

MACV Army "A" Photo Team Travels To Thailand

SUBJECT: King Of Thailand Briefed On SEATO Exercise Ramasoon
Thai Army Gets New Base Near Bridge Of River Kwea (Kwai)
Mitropob Fair

The two officers set up a combination Thai/US parachute team that also played soccer. The military team travelled from town to town, playing soccer matches with the local community's soccer team. The military soccer team always arrived by the unorthodox method of parachuting onto the soccer field. The foundation charged from 15 to 50 cents for the local population to see the soccer game, and grand entrance by aerial drop of the military team. It was estimated that 10,000 people showed up for this event. Slides 4 show the crowd watching the skydivers

MAC-Thai asked us to film the Mitropob Fair, and provided a vehicle, with scant more details. When we arrived the military soccer team was already parachuting onto the field. We filmed the plane and sky-divers. We saw thousands of on-lookers and many vendors, selling sodas and other snack food items, but really had no idea of what was happening. It took about a hour, until we stumbled onto an American officer, that explained in English, the events of the day. The rhyme and reason for the event, the goal of the fund raiser and background, that started the educational foundation. By now some people were leaving the soccer game. We were in some parking lot, a good $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the soccer field. We'd missing the majority of the game, and feared it would be over. So we dashed through the crowds to film some of the game's final minutes.

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