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*Last Updated: 10/23/2023*

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

**Withdrawer**

DLB 9/10/2010

**File Folder** CO155 (THAILAND) (340000-449999)

**FOIA**

S10-306

**Box Number** 180

SYSTEMATIC

1081

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
97581	LETTER	REAGAN TO PRIME MINISTER PREM <b>R 6/30/2023 NSC/DEPT. OF STATE WAIVERS</b>	2	6/16/1986	B1
97582	PAPER	BIO	2	ND	B1 B3
97583	CABLE	BANGKOK 28842 <b>R 6/30/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	6/13/1986	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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**FOIA**

S10-0306/01

**Box Number** 180

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154

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	CASE FILE	AMERICAN INCARCERATED IN THAILAND 347222	9	9/28/1985	B6

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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1 CASE FILE

9 9/28/1985 B6

AMERICAN INCARCERATED IN THAILAND

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Authority NSC/State Waiver

BY de NARA DATE 6/30/2023

NEWS

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 16, 1986

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Thank you for your warm welcome to Southeast Asia conveyed to me by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Siddhi in Bali. He gave me your letter detailing your views on subjects in which we share a common interest.

Your support of our efforts to rid the world of the scourge of international terrorism is gratifying. I am pleased that we in the United States can rely on Thailand in this struggle. Your government's successful campaign against narcotics trafficking, a campaign which the United States has assisted, suggests that a concerted international effort can counter even the most pernicious illegal activity.

Vietnam's continuing occupation of Cambodia and the threat this presents to Thailand remain among our major concerns. My Administration will continue strong support for ASEAN's efforts to work towards a solution of the Cambodian conflict. As you proposed, I intend to raise the issue when I next meet with General Secretary Gorbachev.

I was delighted that you and Secretary Weinberger reached preliminary agreement on the desirability of setting up a joint War Reserve Stockpile in Thailand. We intend to make every effort to conclude a mutually acceptable agreement and to procure the necessary authorization from the United States Congress.

My Administration is as concerned with the continuing health and vitality of the Thai economy as we are with Thai national security.

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NSC 8604307

After meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Siddhi, I understand even more than I did before Thailand's concerns about implementation of the recent Farm Act. There are aspects of the legislation with which we disagree, but as you are aware, it was designed to assist American farmers who are experiencing the worst farm crisis in fifty years. It was not intended to harm Thai interests.

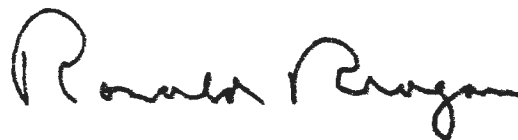
You will be pleased to know that in accordance with our understanding in Bali, we raised the issue of agricultural protectionism at the Tokyo Summit. Specific language in the Summit communique reflects our concern with this issue.

My Administration will continue to work to ensure that future United States trade laws promote our mutual interest in free and fair trade. Protectionism will benefit neither of us. The maintenance of an open international trading system is the responsibility of both our countries, as well as of the rest of the world. We shall continue to consult and cooperate closely with Thailand on sensitive trade issues, as we have done so productively in other areas.

Finally, Mr. Prime Minister, may I thank you personally for the hospitality you extended to Nancy during her recent visit to Bangkok as guest of their Majesties the King and Queen. It was an unforgettable experience for her. I am deeply grateful for all your government did to make her visit so successful.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,



His Excellency  
General Prem Tinsulanonda  
Prime Minister of the  
Kingdom of Thailand  
Bangkok

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1986

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MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN POINDEXTER

FROM: PAT BUCHANAN

*PBB*

Al Santoli, the Vietnam veteran who has authored several books on Vietnam, called to say that we have serious and gathering problems in Thailand. The number one song there talks of U.S. exploitation of Thailand; the problem has to do with our farm bill, and its impact on Thai rice exports. The anti-American opposition is exploring the issue; and Santoli feels that if the visit of the First Lady focuses only on the problems of the U.S. (Drugs), and the problems of the refugees -- while not addressing at all the problem of the Thai people, it could backfire. Perhaps this note is redundant with what is already known, and prepared for, but thought you ought to know.

*FD*







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EF

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1986

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MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN POINDEXTER

FROM: PAT BUCHANAN *PBB*

Al Santoli, the Vietnam veteran who has authored several books on Vietnam, called to say that we have serious and gathering problems in Thailand. The number one song there talks of U.S. exploitation of Thailand; the problem has to do with our farm bill, and its impact on Thai rice exports. The anti-American opposition is exploring the issue; and Santoli feels that if the visit of the First Lady focuses only on the problems of the U.S. (Drugs), and the problems of the refugees -- while not addressing at all the problem of the Thai people, it could backfire. Perhaps this note is redundant with what is already known, and prepared for, but thought you ought to know.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4/24/86

PJB:

Al Santoli's message:

Is it possible for Mrs. Reagan to make a joint appearance/visit with the wife or either the Prime Minister or the Foreign Minister, or with the Queen, at some Agriculture spot in Bangkok, (or just outside it.)

The security would be adequate, due to her host.

Most importantly, the photo-op would be advantageous -- it would appear in the press portraying her concern for both the Thai and Americans.

April 24, 1986

Al Santoli  
666 West End Ave. 9H  
New York, NY 10025  
212-362-6616

Pat Buchanan  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Pat:

As we discussed on the phone, I would like to make a suggestion regarding Mrs. Reagan's visit to Thailand that I believe will enhance the success of her trip and the atmosphere of U.S. - Thai relations.

In recent months our relationship with Thailand has been deteriorating due to a combination of the simultaneous decline of practically all of Thailand's export commodities (rice, tin, sugar, coconuts, textiles, etc.) and U.S. protectionist trade measures that are popularly and politically perceived as anti-Thai.

Most recently the U.S. Farm Act's measures to lower the international price of rice and put our rice exports in dangerous competition with Thailand's, has been the negative headline in all Thai media. Demonstrations have occurred in Bangkok hostile to the U.S. The top pop song in Thailand is "America Americoi", which translates "Ugly American". And the political opposition to the current Prem-Sitthi government has seized this issue, which could lead to their defeat in coming elections, or a military coupe (though less likely). More dangerously, the Soviets began making stronger overtures at the time of textile protection debates in the U.S. And a new government may move to closer ties with the Soviets and capitulate to the Vietnamese, as they feel betrayed by the U.S. (See enclosed Thai press reports.)

I believe Mrs. Reagan's visit to Thailand can help to reverse the current negative trend in U.S.-Thai relations. To accomplish this she should amend her schedule to include a gesture of compassion toward Thai farmers (80% of the population) in a non-political but highly visible manner. Only visiting a drug clinic, expressing concern for refugees or having tea with the Queen will not improve America's image or cool down anti-American feelings.

How about a joint visit with the Queen to a (safe) local farm

or Mrs. Prem, or Mrs. Sawetsila

April 24, 1986

P. 2

for photo opportunity? That kind of picture in the Thai press and television is worth a thousand political statements. If this kind of theatre (in a positive sense of the word) is not possible, why not some type of symbolic gesture or non-political statement expressing her concern and support of Thai farmers.

I can not adequately express how seriously the Farm Act has been perceived by all strata of Thai society. A gesture by Mrs. Reagan, no matter how small, will at least let the Thai people know that we care about their well being and on-going friendship. I have discussed this off the record with some high ranking Thai diplomats, who have agreed that Mrs. Reagan acknowledging the Thai farmers would be quite significant.

And, if it was possible that in Jakarta the President's party could make some type of positive announcement regarding this matter preceding Mrs. Reagan's gesture of compassion, it could be a major step in reversing the negative trend in U.S. - Thai relations. It seems that the Dept. of Agriculture does have some discretion in setting the international price of rice.

