

Administrative Files

Airlifts

C/ADM 1420/6/2 - Routes, Modes, and Rates of Travel - AIRCRAFT TRAFFIC CONTROL

30/01/1961 - 30/01/1961

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IN THE CONGO

INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

C/Adm 420/6/2

30 January 1961

TO : Ambassador Rajeshwar Dayal, Special Representative to the Secretary-General

FROM : F. C. Nwokedi, Chief Assistant to the Special Representative

SUBJECT : Your query regarding the airlift of evacuees from Kamina to Luluabourg

I have discussed this with Commodore Chapman, who knows nothing about the authorization for the use of aircraft for evacuating workers from Kamina. I have cabled Wright for full information.

We presume here that Mr. Wright and Col. Roy, the Base Commander, probably took advantage of the food lift which has involved a considerable amount of landings at Kamina, which is being used as a food depot and refueling centre by several aircraft.

At my request, Commodore Chapman has reexamined the whole situation about the airlift of workers from Kamina. He is now in a position to place two or three aircraft at Mr. Wright's disposal for ten days commencing tomorrow. Each aircraft can airlift approximately 50 workers, and with two trips per day, it should be possible to airlift 200 to 300 persons a day, depending on weather and loading and unloading ~~difficulties~~ *facilities*.

This will not affect the air requirements as we see them right now, however if military emergencies were to arise, we might have to withdraw these aircraft.

In view of the continued pressure from Kamina arising from the worsening labour situation at the base, I recommend that you authorize the airlift. We will pursue vigorously the question of moving the bulk of workers and their families by train as soon as the railways become useable.

cc: Air Commodore Chapman

*Agreed by
Mr. Dayal if
no additional costs
are involved.
ms
20/1*