



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION PM-08

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 EB-08
EA-10 DODE-00 H-01 IO-15 NSAE-00 L-03 DOE-10
EPA-01 SAL-01 OES-09 ACDA-12 SP-02 NRC-02 SNP-01
/104 W

-----232620 261732Z /41
R 260508Z NOV 83

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1326
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
AMCONSUL UDOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 62237

DEPT FOR PH/TMP-COL LEONARD
DEPT ALSO FOR EA/TB AND INR/PMA

EO 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MOPS, TH
SUBJECT: CBW TEAM OPERATIONS AND PLANS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by [Signature] DATE 11/3/88
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____

TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO KEEP WASHINGTON AGENCIES INFORMED CONCERNING THE FUNCTIONING OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED CBW UNIT AND THE OUTLOOK FOR MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION WITH THE RTG. THE UNIT HAS RECENTLY BEEN ENHANCED THROUGH THE ARRIVAL OF U.S. ARMY PHYSICIAN MICHAEL A. SAURI.

3. THE UNIT CHIEF HAS MADE EXTENDED VISITS TO THAI BORDER AREAS WITH LAOS AND CAMBODIA THAT HAVE MOST FREQUENTLY PRODUCED REPORTS OF ALLEGED CBW USE. HE HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THAI OFFICIALS AT PROVINCIAL, DISTRICT, AND CAMP LEVELS.

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ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL: THE UNIT CHIEF HAS BEEN IN

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TOUCH WITH THE MIXED CIVILIAN/POLICE/MILITARY COMMITTEE SET UP BY THE SUPREME COMMAND TO INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF CBW USE IN AREAS ADJACENT TO THAILAND'S BORDERS. THESE CONTACTS HAVE ELICITED PROMISES OF COOPERATION FROM A SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND A SENIOR NATIONAL POLICE OFFICER WHO IS A SPECIALIST IN FORENSIC MEDICINE AND TOXICOLOGY. THIS COOPERATION WILL INCLUDE PERMISSION FOR CBW UNIT MEMBERS TO ENTER MILITARY RESTRICTED ZONES AND TO TRANSPORT PURPORTED YELLOW RAIN VICTIMS AND CADAVERS WITHIN THAILAND.

4. BASED ON THESE PRELIMINARY CONTACTS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE AND INTERNATIONAL CREDIBILITY OF CERTAIN THAI MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS AND SCIENTISTS, COUPLED WITH THE PLETHORA OF ASSETS AVAILABLE TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY, COULD SIGNIFICANTLY REINFORCE THE EFFORTS OF THE MISSION'S SMALL UNIT. WE ARE SEEKING TO SET UP AN EARLY WARNING NETWORK THAT WILL MAXIMIZE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT EVERY REFUGEE ENTERING THAILAND WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A CBW ATTACK WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A SOPHISTICATED MEDICAL SCREENING DESIGNED TO HELP DETERMINE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE ALLEGATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT COOPERATION WITH THE THAI GOVERNMENT WILL ENSURE COMPREHENSIVE ACQUISITION AND RAPID TRANSPORTATION OF ANY ALLEGED CBW SAMPLES ENTERING THAILAND. THESE, IN TURN, COULD BE SHARED WITH THAI CIVILIAN AND MILITARY INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR US AND THIRD COUNTRY COUNTERPARTS.

5. THE CBW UNIT HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH A NUMBER OF
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THAI SCIENTISTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORMULATION OF A PROPOSAL FOR A FUSARIA MYCOTOXIN BACKGROUND STUDY. THIS STUDY WOULD SEEK TO ESTABLISH THE NATURAL BACKGROUND BASE LEVELS FOR THESE MYCOTOXINS IN THE SEA ENVIRONMENT AS A BENCHMARK FOR DETERMINING THE ARTIFICIAL INTRODUCTION BY MAN OF THESE POISONS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT. A SECOND PROPOSAL IS ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR A PATHOLOGICAL STUDY THAT WOULD COMPARE ELEMENTS OF THE HONG POPULATION CLAIMING CBW EXPOSURE WITH A CONTROL POPULATION WITH NO KNOWN CBW

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EXPERIENCE. DR. SAURI IS CONSULTING WITH AND ADVISING DR. SAMANIYA SUDROONGREUNG OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY OF MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY AND DR. TONTAVACH ANUBARAHANONTA OF MAHIDOL'S FACULTY OF SCIENCE CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPOSALS.

DEAN

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