern of the Senior Representative, [] and the Director of Intelligence, [] over the air operations in the area, specifically, the unmarked aircraft and the frequency of operation.

2. Reference B advises [] of the contents of Reference A, comments on the matter, and requests that [] investigate the report. Lincoln states that although all cargo is now in position, a few flights will be made which are vital, and that the report should be clarified soonest as the planes will be based at []

3. This office is in complete agreement with the statements contained in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 of Reference B.

4. It is felt that while it is probably true that there has been comment by the local people in [] regarding both the frequency of the flights and the operation of unmarked aircraft, there is no great reason to become alarmed. Further, an unmarked aircraft which is sterile cannot be proven to belong to any specific country.

5. It is not understood why the report of the yellow alerts would cause concern, even if true, as a yellow alert only indicates an unidentified aircraft and is almost a daily occurrence around Washington. In addition, an exit-entry procedure for the [] was worked out with the appropriate people prior to the start of operations in [] and has been in use since that time. Incidentally, the Senior Representative [] and the Director of Intelligence, [] are not the appropriate authorities. This procedure is contained in attachment to dispatch, HULA-450.

6. In summation, it may be said that while reports of this nature are undesirable, the possibility of such are taken into consideration in the planning of an operation of this magnitude and in this instance there is no indication to cause undue alarm unless [] investigation uncovers unreported information.

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Air Operations Branch
Air-Maritime Division