

CIA REVIEWED 31-May-2007: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

USAF REVIEWED 20-Apr-2007: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

REFER TO CIA

16th Ind.

NS/dp

Major Nicol Smith, OSS, Washington, D. C., 6 June 1945.
To The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, 25, D.C.

The Free Thai forces, to whom Major Nicol Smith turned over Document SIGRED-2, registered number 2688, in the person of Lt. Nick, Chief radio operator for the Szemao station, were OSS personnel taken by Major Smith from Washington to the South China jungles. Lt. Nick and the other Free Thai officers at Szemao had been recruited and trained by the OSS in the United States, and were operating in Asia through Joint Chief of Staff approval.

The 14th Air Force asked Major Smith, as a favor, to have his Free Thai radio operators send in reports to Kunming regarding the amounts and totals of drums of gasoline being delivered at the field in Szemao, until 14th Air Force personnel could be made available for this purpose.

Major Smith took Lt. Nick to the Communications Section 14th Air Force, where he was briefed on what was required from Szemao in regard to the gasoline drums. It was clearly understood that Major Smith was remaining in Kunming until after 14th Air Force personnel could reach that station, and that though he was signing for the document, he was immediately turning it over to Lt. Nick, which he did in the presence of the 14th Air Force officers in the Communications Section.

In reference to paragraph 1, 12th indorsement, Major Smith states that if no person can be found at the 14th Air Force Headquarters who had any understanding with him that the document would be turned over to Lt. Nick, it must mean that all personnel cognizant of the transaction in January 1944 have subsequently been transferred out of that Hqs. In regard to the statement "Personnel in this Headquarters at the present time understand that the document would be held by Major Smith until personnel arrived at Szemao from this Headquarters", your attention is invited to paragraph three above.

NICOL SMITH
Major, AUS