Thanks for taking the time to consider this matter.

Best regards,



Al Santoli

April 24, 1986

Al Santoli  
666 West End Ave. 9H  
New York, NY 10025

Dear Pat:

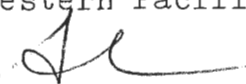
Regarding our discussion on POW-MIAs I have a few perceptions:

I don't know if any American prisoners are still alive. But a number of Vietnamese defectors like Hoang Van Hoan, a former Politboro member now in China, have made mention of VCP policy in 1975 to hold some prisoners. And one MIA-POW wife, Kay Bosiljevac of Omaha, was told in late 1973 (after all prisoners were supposed to have been released) was told by the Hanoi charge in Vientiane that her husband was still being held. Her phone: 402-734-4640.

Last autumn, Mr. Avraham Shifrin, the foremost authority on Jews in the Soviet gulag, in Israel told me that some Jewish emigres have reported that they had seen Americans in the Soviet gulag who they believed had been transferred from Vietnam. I did not ask him if he had names. He is the director of the Research Center for Prisons, Psychprisons and Forced Labor Concentration Camps of the USSR; located in Israel. If true, why not trade captured Soviet spies for them, a la Scharansky. (Or for any S.E. Asia MIAs.)

My concern is that Hanoi will play on U.S. public diplomacy to eventually put the Administration in a bind. By raising the American public's expectations on the issue, Hanoi will try to eventually use this as blackmail for U.S. capitulation on Cambodia or to finance their police state.

We must continue to keep the heat on them economically. Hopefully it will eventually lead to internal combustion to change the repressive and expansionist government. For them to lose face by being forced to pull out of Cambodia will give hope and energy to the opposition within Vietnam. Any kind of economic concessions by the U.S. or the West will entrench the position of the pro-Soviet leadership. Our objective should be to eventually get the Russians out of Cam Ranh Bay-Danang-Bien Hoa through internal changes in Vietnam. We should not let ourselves become vulnerable because of the MIA issue. The security of the Western Pacific is why.



# Hanoi, Citing Attack, Suspends Talks on Missing

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

Special to The New York Times 86

WASHINGTON, April 18 — Vietnam notified the United States today that it was suspending talks on resolving the question of Americans still listed as unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, the State Department said.

In the official message to the United States Embassy in Bangkok, Hanoi said "the current situation is not favorable" for holding the next meeting on the missing-in-action Americans that had been set for next Wednesday and Thursday in Hanoi, Bernard Kalb, the department's spokesman, said.

But Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, at a meeting in New Delhi of the countries that describe themselves as nonaligned, said the discussions were being suspended because of the American air attacks on Libya.

The Hanoi move drew a quick warning from Washington. Mr. Kalb said this action would "imperil any chance for improvement in the atmosphere between our two nations."

## Hanoi Pledge Cited

Noting that Hanoi had pledged last year to settle once and for all all questions dealing with the nearly 2,000 Americans still listed as unaccounted for in Vietnam, Mr. Kalb said:

"If Vietnam now decides to abandon that pledge and to link this humanitarian enterprise to political issues, this can only increase the suffering of the families of those still missing, bring discredit to the Hanoi authorities and imperil any chance for an improvement in the atmosphere between our two nations."

The Vietnamese have also apparently reneged on another pledge made to the United States — to turn over to the United States some 7,000 political prisoners who have been in so-called "re-education camps." Many of these prisoners are Vietnamese with close ties to the United States, such as military and civilian officials in the former Saigon Government.

In 1984, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong of Vietnam said Hanoi would release these prisoners if Washington would take them. Secretary of State George P. Shultz said then that the United States would take them and their relatives over a two-year period.

## Report From Ex-Governor

A report made public today by a special panel on Indochinese refugees, headed by the former Governor of Iowa, Robert D. Ray, said that when the group visited Hanoi recently, "Foreign Minister Thach was categorical in

his refusal to discuss the issue, stating that it was now 'out of the question' to release the prisoners."

"We found that there is great difficulty in getting cooperation or even getting them to acknowledge what they have previously said relative to the re-education camp prisoners," Mr. Ray said in a news conference today.

"They refuse to call them prisoners," he said.

Although American officials dealing with the issue do not believe there are any Americans still alive, they would like to get more information from the

Vietnamese on what happened to Americans who were known to have been captured during the war but who were never accounted for and to recover the remains of Americans from areas where there were known to be plane crashes.

The United States at the end of 1985 listed 1,797 Americans as unaccounted for in Vietnam, 700 in the north, and 1,097 in the south. In addition, 556 are listed as unaccounted for in Laos, 82 in Cambodia, and 6 in China, for a total of 2,441.

# Bomb Threats Around World

By Reuters

Bomb threats disrupted office work and delayed airline flights in cities in Europe and North and South America today.

In Ankara Turkish security forces arrested two foreigners carrying a bomb outside the United States Officers' Club and safely detonated the device.

The security forces, alerted by a tip, spotted the men carrying a bag near the club tonight and challenged them, the official Turkish press agency said.

The men threw the bag onto a car outside the club, in the city's Gaziosmanpasa district, and were arrested. Bomb experts, who used a controlled explosion to neutralize the device, also found five hand grenades in the bag, the agency said.

## Bomb Threats in Florida

In Florida, hundreds of state legislators and employees evacuated the state capitol complex in Tallahassee because of bomb threats.

At the United Nations, five telephoned bomb threats against the organization were received by the security department and the New York City Police Department, a United Nations spokesman said.

The spokesman, François Giuliani, said security officers searched the organization's headquarters and found no explosives after each of the calls. One of the callers warned that a bomb would be dropped by helicopter, he said.

In Rome a British Airways flight to London was delayed by an anonymous bomb threat 15 minutes before the Boeing 757 was to take off from Rome's Fiumicino Airport with 120 passengers on board.

The passengers disembarked and the plane and baggage were searched but no bomb was found, the officials said. The airliner left for London two and a half hours late.

Two United States-bound Delta Air Lines jets were delayed for about two hours in Montreal today because Delta's office received a bomb threat.

Bomb squads and dogs checked the planes, bound for Washington and Miami, but no explosives were found.

In Buenos Aires, the Lincoln Library, which is operated by the American Embassy, was evacuated briefly after an anonymous caller said a bomb had been planted there, diplomatic sources said. A search turned up no explosives, the sources said.

## U.S. Embassy Put on Alert

The American Embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus, was placed on a full security alert after an attack threat, Cypriot security sources said.

In Panama City, officials denied today that a bomb had been found at the United States Southern Command, headquarters for American military operations throughout Central and South America.

The Government newspaper Critica reported on its front page today that a bomb had been found in the office of the chief of the Southern Command, Gen. John R. Galvin.

In the Philippines, Moslems shouting "Death to Reagan!" attacked and slightly injured a Canadian man they believed to be an American during a march on the United States Embassy. Demonstrators also mauled three Filipino photographers and a bus driver.



MATICHON on 'Ill-Intentions'

BK061520 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 5 Apr 86 p 6

[Editorial: "The Farm Act -- Vengeance or Misunderstanding?"]

[Text] The U.S. delegate's statements to a recent international meeting in Rome on the rice situation, which was attended by representatives of 60 countries, enables us to understand the background of the Farm Act more clearly. It shows that the Farm Act is, in fact, aimed directly at Thailand -- a country that has been a close ally of the United States for more than 3 decades.

