

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4  
NEJ 94-403  
By Lip, NARA, Date 10-24-95

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*Pres file*

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Friday, October 6, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Visit by Thai Minister Thanat and Pote Sarasin

Foreign Minister Thanat and Development Minister Pote Sarasin will call on you at 12:30 P.M. today.

Thanat delivered a strong defense of our Viet-Nam position in a UN speech yesterday. Pote is a long-time friend of the U.S. You have met them both before.

You may wish to:

- 1) welcome them to Washington and express appreciation for Thailand's economic progress and its cooperation with us.
- 2) congratulate Thanat on his good speech yesterday.
- 3) ask for their impressions of the UN.

Items of interest that may come up:

- 1) Thai troop contribution

Their 2300-man unit has arrived in Viet-Nam. We are discussing an additional 8500 in Bangkok. You may wish to underline the desirability of a prompt Thai decision and announcement. I suggest this be discussed not as a U.S. request, but as a step important to Thailand's own security.

- 2) Regional Development

Thanat played a key role in forming ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asia Nations). Congratulations are in order. You may wish to refer to your message to Congress asking \$200 million for the Asian Bank Special Fund.

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### 3) Thai Economic Development

Minister Pote has been the chief architect of Thai economic policies. Their growth rate has averaged 9% over the last 5 years. You may wish to congratulate them on their achievements and promise continued U.S. cooperation with others in helping them.

### 4) Thai Internal Security

You may wish to ask them for their estimate of the insurgency. They are determined to deal with it as a Thai responsibility. They are integrating civil, police and military elements. We strongly approve their approach.

They may raise the question of U.S. security commitment to Thailand. They are somewhat nervous about our staying power in Southeast Asia.

You may wish to state:

Our commitment to Thailand is clear and we intend to keep it.

The above matters are covered in more detail in Secretary Rusk's memo (attached).

Regarding a press release, it is the Thai's strong wish that there be no press release or joint statements. But we can be sure that Thanat's and Pote's statements in the U.S. will be strong and positive and useful.

W. W. Rostow

Att.

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*SLR*

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

October 4, 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Your Appointment with Minister of  
National Development Pote Sarasin and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs Thanat  
Khoman of Thailand.

You have agreed to meet these two Thai civilian  
leaders on Friday, October 6, at 12:30 p.m. You will  
recall that you met with the same two leaders together  
just a year ago. Thanat is here for the UN, and Pote is  
here to speak at a major economic meeting in New York.

Enclosed are talking points for your possible use,  
together with biographical material, and a possible  
press release.

You should also know that Clark Clifford will be  
lunching with Pote on the preceding day. We will arrange  
with Mr. Clifford to pass on any special points that arise  
at that meeting.

*Dean Rusk*

Dean Rusk

Enclosures:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographical Material
3. Possible Press Release

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NJ 91-524

By *sig* NARA. Date *6-5-92*

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