

O T H E R C O U N T R I E S

19 May 1967

THAI COMMUNISTS OFFER BOUNTY FOR AMERICANS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 May 1967--D

(Excerpts) Communist guerrillas operating in Thailand now have placed a price on the heads of American soldiers in this country, reliable sources said yesterday. Official translations of a captured document which was made available to a news agency gave the price as 500 U.S. dollars for killing "foreign soldiers." The document was signed by a group calling itself "Thais who love their nation."

Other sources said American airmen stationed in four big bases in northeast Thailand have been warned semiofficially of a "similar but lower bounty." According to this warning, prices quoted are 200 dollars for flying officers, 100 dollars for ground officers and 50 dollars for enlisted men.

This is the first time propaganda urging the assassination of American troops has been made public, although U.S. mission spokesman insisted today that it has been known for some time. The U.S. spokesman confirmed that threats had been made but said: "Offering rewards by communist groups for assassination of American military and civilian personnel as well as Thai officials is not a new development."

"This tactic is one of standard predictable, techniques employed by communist insurgents anywhere. It does not represent any basic change in tactics communist insurgents are using in Thailand and does not constitute a step-up in activities here." However, well-informed sources said this is the first time threats were made public here, although they have been known for at least several months now. They added that threats against soldiers and civilians, none of whom is permitted to carry personal weapons in Thailand, have had no effect on counterinsurgency efforts. They said threats have been generally ignored.

NEW RADIO FACILITIES ANNOUNCED IN THAILAND

100-Kw. Transmitter

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 16 May 1967--D

(Text) Prime Minister Thanom yesterday opened the Public Relations Department's new 100-kilowatt overseas radio transmitter at Tambol Khlong, Huk Long Luang, Pathum Thani. He noted the importance of informing the world of Thailand's true position, so often maligned by communist propaganda broadcasts.

Director General Punnakan explained the technical innovations which permit the transmitter to cover a wide area. This is possible by the use of the new RCA wave system which broadcasts on a wavelength of 25.189 meters or at a frequency of 11.910 megacycles using a rhombic antenna.

Locations that can receive the broadcast are the northern region of Thailand, Burma, India, Russia, China (Kunming, Sinkiang), Mongolia, Greenland, Washington, D.C., England, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland. The station cost over 80,000 dollars.

In his reply, Prince Sihanouk considers the prospect of cooperation between all Southeast Asian countries very important. Such cooperation is not merely desirable but is necessary for the acceleration of the social and economic progress of Nefos (new emerging forces) peoples. However, it is very regrettable that ambitions, intrigues, and aggression of a big Western country make it impossible to realize all regional cooperation projects.

Meanwhile, Prince Sihanouk stated that Cambodia will fully cooperate with Indonesia to promote the cooperation in question after all nations in Southeast Asia have again received their free and complete independence to determine their own lot.

COMMON MARKET IDEA NOT REJECTED BY MALIK

Paris AFP in English 1220 GMT 16 May 1967--E (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

(Text) Djakarta, 16 May--Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik told newsmen here today that he does not reject the idea of a council of Asia and an Asian common market envisaged by Indian External Affairs Minister M.C. Chagla. Commenting on Chagla's proposal made on the eve of his departure after an official to Malaysia last week, Malik said that his country will have to study the possibilities of setting up such organizations. He explained that the establishment of a common market is a particularly difficult problem and drew attention to the obstacles faced by the European Common Market countries.

According to Chagla, the council of Asia would be similar to the Council of Europe, which consists of most of the noncommunist countries in Europe.

SUHARTO EXPLAINS NEW ORDER TO MEDAN RALLY

Djakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 18 May 1967--B

(Summary) Acting President General Suharto addressed a rally in Medan this morning. General Suharto said that the new order is different from the older order, which centered its activities in the political field. "The new order centers its attention purely on construction, he said. He added that in all its activities, the new order puts emphasis on corrections which are necessary for the realization of social and civil order and for the attainment of the ultimate goal." Referring to construction in North Sumatra, Suharto called on the people to take an active part in the region's development, noting North Sumatra's importance as a major source of foreign exchange for Indonesia.

"Prior to the rally, General Suharto officiated at the transfer of the post of interregional commander for Sumatra from Lieutenant General Mokoginta to Major General (?Kusno Utomo). Suharto called on the North Sumatra people, especially the ranks of the new order, to always maintain vigilance against efforts to sow discord by the enemies of the new order.

"In a press statement upon his arrival at the governor's residence in Medan, General Suharto said that the Chinese issue must be settled in an integral manner. The Acting President noted the part Chinese play in the Indonesian economy and pointed out that Chinese own 30 percent of the capital in the Indonesian economy. In order to overcome this Chinese economic domination, he said, the government is now preparing a (words indistinct) Bill. President General Suharto left Medan at 1500 to return to Djakarta."