According to high ranking Agricultural and Cooperative Ministry officials who attended the meeting, the U.S. representative said that over that past 3 years the United States has lost about 30 percent of its rice market to Thailand. Meanwhile, U.S. farmers and rice traders were seriously misinformed that the Thai Government was greatly subsidizing and granting privileges to rice exporters. We can see from the above that the Farm Act is a result of vengeance and misunderstanding. The vengeance arises from its loss of world rice markets while the misunderstanding is caused by a misinterpretation of government assistance to farmers as support and privileges for rice exporters. If the latter were true, it means that we have violated principles of free trade which would not only draw criticism from the United States but also be tantamount to a violation of the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

It is strange that the United States has twisted the Thai Government's assistance to its farmers to improve their productivity and living standard into subsidies to rice exporters even though such matters are not secret in Thailand or from friendly countries such as the United States. Not only does this show the ill intentions of the United States, but it is also intended to cover up the injection of money to stabilize U.S. agricultural products and seize rice markets from its friends. This is in violation of the system of free trade -- a system which the United States extolled highly a few decades ago.

This is not only a matter of betraying allies, but it is also dishonest and inconsistent with the principles of free trade even though the United States is regarded as the leader of the free trading world -- as opposed to the communist one.

"An impoverished millionaire" may be a most suitable term to describe the present U.S. economic and political status since it is facing a lot of economic problems. Most importantly, however, if a country with the prestige and power of the United States does not respect the principles of free trade, how long can it remain the leader?

STUDENTS RALLY AT U.S. EMBASSY, PROTEST FARM ACT

BK210215 Bangkok BANCKOK POST in English 21 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] About 200 students held a peaceful protest against the Farm Act at the United States Embassy yesterday. Bunthan Tansuthapwirawong, secretary-general of the Federation of Students of Thailand; Phusit Prakongsai, president of Mahidon University Student Union; Somkiat Tangkitwanit, vice president of Chulalongkon University Student Union and Phuangthong Rungsawatsap, vice president of Thammasat University Student Union, presented a letter of protest and met embassy officials for about 30 minutes. Part of the letter read: "The U.S. Food and Security Act of 1985, through its efforts to support a relatively small U.S. rice sector, will on April 15 begin to undermine one of Thailand's principal foreign exchange earners yet further, and with it the Thai economy and the lives of all Thai farmers."

Students handed leaflets to passers-by in buses and cars. Some held banners which read "America: Friend or killer of farmers?" or "America amerikoi" a phrase from a popular song implying U.S. exploitation.

Officials described the letter as "alarmist" and said the students demanded the price difference between U.S. No 2 rice and local five per cent grain be \$70 a ton. They said the students were told the impact of the Farm Act on Thailand would not be that bad and that their protest had been "exaggerated."

New Force Party leader Suthep Wongkamhang and some supporters joined the demonstration and handed out their own leaflets. In the leaflets, New Force urged the Thai Government to be more responsible to the country and the people and be more serious in efforts to solve problems rather than simply asking foreign governments to make Thailand a special case. About 50 policemen were present at the protest.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO NOTE FARM ACT PROTESTS

BK211333 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 21 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "The Grave Danger of the Farm Act"]

[Text] The display of discontent against the Farm Act and the United States has escalated among the Thai people, including government officials at all levels and members of Parliament. Even students, intellectuals, and technocrats who have been silent for quite some time have now come to realize that they too must unite to do something to tell the United States about the magnitude of the sentiment against the legislation.

The so-called Farm Act was designed to provide credits for U.S. farmers with the immediate objective of enlarging the U.S. share of the world rice market. Since rice exports are the major exchange earner of Thailand, the U.S. rice trade strategy will certainly have a direct impact on our country. The superior U.S. credit system will snatch foreign rice markets from Thailand, damaging our foreign exchange income. More important, the plight of the already poor Thai farmers in the rural areas will be further seriously aggravated by the legislation.

The protest now simmering among Thai students, intellectuals, and technocrats has at least two objectives -- to defend the interests of Thai farmers who form the majority of the country's population, and to warn the United States that although Thailand is only a small country, it will not allow the United States to bully it at will. Thailand and the United States have been close friends during the past 3 decades, but the way the big power friend is treating its smaller allies has exposed its lack of a sportsman-like spirit.

Although the reaction of the Thai people from all walks of life might not have any influence on the United States, the way the United States is treating smaller nations like Thailand has given the Thai people a good lesson. The Thai Government should also realize that excessive attachment to any major power will enhance the chances of the country becoming a satellite state of that major power, thereby plunging us into a vulnerable and dependent position and placing our fate in its hands.

The current political and economic movements of the people can be used as a barometer to precisely measure the feelings of the general public. A government that listens to the voice of the people will consider the people's feelings in implementing its political and economic policies and take this opportunity to create a sense of economic patriotism among the people which is better than merely chanting the slogan "made in Thailand" aimlessly.

PREM MESSAGE ON APARTHEID READ AT UN MEETING

BK231634 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Thai permanent mission to the United Nations today read a message from Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at the international meeting in New York calling on the South African regime to abandon apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination. In his message, the Thai prime minister said: Thailand joins the international community today in observing the international day for the elimination of racial discrimination. Today also marks the 26th anniversary of the (?shock-filled masacre) on the fateful day. The apartheid regime of South Africa took the lives of innocent men, women, and children who were peacefully demonstrating against racial discrimination and oppression.

# Harvest of ill-will

Thailand runs into another trade dispute with the US

By Paisal Srirachatchanya in Bangkok

Thailand's economic relations with the US have been far from smooth of late — and things may worsen as a flood of cheap US rice hits the world markets under a new export-promotion programme. Thailand's Board of Trade (BoT, an influential private group of top exporters and businessmen) has warned that about 40% of Thai rice exports could be lost after 15 April, when the US Food Security Act of 1985 takes effect.

Signed by President Reagan on 23 December, the law is aimed primarily at making US farm products more competitive with subsidised commodities from major producers like the EEC. Apart from reducing government intervention in price determination, the US programme calls for massive subsidies to producers and exporters. It has already met strong criticism in Australia (REVIEW, 16 Jan.).

Affecting mostly temperate-zone commodities, the law would not have been of any direct concern to Bangkok — had it not been for the inclusion of rice. Describing the US law as a time bomb for the Thai rice industry, Vichai Sriprasert, deputy secretary-general of the Rice Exporters' Association, wrote in a Bangkok newspaper: "Highly subsidised cheap rice from the US will surely out-compete Thai, Chinese, Pakistani and Burmese rice in the small world market. US rice is top of the line. If Cadillacs are offered at Chevy prices, who will buy the latter?"



Rice paddy: time bomb.

PAISAL SRIRACHATCHANYA

It is hardly surprising that the issue is viewed with grave concern here. Rice has traditionally been Thailand's top merchandise export and 70% of the population are still involved in growing it. Despite depressed world prices in recent years, the country has managed to expand exports with aggressive marketing and low production costs. Thailand today accounts for some 40% of total world rice trade. But the gains have

been largely at the expense of US sales, while Thai exports rose nearly 50% during 1981-84 to 4.6 million tonnes. US sales dropped 29% to 2.1 million tonnes (REVIEW, 7 Nov. '85).

Shortly after promulgation of the law, Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila wrote to his US counterpart — Secretary of State George Shultz — requesting urgent consultations with US Department of Agriculture authorities.

