

Ed Daly's Bitter Message to Ford

Ed Daly, the swashbuckling president of World Airways, sent a bitter message to President Gerald Ford yesterday protesting the cancellation of his airline's contract to fly food to Cambodia.

"There is no wonder that the peoples of the world have lost their confidence in the U.S. government and its people," read the message from Saigon, released yesterday at the charter airline's Oakland headquarters.

Daly is the pistol-toting, beret-wearing executive who last week personally cut Saigon red tape and started the airborne evacuation of Vietnamese orphans.

In his message, Daly noted that the cancellation came only hours after he

predicted that Saigon would fall.

His firm, Daly said, "has over \$22 million worth of in-flight equipment currently on the ground in Saigon plus cockpit and cabin crews." He said the contract termination left his company without insurance coverage, without "compensation for its airlift capacity" and without any guarantee of the safety of the equipment or its crews by your administration.

"Mr. President, I strongly urge that you get the incompetents out of here immediately and appoint someone with the intelligence, competency and the guts necessary to get the job done.

"You don't have days or weeks—you only have minutes."