

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

February 12, 1970

SECRET/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Air Drops of Foodstuffs and Material Goods in Laos

You have asked for a report outlining modus operandi and other pertinent information relative to the air drops of foodstuffs and material goods in Laos.

At Tab A is a memorandum prepared by CIA on this subject. You will notice that the flights are carried out by two air carriers, Air America, Inc. and Continental Air Services, Inc., which are contracted to our AID Mission in Laos but which are basically a CIA operation. (Air America is a proprietary activity of CIA; Continental Air Service is an independent company with a contractual relationship to CIA.) AID controls the distribution of food, which is dropped by free fall in locations where aircraft cannot land, but landed and distributed to the consumers at larger sites where airstrips exist. A variety of short takeoff and landing aircraft are used, including C-46s, C-123s, C-7As, and "Porters". The American civilian pilots who fly these aircraft are described as having accumulated a vast knowledge of the terrain in Laos which is of critical importance to the success of this operation.

25X1

Atts.

SECRET/SENSITIVE

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

HK
Sounds like a good operation -
Unless the amount of goods
is less than the obviously
the program

MORI/CDF
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