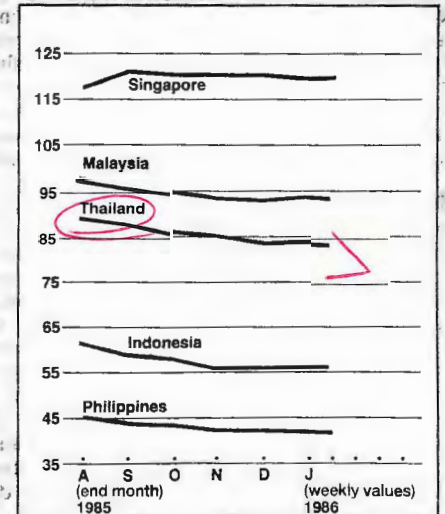
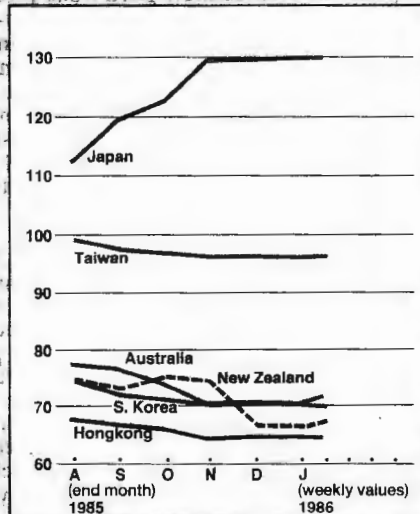
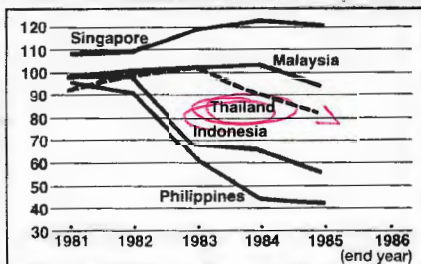
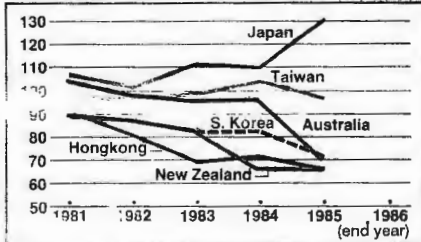
According to a Foreign Ministry source, Bangkok wants to re-activate a high-level bilateral committee on agricultural commodities which was established about four years ago but has met only once. As Thai officials and traders try to come to grips with the complicated law, the Thais want to be represented in the detailed US deliberations leading up to its implementation three months from now — particularly the US setting of "world prices" (which would in turn determine the level of US subsidies). Another approach will be to discourage the US from selling to markets currently supplied by Thailand.

But the lobbying promises to be tough. Describing the BoT's 40% export-loss forecast as "too drastic," a Western trade analyst said: "The US will [certainly] try to redeem some of its traditional markets that were recently lost to Thailand." Coming at a time when the domestic paddy price-support scheme appears to be failing (REVIEW, 16 Jan.), the impact of the US law is likely to be further depression of prices.

The new law also adds to Thailand's still-seething resentment over the protectionist Jenkins Bill and the US embargo on Thai apparel products (REVIEW, 7 Nov. '85). Although the textiles bill was vetoed by Reagan, and Bangkok managed to negotiate a satisfactory settlement of the embargo, neither dispute has been forgotten. □

## EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

Weighted for 1984 trade with the countries shown plus the US and Canada and 14 European countries. Figures are for the week ended 11 Jan.



Source: Philips & Drew

# No end to the gloom

A Thai think-tank sees slower economic growth ahead

By Paisal Sricharatchanya in Bangkok

In the most pessimistic economic forecast to date, the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI, a private think-tank) has predicted unprecedentedly low economic growth of 3.2% and 3.5% for 1986 and 1987, respectively. These would be the lowest growth rates since the country embarked on its first five-year development plan in 1962.

Growth during the previous two decades had averaged more than 7% a year, but dropped to an average annual 5.4% during 1980-85. The TDRI forecast points to average 3.9% annual growth during 1988-91.

Presented by Virabongsa Ramangkura, the prime minister's chief economic adviser and programme director for macro-economic policy at TDRI, the forecast was based on a number of unfavourable factors — ranging from an expected further decline in world commodity prices and stagnating private investment to public-sector spending cutbacks in the face of the government's continuing austerity programme.

The projections were given extensive coverage in the local press. Although funded by private and foreign-government sources (including the Canadian International Development Agency and Asia Foundation), TDRI is affiliated with the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB, the country's top economic-planning agency); NESDB



Snoh: bleak outlook.

secretary-general Snoh Unakul is its chairman.

The slower economic growth will be compounded by rising unemployment, particularly among the educated. According to the TDRI, the open unemployment rate would be 7.5% during 1986-91 compared to 8.5% during 1979-84. The number of jobless — about 610,000 at present — would pass 1 million by 1991.

What is particularly disturbing is the composition of the educated unemployed, which is projected to jump from 21.8% last year to 56.8% by 1991. A reason for this trend is the probable freeze on new public-sector employment to no more than 2% a year in the

years ahead, also part of the government's austerity drive. The public sector — including the central government and state enterprises — has been by far the largest employer of the educated, with nearly 1.7 million people on its payroll in 1984. Discontent from the rising number of the educated unemployed could trigger potentially serious political repercussions.

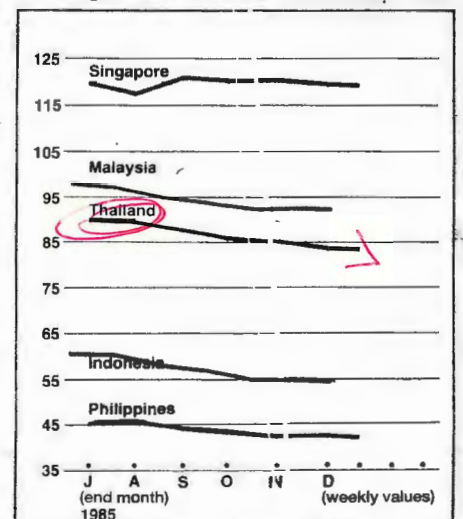
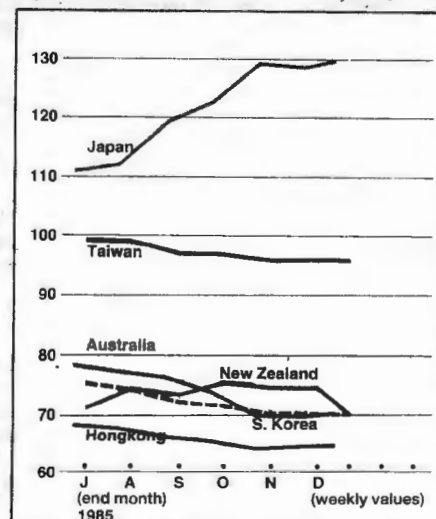
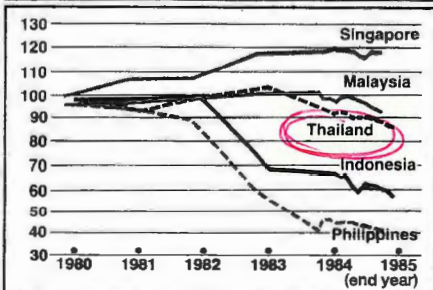
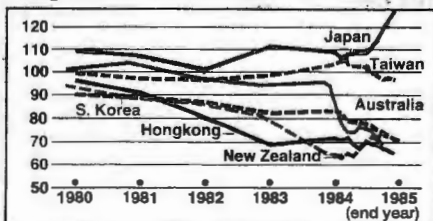
Another alarming forecast centres on the country's debt-service ratio, which is projected to climb from the present 27.7% to a "dangerously high" 30.6% in 1989, before slowly decreasing. Set against burgeoning external debt, the ratio is aggravated by a decline in dollar export earnings this year and projected marginal growth in the years ahead. By international standards, a country's credit rating is threatened once its debt-service ratio reaches the 30% mark.

