

E6

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

<<<<. >>>>
SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 41811 01 OF 03 041254Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SS-10 SSO-01 ONY-00 /024 W
-----023330 041259Z /42

O 041243Z AUG 83
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8778

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 BANGKOK 41811

~~SECRET~~
STADIS //

RELEASED IN FULL

EA ONLY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PARM, TH, LA, CB, AMGT
SUBJECT: INTERAGENCY CBW INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

REFS. A. BANGKOK 38113, B. BANGKOK 23140

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERAGENCY UNIT TO INVESTIGATE CBW USE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES THE EMBASSY'S CONCEPT OF HOW SUCH A UNIT MIGHT BE STRUCTURED AND FUNCTION. WE ENVISION A UNIT OF THREE OFFICERS HEADED BY A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER. IT WOULD ALSO INCLUDE A MILITARY OFFICER WITH A BACKGROUND IN CBW AND A MILITARY PHYSICIAN ABLE TO TREAT AND DIAGNOSE CBW VICTIMS. AN AMERICAN PIT WOULD PROVIDE CLERICAL SUPPORT. THE EMBASSY WILL REQUIRE FUNDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.
END SUMMARY.

3. WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS ALLEGING CHEMICAL ATTACKS IN INDOCHINA (REF A), AND JOURNALISTS HAVE AGAIN QUESTIONED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE USG IN INVESTIGATING THE YELLOW RAIN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 41811 01 OF 03 041254Z

ISSUE BY POINTING OUT THE LACK OF RESOURCES INVESTED BY THE USG IN RESEARCH EFFORTS (FOR EXAMPLE, THE RECENT WSJ ARTI-

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: PAUL F. GARDNER
DATE/CASE ID: 8 SEP 2000 200000450

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

CLE BY BARRY WAIN). WE HOPE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOW BE ABLE TO PROCEED IN A TIMELY FASHION TO ESTABLISH A UNIT IN BANGKOK TO INVESTIGATE YELLOW RAIN ON A FULL-TIME BASIS. THE DEPARTURE OF LT. COLONEL DENNY LANE, WHO WAS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE AND DYNAMIC RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY, MAKES THE NEED ALL THE MORE CRITICAL AT THIS TIME TO MOVE FORWARD.

4. TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS UNIT, THE PARAGRAPHS WHICH FOLLOW DESCRIBE OUR CONCEPT OF THE MAKE-UP AND FUNCTIONS OF AN INTERAGENCY CBW INVESTIGATIVE UNIT.

CONCEPT OF THE UNIT

5. WE ENVISION AN INTERAGENCY UNIT CAPABLE OF COLLECTING AND EVALUATING TECHNICAL/SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE. IT WOULD BE ABLE TO INTERVIEW AND TECHNICALLY EVALUATE CLAIMS OF ALLEGED VICTIMS AND PURSUE LINES OF INQUIRY WHICH OUR PRESENT LACK OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE INHIBITS. THE TEAM WOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO ASSESS THAI CAPABILITIES IN THIS FIELD AND DEVELOP WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT WORK WITH THE RTG. IT WOULD HAVE THE RESOURCES TO INITIALLY SCREEN AND EVALUATE REPORTS OF ALLEGED CHEMICAL ATTACKS ON A TIMELY BASIS AND WITH A THOROUGHNESS WHICH IS PRECLUDED BY THE PRESENT LACK OF USG RESOURCES ON THE SCENE.

6. THESE REQUIREMENTS NECESSITATE THE EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERIENCE AND A HIGH LEVEL OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. A UNIT CONSISTING OF THREE PERSONS PLUS LOCALLY HIRED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WOULD

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BANGKO 41811 01 OF 03 041254Z

BE SUFFICIENT TO ACCOMPLISH THESE OBJECTIVES. THE TEAM WOULD BE BASED IN BANGKOK, BUT WOULD SPEND A LARGE PROPORTION OF ITS TIME ON THE LAO AND KAMPUCHEAN BORDERS CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS, COLLECTING SAMPLES AND MAKING OR ARRANGING MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS. THE UNIT WOULD BE HEADED BY A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER PREFERABLY WITH EXPERIENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. IT WOULD ALSO INCLUDE A MILITARY PHYSICIAN, A MILITARY OFFICER WITH A BACKGROUND IN CBW AND ONE LOCALLY HIRED AMERICAN PIT CLERK. THE TEAM WOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY LOCALLY HIRED INTERPRETERS WHERE NECESSARY.

