



Department of State  
**TELEGRAM**

FO260

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AN: DB40032-0540

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ACTION EA-00

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADE-00 INR-10 SS-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00  
H-01 IO-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-08 L-03  
PM-09 EPA-01 PA-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 SAL-01 OES-09  
ACDA-12 USIE-00 SP-02 DOEE-00 SNP-01 PRS-01 /07B W  
-----050023 171120Z /12

O 171103Z JAN 84  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6610  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC  
DIA WASHINGTON DC//  
CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD  
CDR/USAMMA FT DETRICK MD  
CIA WASHDC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by MAW DATE 11/3/88  
 RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
 EXCISE  DECLASSIFY in PART  
 DENY  Non-responsive info.  
FOI, EO or PA exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 02484

TS authority to  
 CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_ JADR  
 DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C, OADR

EO 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PARM, TH  
SUBJECT: BBC DOCUMENTARY ON CBW USE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.)

REF: 83 STATE 298449

2. MR. JEREMY TAYLOR, PRODUCER OF THE BBC TELEVISION SCIENCE SERIES "HORIZON" HAS CONTACTED THE EMBASSY CONCERNING A DOCUMENTARY FILM HE IS DOING ON THE "CHEMICAL WARFARE ALLEGATIONS MADE BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO ALLEGED INCIDENTS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA." MR. TAYLOR ARRIVED IN BANGKOK JANUARY 16, PRECEDED BY A LETTER DATED DECEMBER 21 WHICH WAS RECEIVED JANUARY 13.

3. ACCORDING TO MR. TAYLOR, HE WISHES TO MEET THE EMBASSY'S JOINT CBW UNIT FOR A "RESEARCH BRIEFING". HE  
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HAS ALSO ASKED THAT IF THE UNIT WILL BE DOING RESEARCH

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IN THE FIELD WHICH HE COULD APPROPRIATELY FILM, THAT THE EMBASSY COOPERATE.

4. MR. TAYLOR'S LETTER REFERS TO ASSISTANCE EARLIER RECEIVED FROM THE STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED ARE FILMING OF COLONEL JIM LEONARD IN PM, DOCTOR SHARON WATSON, FORT DETRICK, AND DOCTOR EMORY SARVER AT EDGEWOOD ARSENAL, AND A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW OF COLONEL C. DENNISON LANE.

5. GIVEN THE RANGE OF CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON WITH WHOM MR. TAYLOR HAS APPARENTLY SPOKEN, AND OUR PAST POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH THE PRESS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE AWKWARD AND POSSIBLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE NOT TO SEE MR. TAYLOR. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE, WE PLAN TO GIVE MR. TAYLOR A BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON THE FORMATION OF THE CBW UNIT, ITS COMPOSITION, AND OBJECTIVES. THIS WOULD BE BASED ON APPROVED GUIDANCE (REFTEL). (NOTE: MR. TAYLOR IS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING A RESPONSE. THUS, ANY INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE SENT BY IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE TELEGRAM.) WE WOULD, OF COURSE, DECLINE TO SPECULATE ON MATTERS OUTSIDE THE IMMEDIATE PURVIEW OF THE UNIT, SUCH AS ANALYSIS RESULTS.

6. AS FOR THE QUESTION OF FILMING THE JOINT CBW UNIT'S ACTIVITIES, WE INTEND TO DECLINE ANY REQUEST FOR FILMING BECAUSE OF OUR WISH TO MAINTAIN A LOW PROFILE, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT A FILM SEQUENCE COULD BE MISINTERPRETED, OR USED TO MAKE A POINT WHICH WOULD PRESENT PROBLEMS. IF THE DEPARTMENT WISHES US TO PERMIT FILMING OF THE UNIT'S FIELD WORK, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN CLEARANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR  
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THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MILITARY MEMBERS OF THE TEAM. (THE UNIT'S FSO CHIEF IS CURRENTLY ON HOME LEAVE AND TRAINING IN THE U.S.)

7. BACKGROUND ON THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO THE BBC TEAM IN WASHINGTON AND ANY UPDATING OF EARLIER PRESS GUIDANCE WHICH DEPARTMENT BELIEVES USEFUL WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO US. DEAN

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