The trend could have been worse if the government had not embarked on a debt-refinancing plan, kicked off in mid-October with the first currency swap which saw US\$60 million changed into Swiss francs (REVIEW, 7 Nov.). Up to US\$700 million worth of debt will be refinanced in fiscal 1986 (beginning October), with an additional US\$300 million to be refinanced annually over the following three years.

If there had been no refinancing, the TDRI says, the debt-service ratio would rise to 30.3% in 1986 and reach a new high of 31.7% in 1988. But as most government economists concluded, refinancing will only buy time; the real solution lies in raising export earnings — a difficult proposition in light of the growing protectionism in industrialised countries and general expectations that world commodity prices would remain stagnant, at least over the next two years.

## EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

Weighted for 1984 trade with the countries shown plus the US and Canada and 14 European countries. Figures are for the week ended 14 Dec.



Source: Phillips & Drew

NAEO NA ASKS GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR USSR TRADE

BK081440 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 8 Nov 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Let Us Look at Various Possibilities"]

[Text] Thailand, a major exporter of agricultural products, also depends on earnings from exports of industrial items, including textiles, for national income. Unfortunately, textile exports have been hit by the global economic slump, high competition, price cutting, and trade barriers. Indonesia and China, which used to buy Thai rice, can now produce the grain and sell it. Thai tapioca exports face quota restriction from the European Community. Thai textile exports face restrictions from the United States. Thailand's tin exports are threatened by the impending collapse of the International Tin Council. Rubber exports are also threatened.

Those problems have arrived abruptly and almost simultaneously, compelling Thailand to struggle hard for survival. While trying to maintain traditional customers, Thailand is also looking for new markets. Yet, the prospects for the latter are not very bright as new markets are small countries with little purchasing power and low foreign currency reserves. Amid those difficulties, Thailand received an offer from the Soviet Union to buy a large quantity of Thai textiles and tapioca.

The Thai private sector welcomed the offer because it gives Thailand a new outlet for its surpluses. Nevertheless, the private sector wants the government first to give it certain assurances so that its trade relations with the Soviet Union will not be affected by the Thai Government's negative political attitude toward the Soviet Union.

We fully agree that the government should allow and support the private sector's trade with the Soviet Union. The government should separate trade from politics. The United States, with a political system opposite to that of the Soviet Union, has trade with the Soviet Union. If the government is afraid of "side effects" from trade relations, it can formulate guidelines and regulations for the private sector.

It will be a pity if the government overlooks certain benefits for the nation and continues to regard a certain country as its political adversary. On the contrary, the government should cooperate with the private sector to find more markets for Thai products, especially at such an economically difficult time.

PAPERS REPRIMANDED FOR PRINTING RESHUFFLE LIST

BK101248 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 8 Nov 85 p 2

[Text] Police Lieutenant Colonel Somchai Atthanawanit, inspector of the documents and printed material section of the police special branch headquarters, on the afternoon of 7 November summoned representatives of four newspapers -- BANGKOK POST, THE NATION, MATICHON, and NAE0 NA -- to acknowledge and sign a warning from the police official regarding the publication of the senior military officer reshuffle list. Police officers informed them that after the issuance of a royal decree on appointments of senior military officers above major general level in September, the four newspapers had jointly published details of the reshuffle list, which is regarded as a military secret. So, police officials summoned the editors or representatives of these newspapers to be warned that further violations would be subjected to legal action as stipulated in Order 42 of the National Administration Reform Council.

PROSPECTS FOR TRADE WITH SOVIET UNION VIEWED

## U.S. Protectionism Cited

BK241024 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Oct 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Soviet Union -- A New Market"]

[Text] On 22 October a Supreme Soviet delegation led by Vice President of the Supreme Soviet Presidium Akil Salimov called on the Thai Parliament president, Dr Ukrit Mongkhonnawin at the Thai parliament. Ukrit disclosed to newsmen afterward that the Soviet delegation expressed great interest in Thai textiles and sports shoes. The Soviet delegation even asked him to show it Thai factories. The delegation later called on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon, at which time the head of the delegation also suggested an increase in bilateral trade.

This shows that both countries are interested in promoting bilateral trade, but what concrete actions will be taken remains to be seen.

The Soviet delegation's interest in Thai textiles and sports shoes coincides with U.S. plans to enact a law limiting the export of textile products which, if carried out, would strongly affect Thai textile manufacturers. Therefore, the Commerce Ministry should urgently explore with the Soviet Union the prospects for such Thai products. Exports of any quantity to the Soviet Union would certainly help alleviate the plight of our textile industry. With luck, the Soviet Union could become a new market to replace the lost U.S. market.


Although Thailand and the Soviet Union now enjoy diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, Thai-Soviet relations have not prospered due to the Soviet support for Vietnamese aggression against Thailand. However, we do not want this issue to become an obstacle to stronger Thai-Soviet trade relations in case we succeed in expanding our market in the Soviet Union, which is quite a big market. The government should review relations with the Soviet Union because this could enable it to forge greater bargaining power with the socialist bloc.

## Soviet Motives Questioned

BK260926 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25 Oct 85 p 2

[Chaiwat Yonpiam article: "Moscow Is Going To Buy Thai Textiles"]

[Excerpt] The recent visit to Thailand of the Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation, led by Presidium Deputy Chairman Akil Salimov, was unexpectedly successful. The Thai press covered it extensively. SIAM RAT carried an editorial, a report, and a column on the visit. Thai press coverage essentially concerned the Soviet interest in buying Thai textile products, which are facing problems entering the U.S. market, and as a result of which many workers will lose their jobs and the country will lose a considerable amount of income. Many are hoping that the Soviet Union will become a new market for Thai textiles. Of course, if this materializes, the United States can hit back with a vengeance by passing a law limiting textile imports from its little friend. But will Moscow continue to buy Thai textiles in the long term at the prices our salesmen were able to get from U.S. importers? The fact is that Moscow has many satellite countries that produce textiles, and many of them owe the Soviet Union so much money that Moscow will find it cheaper to buy from them than to use dollars to buy from Thailand.



The deputy director of XINHUA and his party this afternoon visited the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand [MCOT]. The group was welcomed by MCOT Director Pramut Sutabut, who also presented the XINHUA delegation to the staff of the organization. Pramut told the group that over the past 10 years the Thai and PRC mass media have forged a closer relationship, with the Thai mass media making more frequent visits to the XINHUA Office. Last year an official of the Prime Minister's Office, Police First Lieutenant Chan Manutham, the MCOT director, and their parties visited the PRC. However, they did not get a chance to visit XINHUA Headquarters, but only observed work at the PRC television and radio station. But they are always aware of XINHUA's role in trying to improve the news and information system. The XINHUA delegation also inspected work of the Thai news agency office and visited Thai Television Channel 9.

The deputy director of XINHUA said during the visit that he is impressed by the present visit and his meeting with foreign friends in his profession. He also expressed his appreciation for the friendship and hospitality offered by his Thai hosts. He will report to the Chinese people about what he sees here so that the people there will know about the friendship of the Thai people.

#### THE NATION URGES MORE TRADE WITH VIETNAM

BK140700 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jan 86 p 4

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] Much has been said about Thailand's need to look for new markets for its products and commodities. As also about the country's trading with all foreign countries, regardless of their political and economic systems. But very little or nothing has been said or seriously considered by the Thai authorities on the question of improvement of trade ties with Vietnam. To discuss bilateral trade with Hanoi is, at this time, considered a no-no, particularly as there has been no progress in the eight-year Kampuchean conflict. Nonetheless, the increasingly complex and persistent economic difficulties have necessitated the need to delve deeper once again into the question of doing direct trade with our communist neighbour.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila has said time and again that it is not the policy of Thailand to prohibit the private sector from doing business with Vietnam, but at the same time the government certainly does not go out of its way to encourage it.