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

Page: 3

Channel: n/a

7. THE TEAM SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO BANGKOK FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR AFTER WHICH THE PROJECT WOULD BE REVIEWED BY WASHINGTON AND THE POST. THE REVIEW WOULD EVALUATE RESOURCES AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT. THE REVIEW WOULD RECOMMEND AT THAT TIME WHETHER TO CURTAIL OR EXTEND THE TEAM'S ACTIVITIES AND AUGMENT OR DECREASE STAFFING.

CHIEF OF SECTION

8. IDEALLY, THE UNIT CHIEF WOULD BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER AT THE FS-1 OR FS-2 LEVEL WITH EXPERIENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, A BACKGROUND IN BIO-CHEMISTRY AND MILITARY SERVICE. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE LIKELY PAUCITY OF OFFICERS WITH ALL THESE QUALIFICATIONS, PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN EXPERIENCE, PREFERABLY IN THAILAND OR LAOS, AND THE ABILITY TO SPEAK THAI, LAO, KHMER OR VIETNAMESE. THE UNIT CHIEF WOULD BE A MEMBER OF THE COUNTRY TEAM OPERATING

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 41811 02 OF 03 041256Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SS-10 SSO-01 ONY-00 /024 W
-----023352 041306Z /51

O 041243Z AUG 83
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8779

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 BANGKOK 41811

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EA ONLY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PARM, TH, LA, CB, AMGT
SUBJECT: INTERAGENCY CBW INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE AMBASSADOR. HE THEREFORE SHOULD HAVE A BROAD POLICY SENSE. THE OFFICER WOULD PLAN HIS UNIT'S WORK AND CONDUCT LIAISON WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND OTHER EMBASSIES. HE WOULD ENSURE A COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

Page: 4
Channel: n/a

THE RTG, AND FACILITATE INFORMATION-SHARING WITH THE THAI AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. HE WOULD BE THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR PRIVATE AND INTERNATIONAL CBW INVESTIGATIVE PROJECTS AND SERVE AS CONTROL OFFICER FOR VISITING AMERICAN OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN CBW. HE WOULD REPORT THROUGH THE AMBASSADOR.

9. THE OFFICER WOULD SUPERVISE THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INTERAGENCY UNIT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DCM. HE WOULD COORDINATE AMONG OTHER AGENCIES IN THE MISSION TO PREVENT DUPLICATION OF EFFORT AND ENSURE THAT ALL POTENTIAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ARE COVERED. BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL SENSITIVITY OF THE CBW QUESTION, THE EMBASSY WISHES TO REVIEW CANDIDATES FOR THIS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 41811 02 OF 03 041256Z

POSITION.

CHEMICAL WARFARE ANALYSIS OFFICER

10. AN OFFICER FROM THE U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL CORPS AT APPROXIMATELY THE LIEUTENANT COLONEL LEVEL WOULD BE THE SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER. THE OFFICER WOULD HAVE AN EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND IN BOTH CBW ANALYSIS AND PROTECTION. IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF THIS OFFICER SPOKE THAI, INASMUCH AS MUCH OF THE WORK IN THIS FIELD WOULD INVOLVE DEALING WITH RTA AND RTMC OFFICERS WHOSE ENGLISH WOULD BE LIMITED.

11. THE OFFICER AND THE PHYSICIAN ATTACHED WOULD WORK AS A TEAM, COLLECTING CHEMICAL SAMPLES, INTERVIEWING VICTIMS AND WITNESSES, AND INVESTIGATING REPORTS OF ALLEGED CHEMICAL ATTACKS. THE WORK WOULD INVOLVE A GREAT DEAL OF TRAVEL ALONG THE KAMPUCHEAN AND LAO BORDERS FOLLOWING UP REPORTS OF CHEMICAL ATTACKS. THEY WOULD NECESSARILY NEED TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM THE OTHER'S DUTIES TO A CERTAIN DEGREE WHEN REPORTS ARE RECEIVED SIMULTANEOUSLY OF ATTACKS ON BOTH THE LAO AND KAMPUCHEAN BORDERS.

