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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 EA-10 DODE-00  
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R 220935Z OCT 83  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7119 .

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EO 12356: NA  
TAGS: PARM, TH  
SUBJECT: EMBASSY'S NEW CBW UNIT BEGINS OPERATION

1. ACTION REQUESTED: CLARIFICATION OF THE PRIMARY ACTION OFFICE FOR CBW MATTERS IN WASHINGTON.
2. THE EMBASSY'S NEW CBW INVESTIGATIONS UNIT BEGAN OPERATION ON OCTOBER 17, 1983. POST LOOKS FORWARD TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE MILITARY COMPONENT OF THE UNIT, WHICH WILL FURTHER ENHANCE OUR CAPABILITY IN THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT.
3. DURING AN OCTOBER 19 CALL, THE AMBASSADOR BRIEFED SUPREME COMMANDER AND RTA COMMANDER IN CHIEF GENERAL ATHIT ON THE FORMATION OF THE NEW UNIT AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE THAI ARMED FORCES WOULD COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THE UNIT ON CBW MATTERS. FOR HIS PART, GENERAL ATHIT DISPLAYED INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT AND ASKED WHETHER THE UNIT WOULD HAVE LABORATORY SUPPORT.
4. DAO IS SENDING A SEPARATE MESSAGE TO DIA DESIGNED TO CLARIFY THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN DAO AND THE NEW UNIT ON THE CBW ISSUE. WE EXPECT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEW UNIT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH DAO AND ALL OTHER MISSION ELEMENTS TO BE SMOOTH AND COOPERATIVE.

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5. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE EMBASSY'S CBW UNIT WILL BE COMPOSED OF BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL, AND THAT THE MISSION'S TOTAL COLLECTION EFFORT WILL INVOLVE OTHER AGENCIES AS WELL, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF HOW SUPPORT FOR THE UNIT WILL BE ORGANIZED IN WASHINGTON. PAST EXPERIENCE WOULD SUGGEST THE NEED FOR A PRIMARY ACTION OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, IF ONE HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN DESIGNATED.  
DEAN

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