



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN SR-06

STATE 093771

INFO OCT-00
/031 R

COPY-01 ADS-00

HA-08

EAP-00

VO-06

RP-10

DRAFTED BY S/R: LGENERO: DJB
APPROVED BY S/R: AMB. HEDOUGLAS
EAP/TB: MHENDERSON
RP: PTCHICOLA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/COG/MR

REVIEWED by [Signature] DATE 11/3/8

-----256602 310200Z /42

O 310100Z MAR 84
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI IMMEDIATE

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

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TO AMBASSADOR DEAN FROM AMBASSADOR DOUGLAS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SREF, TH
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF ORPHANED YELLOW RAIN VICTIM
FROM CHIANG KHAM

1. AMBASSADOR DOUGLAS REQUESTS EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN APPROACHING THAI GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE FOR PROCESSING A 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL FROM CHIANG KHAM AUSTERE CAMP.

2. THE LITTLE GIRL, XI YANG, IS AN ORPHANED HMONG CURRENTLY RESIDING IN CHIANG KHAM WITH AN UNCLE. XI YANG IS SUBJECT OF READER'S DIGEST ARTICLE BY AUTHOR AL SANTOLI -- WELL KNOWN TO EMBASSY AND THAI GOVERNMENT FOR HIS STORIES ON REFUGEES. STORY, ENTITLED "LITTLE GIRL IN THE YELLOW RAIN," IS FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNT OF YELLOW RAIN ATTACK THAT CAUSED THIS CHILD AND RELATIVES TO FLEE INTO THAILAND. SHE FIRST ENTERED THAILAND IN SEPTEMBER 1983 AT BUNG KAN POLICE STATION AFTER FLEEING LAOS. HER

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PARENTS, ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, WERE KILLED BY VIETNAMESE

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AND PATHET LAO FORCES IN 1975.

3. SINCE PUBLICATION OF STORY, READER'S DIGEST HAS RECEIVED MANY LETTERS FROM AMERICAN CITIZENS OFFERING TO ADOPT THE CHILD. WE ANTICIPATE MUCH PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS MATTER, AND WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE OF EMBASSY IN APPROACHING THAI GOVERNMENT. THE DIGEST HAS A READERSHIP OF 30 MILLION PERSONS.

4. FYI: THE CHILD IS WELL KNOWN TO DR. AMOS TOWNSEND, WHO CAN ADVISE ON HER CURRENT STATUS IN THE CAMP. SHULTZ

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