

D/FBIS
Chen

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:
Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

EXTENSION

NO. FBIS-0175/85

STAT

DATE
19 April 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED FORWARDED

1. Acting Deputy Director
for Science and
Technology

2. Room 6E45, Headquarters

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Jim:

Attached is latest on the
Thai approval of the FBIS
installation.

of our
Engineering Division will be
en route 27 April with
contractual engineers to get
started on the installation.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 190607Z APR 85 STAFF

CITE FBIS/BANGKOK 15736

TO: FBIS.

SUBJECT: ROSET

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1. HERewith AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF ROSET IN THAI OFFICIALDOM. PARAGRAPHS TWO THROUGH FIVE PROVIDE TEXT OF A DIPLOMATIC NOTE, BASED ON OUR DRAFT, SENT UPON MINISTRY REQUEST FROM EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY CALLED ME FRIDAY, 12 APRIL, TO REQUEST SUCH A NOTE TO GIVE THEM BASIS FOR ISSUING A LETTER OF CONCURRENCE -- WHICH THEY INDICATED TO ME SHOULD BE ISSUED WITHOUT PROBLEM BUT PROBABLY WITH AS MUCH AS THREE WEEKS TRAVEL TIME THROUGH THE MINISTRY. I WAS TOLD THIS WAS A FORMALITY AS THE ORIGINAL 29 MARCH 1984 REQUEST WENT TO A DEPARTMENT OF A DIFFERENT MINISTRY. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT SUCH A LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL BE NEEDED FOR THE MICROWAVE FREQUENCY APPROVAL. HERewith TEXT OF NOTE THE WORDING OF WHICH IS BASED ON DOCUMENTS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN TO THE MINISTRY:

2. "THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND AND HAS THE HONOR TO REQUEST THE CONCURRENCE OF TH ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT TO THE INSTALLATION BY THE FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE (FBIS) OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF A SATELLITE EARTH STATION AT THE BANG PING SITE OF DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT. THE BANGKOK BUREAU OF THE FBIS, AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION IN THAILAND, MONITORS PUBLIC BROADCAST MEDIA IN SOUTHEAST AND SOUTH ASIA. IT TRANSLATES SELECTED MATERIAL FROM THE BROADCASTS AND PROVIDES THIS MATERIAL TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT, INCLUD-

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PAGE 2 FRIS/BANGKOK 15736 C O N F I D E N T I A L
ING THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. "FOR SOME YEARS FBIS HAS OPERATED IN THAILAND, UTILIZING JOINT COMMUNICATION FACILITIES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT. IT HAS RECENTLY BECOME CLEAR TO THE FBIS THAT THAT GROWING USE OF SATELLITES FOR PUBLIC MEDIA TRANSMISSION IN ASIA WOULD MAKE IT NECESSARY FOR THE FBIS TO ACQUIRE THE CAPABILITY TO RECEIVE RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTS AND PRESS SERVICES TRANSMITTED BY SATELLITE TRANSMISSION IF IT WAS TO SATISFACTORILY CARRY OUT ITS MISSION. THE FBIS ENVISIONS THE INSTALLATION OF A PASSIVE RECEIVE-ONLY SATELLITE EARTH STATION. THIS WOULD INCLUDE TWO PARABOLIC DISH ANTENNAS AT THEBANG PING SITE. DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT, FBIS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BEAR SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROCUREMENT, OWNERSHIP, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ANTENNA, DISHES AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT.

4. "THE EMBASSY ASKS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTRY IN OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT TO THIS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROJECT.

5. "THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION."

6. CONCERNING OUR REQUEST FOR A MICROWAVE FREQUENCY, REQUESTED DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED, AND OUR CONTACT AT THE FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE HAS ASSURED US THAT REQUIRED PAPERWORK IS PROGRESSING AT POST HASTE. AT THE SAME TIME WE LEARNED THAT THE OFFICE DIRECTOR, WHO HAS BEEN THE OBSTRUCTIONIST IN THE PAST AND WHO NOW HAS FACE TO SAVE (SEE FBIS/BANGKOK 99591 OF 7 DECEMBER), IS TRYING TO HOLD UP PROCESS ONCE AGAIN. WE COVERED THIS IN A STATUS CHECK WITH OUR CONTACTS AT THE NSC AND THEY HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO PROVIDE HELP IN THIS DEPARTMENT INFORMALLY.

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