

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 9, 1961

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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

At a meeting in the Cabinet Room on March 9, 1961, on the general subject of Southeast Asia, the President authorized the following actions:

1. An increase in MEOs from 3000 to 4000 by April 1. (CIA)
2. Defense Department to supply 16 H-34 helicopters to CIA for CAT use.
3. Defense Department to select [] 16 helicopter pilots. [A]
4. More maintenance and base support personnel for helicopters (300) (with consent of Thai government).
5. Defense Department to make available to CAT, appropriately marked, 4 C-130s. (On Okinawa or Taiwan)
6. CIA to supply 4 C-130 crews. (U.S. civilian plus ChiNat.)
7. CIA to make available 1 C-47 and 3 DC-4s, with crews.
8. In case of urgent supply requirements, USAF aircraft may resume delivery direct to Vientiane (C-130).
9. Negotiate with Sarit for immediate availability [] [A]
10. PEO personnel will be augmented by approximately 100 officers and men, and the JUSMAAG personnel in Thailand by approximately 100.
11. Defense to make available 8 B-26s, plus necessary spares (at Okinawa).
12. Defense Department to supply 16 sanitized B-26 crews to CIA.

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13. CIA is authorized to recruit non-U.S., non-ChiNat crews for B-26 and transport aircraft.

14. The Department of State will draft for the President's approval a message to Ambassador Brown giving the sense and meaning of the present steps.

15. General Boyle will go to work on Phoumi to lift the quality of FAL military leadership.

16. CIA is authorized to commit additional helicopters as obtained.

17. CIA is authorized to commit additional transport aircraft as obtained.

W. A. Lawrence

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RG 218 Records of the Joints Chiefs of Staff

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