12. THE MILITARY OFFICER WOULD ALSO ASSIST THE TRAINING OF THE RTA AND RTMC IN CHEMICAL WARFARE DEFENSIVE MEASURES AS NEEDED AND REQUESTED BY RTG AUTHORITIES, AND IN COORDINATION WITH JUSMAG. THE TEAM SHOULD HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO EVALUATE RTG ANALYTICAL CAPABILITIES AND HELP ADVISE THE THAI IN SETTING UP THEIR ANALYTICAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAM

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

Page: 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

Page: 5
Channel: n/a

PHYSICIAN

13. THE UNIT SHOULD INCLUDE A MILITARY PHYSICIAN TRAINED
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BANGKO 41811 02 OF 03 041256Z

IN TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF CHEMICAL VICTIMS. HE
WOULD DRAW BLOOD SAMPLES AND CONDUCT MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS
AND INTERVIEWS OF ALLEGED VICTIMS. REFUGEE POPULATIONS
WOULD BE MUCH MORE RECEPTIVE AND COOPERATIVE IF THE
PHYSICIAN WERE ABLE TO TREAT THE CHEMICAL WARFARE SYMPTOMS.

14. THE DOCTOR COULD PROVIDE ADVICE AND TRAINING TO MEDI-
CAL PERSONNEL AMONG THE REFUGEES IN DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT
AND BLOOD COLLECTION OF CBW VICTIMS.

CLERK

15. THE UNIT SHOULD ALSO EMPLOY ONE AMERICAN CLERICAL PIT
WHO SHOULD ALSO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS IN THE PREPARATION
OF SAMPLES, INCLUDING BLOOD, FOR SHIPMENT BACK TO THE
UNITED STATES FOR ANALYSIS. THIS PERSON COULD BE HIRED
LOCALLY.

INTERPRETERS

16. WHENEVER POSSIBLE, THE UNIT SHOULD BE PROFICIENT IN
LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY VICTIMS BECAUSE INTERMEDIARIES TEND
TO COLOR THE RESPONSES GIVEN BY INTERVIEWEES. HOWEVER,
DUE TO THE VARIOUS LANGUAGES INVOLVED, IT WILL PROBABLY
NOT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE THE TEAM MEMBERS COMPETENT IN
ALL THE LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY CBW TARGET GROUPS. THEREFORE,
IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HIRE INTERPRETERS LOCALLY.

17. THE EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE
UNIT WITHOUT ANY INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL.
SINCE NO FUNDS FOR THE UNIT WERE INCLUDED IN THE POST'S

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 41811 03 OF 03 041256Z
ACTION EA-12

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

Page: 5

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~
Current Handling: ONLY, STADIS
Document Number: 1983BANGKO41811

Page: 6
Channel: n/a

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SS-10 SSO-01 ONY-00 /024 W
-----023357 041304Z /42

O 041243Z AUG 83
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8780

S E C R E T SECTION 03 OF 03 BANGKOK 41811

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EA ONLY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PARM, TH, LA, CB, AMGT
SUBJECT: INTERAGENCY CBW INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

FY 1984 FIELD BUDGET ESTIMATES, WE WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS OF FUNDS FOR LEASED HOUSING, OFFICE SPACE, ACQUISITION OF OFFICE AND HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, VEHICLE PROCUREMENT, INTERPRETERS, AND AMERICAN PIT CLERICAL SERVICES, AND FIELD TRAVEL COSTS. JUSMAG MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE.

-
18. IN ORDER TO PREPARE REALISTIC FUNDING ESTIMATES, POST SHOULD BE INFORMED AS TO WHAT SUPPORT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL, I.E., WILL EMBASSY HAVE TO PAY MILITARY ALLOWANCES, HOUSING, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, FIELD TRAVEL, OR ASSIGNMENT TRAVEL FOR THEM? POST ALSO REQUIRES DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON TIMING ASSUMPTIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIT IN BANGKOK AND ETA'S OF ITS PERSONNEL.

-
DEAN

SECRET

NNN

Current Class: ~~SECRET~~

Page: 6