While Thailand has been quite discreet in trading with Hanoi, mostly through the private sector and other covert means, other ASEAN countries are open enjoying increased volume of trade with Thailand's communist neighbour. In fact, Singapore and Indonesia have been quite active in doing business with Hanoi. One can easily see that there is a "discrepancy" in ASEAN's handling of political and economic issues with Vietnam. While ASEAN countries have unwaveringly supported Bangkok's policy on Kampuchea, some of the member countries are reaping great profits from trading with the communist nation. In the long run, if the discrepancy is not eliminated, it could widen into conflicts within ASEAN.

This sensitive issue is being raised at a time of increasing contacts between some ASEAN countries and Vietnam in economic terms, particularly Jakarta. Thai Foreign Ministry officials are unhappy about the recent bilateral trade arrangement between the two nations. The report of the visit by an official of the state-owned company Pancha Niaga to Vietnam was quick to raise eyebrows in Bangkok.

REACTION TO U.S. ANNOUNCEMENT ON RICE PRICES

Foreign Minister Interviewed

BK131026 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 13 Apr 86 p 2

[Interview with Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by NAEO NA reporters Wanchai Wongmichai and Suwit Ui on 12 April; place not given]

[Text] [Unidentified Reporter] What do you think about the rice price the United States has just announced under the Farm Act?

[Sitthi] I received a telegram from Washington this morning. I told Danai (Dulalampha) and Sawanit (Khongsiri) to have to look. When I learned about the price, I felt strongly about it. I then tried to contact the ministry officials and Danai himself was already at the ministry.

[Reporter] The telegram was sent from the Thai Embassy, wasn't it?

[Sitthi] It was sent by Khun Kasem (Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, Thai ambassador to Washington). He was still not clear about the U.S. attitude. Kasem said that the price will be announced every week. Anyway, from my first assessment, I feel that although our estimate based on the price announced is at \$225 and not \$220, the figure is still below what we told them. The earnings from their rice exports will even be below the subsidy costs. This is why I think this kind of trade is not correct.

Of course, when their farmers are in trouble, they must help them through subsidies or price support measures. However, when compared with the number of our farmers who are extremely poor, far fewer American farmers face such a plight. The Farm Act has caused our rice price to drop. We expected to sell rice to Malaysia and Iran at \$220 and \$270 respectively and we hoped this would help to improved local paddy prices in Thailand. Unfortunately, with the enactment of the Farm Act, our customers adopted the wait-and-see policy and this has resulted in a price drop. Meanwhile, American brokers approached our exporters who are eager to sell to them. In fact, there is nothing wrong with selling our rice, but our rice traders should cooperate among themselves instead of undercutting prices. We should have got \$220 or \$270 for our exports, but lately we got only from \$180 to \$190.

When they surveyed for our rice price during the price cut situation, they based their findings on the minimum price. We proposed to the United States that, since we cannot compete with America's best-quality rice, the U.S. should set a price 35 percent above our own. But the gap is even less than 30 percent according to the price just announced.

I don't think the new price will greatly affect rice exporters, but it will affect our farmers who have about 40 percent of paddy surplus to sell plus the produce of the second crop season. We have been trying to improve the paddy price for farmers. If we can export our rice at a good price, that is around \$220, we can raise paddy prices for farmers to about 3,000 baht per kwian. Now that the export price has dropped like this, it is impossible for us to shore up the paddy price. This is what has made me very upset. We have emphasized to the United States that we have 35 million rice farmers in our country constituting 75 percent of our population, and we want to improve the lot of our farmers. If they are left poor, they will have to sell their paddy fields. It is our wish that the United States help us on this problem. The U.S. Government promised me that the problem would be taken care of. However, now that the price has been announced, it shows that the United States has not listened to its friend at all.



17



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G.F.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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BY NARA

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CONFIDENTIAL

July 9, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR NICHOLAS PLATT  
Executive Secretary  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Ambassador to the United States from the  
Kingdom of Thailand (C)

The President has reviewed and concurs in the recommendation of the Department of State that the appointment of Arsa Sarasin as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United States would be agreeable to the Government of the United States. You are requested to so inform the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand. (C)

Rodney B. McDaniel  
Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassify on: Appointment as Ambassador

NSC 8605037

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~UNCLASSIFIED w/  
CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT~~ *9/9/10*

July 8, 1986

ACTION

**SIGNED**

MEMORANDUM FOR RODNEY B. McDANIEL

FROM: JAMES A. KELLY *JK*

SUBJECT: Appointment of Arsa Sarasin of the Kingdom of Thailand as Ambassador to the United States

Attached at Tab I is an Agreement for the appointment of Arsa Sarasin as Ambassador to the United States from Thailand. State believes from the information available that Mr. Sarasin will make an excellent Ambassador and recommends the President agree to the proposed appointment. *I know him, as does Dick Childress, and we concur.*

RECOMMENDATION:

That you forward Tab I to Nick Platt.

Approve *WPK* Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments:

- Tab I Agreement
- Tab II Incoming from State

~~UNCLASSIFIED w/  
CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT~~



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
(With ~~CONFIDENTIAL EXDIS~~  
Attachments) *db 9/7/10*

July 7, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER  
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Appointment of Arsa Sarasin of the Kingdom of  
Thailand as Ambassador to the United States

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand has inquired whether our Government agrees to the appointment of Arsa Sarasin as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to the United States (TAB 2). A biography of Arsa Sarasin is attached (TAB 1).

The Department believes from the information available that Arsa Sarasin will make an excellent Ambassador to the United States and recommends that the President agree to the proposed appointment. If he concurs, the Department will inform the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.

*Nicholas Platt*  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Biography.
2. Telegram: Bangkok 28842 6/13/86.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
(With ~~CONFIDENTIAL EXDIS~~  
Attachments)

86 JUL 7 P 4: 20

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The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

CONFIDENTIAL  
Department of State

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S/S-O  
INCOMING

PAGE 01 BANGKO 28842 00 OF 02 131116Z 3568 8504054  
-----13/1221Z

PAGE 01 BANGKO 28842 00 OF 02 131116Z 3568 8504054  
MINISTER, ESPECIALLY ON THAILAND'S AND ASEAN'S STRATEGY  
TOWARDS PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION.

INFO SS-01 (AP-01) /002 A4 JEV  
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HE REACHED THE HIGHEST POSITION IN THE CAREER OF CIVIL  
SERVICE AS PERMANENT SECRETARY IN 1982, A POSITION HE  
HAS BEEN HOLDING UP TILL NOW.

ACTION SS-00  
INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /001 W  
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ARSA SARASIN WAS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, THE NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY OF THAILAND BETWEEN 1982-1986. HE WAS A MEMBER  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SENATE AND A  
MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE THAI NATIONAL  
GROUP TO THE ASIAN-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARIAN'S UNION. HE  
ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN CONFERENCES OF ASEAN  
PARLIAMENTARIANS AND MEETINGS BETWEEN ASEAN  
PARLIAMENTARIANS AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS FROM OTHER  
REGIONS, ESPECIALLY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

O 131054Z JUN 86  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2515

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 28842

EXDIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: ODIP, PREL, TH, US  
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT FOR ASA SARASIN

AS PERMANENT SECRETARY, HE ACTS AS TOP ADVISOR TO THE  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON ALL FOREIGN POLICY  
MATTERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE AFFECTING NATIONAL SECURITY  
INTEREST AND THAILAND'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH MAJOR  
TRADING PARTNERS. HE LEADS THE THAI DELEGATION TO  
REGULAR MEETINGS WITH HIS ASEAN COLLEAGUES TO DISCUSS  
ALL IMPORTANT ISSUES CONCERNING ASEAN COOPERATION. HE  
ALSO LED NUMEROUS DELEGATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES, THE  
SOVIET UNION, THE PRC, INDIA, JAPAN AND MANY OTHER  
COUNTRIES TO ENGAGE IN TALKS AND NEGOTIATIONS BOTH ON  
GENERAL AND SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS.

