

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 22268 271129Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 HA-05 SR-04 AID-05 /078 W

-----101368 271136Z /17

O 271120Z JUN 79

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9367

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 22268

HW UDORN 152 SENT ACTION BANGKOK 27 JUNE RPTD FOR YOUR
ACTION

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 152

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SREF SHUM PEPR TH CB

SUBJECT: REPATRIATED KHMER REFUGEES

REF: A) UDORN 0150 (B) BANGKOK 21887 (C) VARIOUS TELECONS

1. ON JUNE 25 RELIABLE THAI MILITARY AUTHORITIES REPORTED THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF KHMER REPATRIATED ACROSS TA THAU PASS NEAR PREAH VIHEAR ARE STILL IN THE AREA. DIFFERENT GROUPS OF 200-300 REFUGEES CONTINUE TO APPROACH THAI TROOPS GUARDING THAT AND ADJACENT PASSES AND HAVE BEEN FENDED OFF. UNHCR SOURCES REPORT A RUMOR THAT A FEW REFUGEES MADE IT BACK INTO DETENTION AT THE ARMY CAMP WHICH IS CPM 2122 HEADQUARTERS IN KANTHARALAK BUT WERE QUICKLY REPATRIATED AGAIN. MILITARY SOURCES ADD THAT HENG SAMRIN/VIETNAMESE ELEMENTS ARE SO FAR "UNABLE TO MANAGE" THIS REFUGEE PROBLEM.

2. LOW LEVEL INTELLIGENCE SOURCES SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT THE HENG SAMRIN/VIETNAMESE PRESENCE IN THE AREA IS SUBSTANTIAL. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 22268 271129Z

TOWN OF CHOAM KHSAN, LESS THAN 50 KM FROM THE PASS, IS REPORTEDLY A MAJOR BASE WITH RECENT LARGE-SCALE AMMUNITION DELIVERIES BY TRUCK AND A GARRISON OF OVER 5,000 MEN. THIS COMMAND PRESUMABLY PROVIDED THE INFORMATION HENG SAMRIN RADIO USED TO ACCUSE THE THAIS. WHAT IS LESS SURE IS HOW THESE AUTHORITIES WILL TREAT A PREDOMINANTLY ETHNIC CHINESE POPULATION MANY OF WHOM CLAIM THAT THEY ORIGINALLY FLED CAMBODIA WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE NEW REGIME.

3. THOSE FORCED BACK HAVE CLEARLY UNDERGONE A HARROWING EXPERIENCE. A VERY GOOD SOURCE READ ME A SHORT LETTER FROM ONE OF THE THAI TROOPS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE REFOULEMENT. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN 2,000 BODIES AS OF JUNE 12 WITH MORE THAN 500 KILLED BY MINES. THAI TROOPS SHOT OTHERS: HE WROTE SPECIFICALLY ABOUT ONE SUCH SOLDIER, A SEUA LUONG (YELLOW TIGER) WHO BOASTED OF KILLING 12 AND TAKING THEIR GOLD AND CLOTHING. OTHER REFUGEES, HE NOTED, DIED FROM LACK OF FOOD.

4. COMMENT: SOME THAI SOLDIERS HAVE ENGAGED IN INDIVIDUAL CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR OF THE SORT COMMON TO ALL ERAS. MORE SERIOUS ARE THE DEATHS FROM MINES WHICH GIVE LIE TO THAI CLAIMS THAT REFUGEES RETURNED TO A "SAFE" AREA. THIS POINT MAY GIVE THE EMBASSY ADDITIONAL LEVERAGE TO ARGUE THAT THAILAND'S REPUTATION CAN ONLY BE REFURBISHED BY A HUMANITARIAN DONATION OF FOOD AND SEED TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED REPATRIATION.
CARNEY UNQTE AMBRAMOWITZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REPATRIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1979
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1979BANGKO22268
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: EO LINE ADJUSTED PER BANGKOK 22306 DATED 6/28/79
Executive Order: GS 19850627 WILKINSON, M JAMES
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D790290-0689
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1979/newtext/t19790619/aaaaaotq.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8b35d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 79 UDORN 150, 79 BANGKOK 21887
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 dec 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2518821
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPATRIATED KHMER REFUGEES
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, PEPR, TH, CB, XC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8b35d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014