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A-834

TO : Department of State

INFO : HONG KONG, TAIPEI, SAIGON, USUN, DEFENSE, USDEL FRANCE

FROM : Amembassy BANGKOK

DATE : November 17, 1971

SUBJECT : Thanat's Comments on Various Subjects

REF :

In discussion with members of the Defense Orientation Conference Association (DOCA) November 4, Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman commented on a variety of subjects of current interest:

Negotiations with North Viet-Nam: In order to end the war, President Nixon has to be successful in getting both Peking and Moscow to bring pressure on Hanoi. However, now that the Chinese are ready to talk, the Soviets are trying to put obstacles in the path of serious negotiations.

Dialogue with Peking: Through "agreement" with Southeast Asia, China stands to gain in trade and through recognition as the predominant power in Asia.

Relations with Republic of China: Thailand will maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan as long as possible, but "when national interest requires that we do something else, we will have no alternative."

Enclosure:

1. Informal Record of Thanat's Comments

Decontrol following November 16, 1976

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Drafted by:	Drafting Date:	Phone No.:	Contents and Classification Approved by:
POL:DCFerguson:sh	11/11/71		POL:LGPickering

Clearances: POMIL:Mr. Muller DS:Mr. Stokes MC:Mr. Rosenthal

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CHIREP: Dual representation came two years too late. Nixon-Kissinger visits affected the outcome of the vote.

Insurgency: Requires the expenditure of Thai resources which keeps Thailand from developing at a much faster rate than Communist countries.

Narcotics: Thailand is not basically at fault, but is cooperating with control efforts.

Enclosed is an informal record of Thanat's comments by Embassy officers present at this meeting with the DOCA group.

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