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SECRET

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF SUPREME COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS (FORWARD)

Lieutenant General Kriangsak Chomanan

Pronunciation: KREE-AHNG-SAHK CHOH-MAH-MAHN

May be addressed or referred to by rank and first name

Lt. General Kriangsak Chomanan has been Deputy Chief of Staff of the Supreme Command Headquarters (Forward) since October 1963 and has served concurrently as DCS of the National Security Command since October 1965. He became well acquainted with many American military officers in 1952-53 when he served in Korea, first as Executive Officer and later Commander of the RTA 21st Infantry Regiment expeditionary force, and again when he attended the U. S. Command and General Staff College in 1953. Americans know him as a soft-spoken, sincere, capable and steady officer.

Lt. General Kriangsak rose so rapidly in rank that some reports have speculated that his military colleagues may be jealous. He was said to get along well with his immediate superior, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chulasap, but to have been the target of some criticism by Deputy Prime Minister Praphat. Though characterized as pro-West and cooperative with his American contacts he has also been described as unimaginative. At present he is playing a key role in Thai suppression efforts against the Communist-instigated insurgency in Thailand.

Kriangsak Chomanan was born December 17, 1918, in Bangkok and was graduated from the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy in that city in 1937. After serving in a series of infantry assignments he attended Thai Command and General Staff College, and became Acting Chief of Staff of the 14th Regiment in 1949. Following his service in Korea, he represented Thailand in the SEATO Military Planning Division in the Supreme Command Headquarters. He attended the Thai National Defense College in 1962, and attained the rank of Lieutenant General in January 1961 after being assigned to his present position. He has

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visited the United States on two previous occasions, as well as several other countries.

Kriangsak is married and has two children. His wife, Wirat, did not accompany him on this visit to the United States. He underwent an operation for cancer of the neck at Walter Reed Hospital in 1963, from which he has apparently recovered completely. Kriangsak speaks good English. He smokes a pipe and drinks in moderation, preferably Scotch.

EA/TB:CJNelson April 1968

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