REF: BANGKOK 28409

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARUN PHANUPHONG CALLED ME IN  
ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 13 TO FORMALLY REQUEST AGREEMENT  
FOR ASA SARASIN (PERSONAL SPELLING ARSA SARASIN) AS  
THAILAND'S NEXT AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES. HE  
ALSO PROVIDED ME WITH ASA'S CURRICULUM VITAE. I TOLD  
ARUN THAT I WOULD CONVEY THE FORMAL REQUEST TO  
WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY.

ARSA ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN THE WORKING GROUP ON  
THAI-US ECONOMIC RELATIONS CHAIRED BY THE MINISTER OF  
INDUSTRY WHICH MEETS THE US AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND WITH  
A VIEW TO PROMOTING FURTHER THAI-US ECONOMIC INTEREST.  
HE SAT IN A POWERFUL CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP CHAIRED  
BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WHOSE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE  
DIRECTLY SUBMITTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER. ARSA ATTENDS  
REGULAR MEETINGS OF SPECIAL ECONOMIC ADVISORS TO THE  
FOREIGN MINISTER WHOSE MEMBERS COMPRISE LEADING  
BUSINESSMEN AND BANKERS IN THAILAND. HE ALSO SITS IN  
THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF TOURISM IN  
THAILAND CHAIRED BY A MINISTER ATTACHED TO THE PM'S  
OFFICE. HE IS A BOARD MEMBER OF THAI INTERNATIONAL  
AIRWAYS LIMITED, THAILAND'S NATIONAL AIRLINE. HE IS  
ALSO A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BANGKOK  
BANK, THE LARGEST BANK IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

3. ASA'S CURRICULUM VITAE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: MR. ARSA SARASIN WAS BORN ON 26 MAY 1936 IN  
BANGKOK. HE RECEIVED PRIMARY EDUCATION AT BANGKOK  
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE. IN 1949 HE WAS SENT TO DULWICH  
COLLEGE IN ENGLAND AND SPENT THE NEXT FOUR YEARS THERE.  
FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT OF HIS FATHER AS THAILAND'S  
AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, ARSA WENT TO WILBRAHAM  
ACADEMY AND GRADUATED FROM BOSTON UNIVERSITY,  
MASSACHUSETTS IN 1959.

ARSA SARASIN WAS AWARDED WITH THE HIGHEST DECORATION  
THAT A CIVIL SERVANT CAN EVER EXPECT IN HIS CAREER,  
NAMELY THE KNIGHT GRAND CORDON OF THE MOST EXALTED ORDER  
OF THE WHITE ELEPHANT AND THE KNIGHT GRAND CORDON OF THE  
MOST NOBLE OF THE CROWN OF THAILAND. THE KNIGHT  
COMMANDER OF THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER OF CHULA CHOM  
KHAO WAS CONFERRED ON HIM BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING FOR  
HIS LOYAL SERVICE TO THE MONARCHY. AMONG FOREIGN  
DECORATIONS ARE THE FOURTH CLASS OF THE ORDER OF THE  
SACRED TREASURE, JAPAN; GRANDE CROIX DE LA COURONNE,  
BELGIUM; THE GRAND CROSS SECOND CLASS OF THE ORDER OF  
MERIT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; AND THE FIRST  
CLASS OF THE GORKHA-DAKSHINA-BAHU, NEPAL.

HE JOINED THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN AUGUST 1959  
AND WAS SECOND SECRETARY IN THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT AND  
SEATO DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS BEFORE SERVING AT THE ROYAL THAI EMBASSY  
IN TOKYO IN 1963 AND THE ROYAL THAI EMBASSY IN KUALA  
LUMPUR IN 1971. ARSA WAS CHIEF OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA  
DIVISION OF THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT BEFORE SERVING AS  
SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURING THE  
PERIOD OF 1972-1974 IN WHICH HE WAS GIVEN THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE PM'S DELEGATION IN EXTENSIVE  
VISITS TO MANY COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE MIDDLE  
EAST, JAPAN, UNITED STATES, INCLUDING NUMEROUS SESSIONS  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK.

HE IS MARRIED TO M.R. SUCHITGUNA (MEE KITIYAKARA) AND  
THEY HAVE THREE CHILDREN. END TEXT. BROWN

HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF THE POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION  
IN 1974 AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF ASA-ASEAN AND ASPAC  
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT (THAILAND) IN THE SAME YEAR.  
HAVING HEADED THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT BETWEEN 1975-1977,  
HE WAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM AND CONCURRENTLY  
CHIEF OF MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE EUROPEAN  
COMMUNITIES. IN BRUSSELS, HE, AMONG OTHERS, ENGINEERED  
THE FORMATION OF A CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP BETWEEN  
ASEAN AND EC OFFICIALS WHICH FINALLY LED TO THE SIGNING  
OF THE ASEAN-EC COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND REGULAR  
MEETINGS BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TWO REGIONS.

ARSA RETURNED TO HEAD THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT IN 1980.  
HE WAS AMONG THE VERY FEW CHIEF ADVISORS TO THE FOREIGN

DECLASSIFIED  
State Waiver  
BY *ch* REGRADATE 10/30/2023

EXDIS  
EXDIS  
EXDIS

ALERT COPY

CONFIDENTIAL





NSC/S PROFILE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ID 8605037

RECEIVED 07 JUL 86 18

TO POINDEXTER

FROM PLATT, N

UPON REMOVAL  
OF ENCLOSURE(S)  
16 9/11/86

DOC DATE 07 JUL 86

KEYWORDS: THAILAND

AGREEMENT

SARASIN, ARSA

SUBJECT: APPT OF SARASIN AS AMB FM THAILAND TO US

-----  
ACTION MEMO MCDANIEL TO PLATT DUE 11 JUL 86 STATUS S FILES WH  
-----

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

~~CHILDRESS~~

~~KELLY~~

RODMAN

↑  
OUT OF COUNTRY  
KELLY

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID ( PS )

-----  
ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO  
-----

C 7/9

Reason Sgd

ARM CHRON JAC RJC

DISPATCH

AK 7/9

W/ATTCH FILE

(C) AK



# U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

## Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 431291 MAIN SUBCODE: CO155

Current Status	None
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2010-09-03
Case Number	
Notes	Transferred to CO119

[Change Status](#)

[Close Window](#)

## Review Status History

No.	Status	Date	User	Case Number	Notes
1	None	2010-09-03	dbarrie		Transferred to CO119

aj

C.F.  
432891  
3400  
C0155

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

EX-113  
EX

July 18, 1986

TR004  
HE006-01  
FG006-12

Your Royal Highness:

Though your stop in our country will be only a brief one, I wanted personally to welcome you to the United States. I trust your stay will be enjoyable and restful before you continue on with your return journey to Thailand.

Nancy has told me about her visit last May to your beautiful country. She enjoyed it immensely and was deeply impressed with the progress our two nations are making in attacking the scourge of drug trafficking and abuse. I want to thank you for your very kind personal role in welcoming Nancy and for the hospitality shown to her by Their Majesties the King and Queen. It was a memorable visit which she recalls with great fondness.

I wish you a safe and speedy journey home.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

X His Royal Highness  
Vachiralongkorn Adulyadej  
Crown Prince of Thailand  
Bangkok

NSC # 8605278

# WASHFAX RECEIPT

THE WHITE HOUSE

86 JUL 18 2:38

# C

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL  
OF CLASSIFIED E  
CLOSURE(S)

9/2/10

MESSAGE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PAGES one  
FROM RODNEY B. MCDANIEL 456-2224  
(NAME) (EXTENSION) (ROOM NUMBER)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION PRES LTR TO CROWN PRINCE VACHIRALONGKORN OF THAILAND  
NSC LOG# 5278

<u>TO (AGENCY)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO:</u>	<u>DEPT/ROOM NO.</u>	<u>EXTENSION</u>
STATE	NICK PLATT	EXEC SECRETARIAT	

REMARKS FOR INFORMATION ONLY; CHILDRESS OF NSC STAFF GIVEN THE ORIGINAL  
FOR DISPATCH

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

7/18

5278

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED  
Sec 2.4.1 E.O. 12958, no amend  
DATE 9/2/10

July 17, 1986

ACTION

**SIGNED**

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN M. POINDEXTER *RSZ/11*

SUBJECT: Presidential Letter to the Crown Prince of Thailand

Issue

To sign a letter to Crown Prince Vachiralongkorn of Thailand.

Facts

Crown Prince Vachiralongkorn is paying an official visit to Canada later this month and is scheduled to stop overnight in Seattle to rest before his return trip to Thailand.

Discussion

In view of his prominent position in Thai political affairs and his active participation in hosting Mrs. Reagan during her successful May visit to Bangkok, a brief letter from you would be appropriate.

Recommendation

OK      No

*RR*

\_\_\_\_\_ That you sign the letter at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A      Presidential Letter for Signature.

Prepared by:  
Richard Childress

cc Vice President

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5278

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

CONFIDENTIAL

July 17, 1986

ACTION

DECLASSIFIED  
Sec. 3.4(b), E.O. 12958, as amended  
White House, Sept. 11, 2008  
BY NARA *dis* DATE *7/7/16*

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: RICHARD CHILDRESS *R*

SUBJECT: Presidential Letter to the Crown Prince of  
Thailand

Crown Prince Vachiralongkorn is paying an official visit to Canada and is scheduled to stop overnight in Seattle to rest before his return trip to Thailand. In view of Thai cooperation with us in many areas, a brief Presidential letter would be in order.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State John Monjo will deliver the letter to the Crown Prince when he greets him in Seattle.

Jim Kelly (telephonically) concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you forward the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

Tab I Poindexter/President Memorandum  
Tab A Presidential Letter for Signature  
Tab II State Memorandum dated 7/16/86

cc: J. Kelly

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Declassify on: OADR



8622039

United States Department of State

# 5278

Washington, D.C. 20520

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 16, 1986

DECLASSIFIED

Dept. of State Collection, July 21, 1997

BY ds DATE 9/7/10MEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER  
THE WHITE HOUSESUBJECT: Letter of welcome from the President to the  
Crown Prince of Thailand

We are providing a suggested letter of welcome from the President to Thai Crown Prince Vachiralongkorn. The Crown Prince will pay an official visit to Canada later this month. On his return trip to Thailand, he is scheduled to stop overnight in Seattle to rest. Given his prominent present and future roles in Thai political affairs and his active part in hosting Mrs. Reagan during her successful May visit to Bangkok, we recommend that the President send a brief letter of welcome to the Crown Prince. The letter would be delivered by Deputy Assistant Secretary John Monjo who will greet the Prince in Seattle.

Nicholas Platt  
Executive SecretaryAttachment:

Suggested reply

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECL: OADR



CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

86 JUL 12 4 71 07

Department of State

Suggested Reply

Your Royal Highness:

Though your stop in our country will be only a brief one, I wanted personally to welcome you to the United States. I trust your stay will be enjoyable and restful before you continue on with your return journey to Thailand.

Nancy has told me about her visit last May to your beautiful country. She enjoyed it immensely and was deeply impressed with the progress our two nations are making in attacking the scourge of drug trafficking and abuse. I want to thank you for your very kind personal role in welcoming Nancy and for the hospitality shown to her by Their Majesties the King and Queen. It was a memorable visit which she recalls with great fondness.

I wish you a safe and speedy journey home.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

His Royal Highness  
Vachiralongkorn Adulyadej,  
Crown Prince of Thailand,  
Bangkok.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

TIME STAMP

86 JUL 17 A 7: 27

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF CLASSIFICATION

abz 7/10

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER: 5278

ACTION OFFICER: CHILDRESS DUE: 18 JUL

- Prepare Memo For President
- Prepare Memo McDaniel to Chew
- Prepare Memo For Poindexter / Fortier
- Prepare Memo McDaniel to Elliott
- Prepare Memo \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS\*

PHONE\* to action officer at ext. 3576

- | FYI                                       | FYI                                 | FYI                                  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brooks           | <input type="checkbox"/> Laux       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burghardt        | <input type="checkbox"/> Lenczowski | <input type="checkbox"/> Sable       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cannistraro      | <input type="checkbox"/> Levine     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sachs       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childress        | <input type="checkbox"/> Linhard    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sestanovich |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobb             | <input type="checkbox"/> Mahley     | <input type="checkbox"/> Small       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danzansky        | <input type="checkbox"/> Major      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sommer      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deGraffenreid    | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandel     | <input type="checkbox"/> Soos        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Djerejian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Matlock    | <input type="checkbox"/> Stark       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dobriansky       | <input type="checkbox"/> May        | <input type="checkbox"/> Steiner     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donley           | <input type="checkbox"/> North      | <input type="checkbox"/> St Martin   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Douglass         | <input type="checkbox"/> Perry      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahir-Kheli |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farrar           | <input type="checkbox"/> Platt      | <input type="checkbox"/> Teicher     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grimes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Pugliaresi | <input type="checkbox"/> Thompson    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hanley           | <input type="checkbox"/> Raymond    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tillman     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly | <input type="checkbox"/> Reger      | <input type="checkbox"/> _____       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kraemer          | <input type="checkbox"/> Ringdahl   | <input type="checkbox"/> _____       |

- INFORMATION  McDaniel  Pearson  Secretariat
- Rodman  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_
- Poindexter (advance)  Fortier (advance)

COMMENTS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Return to Secretariat



AL

National Security Council  
The White House

System # I  
Package # 5278  
DOCLOG AL A/O \_\_\_\_\_

86 JUL 17 P 2: 24

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
Rodney McDaniel	<u>2</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>A</u>
Don Fortier	_____	_____	_____
Paul Thompson	_____	_____	_____
Florence Gantt	_____	_____	_____
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Rodney McDaniel	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	<u>3</u>	<u>dmz/12</u>	<u>D</u>
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____

I = Information    A = Action    R = Retain    D = Dispatch    N = No further Action

cc: VP    Regan    Buchanan    Other \_\_\_\_\_

7/17

Suggest System signature.

Bob

NSC/S PROFILE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED REMOVAL  
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

ID 8605278

16  
9/9/16

RECEIVED 17 JUL 86 09

TO POINDEXTER

FROM PLATT, N

DOCDATE 16 JUL 86

CHILDRESS

17 JUL 86

POINDEXTER

17 JUL 86

KEYWORDS: THAILAND

CANADA

ADULYADEJ, V

HS

SUBJECT: PRES WELCOME LTR TO CROWN PRINCE VACHIRALONGKORN OF THAILAND

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR POINDEXTER DUE: 18 JUL 86 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHILDRESS

KELLY

RODMAN

PEARSON

COMMENTS

REF# 8622039

LOG

NSCIFID

( AK HW )

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
Childress	C 7/18	Pres 8622039 Ltr for dispatch		RTC

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE

(C)