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Attention - Miss Mullett S/S 10914
Keep this study together.
HB

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

JUNE 23, 1967

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SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Your Meeting with the King of Thailand

We hope through this meeting to strengthen Thai conviction of our determination to see a just and stable peace established in Southeast Asia; to demonstrate our gratitude for Thai support of Free World interests in Southeast Asia; and to show our respect for and appreciation of the important role of the Monarchy in Thailand.

All of these objectives can be most effectively furthered through your direct communication with the King, who has many times reiterated (including during the present visit to the United States), his great personal respect and admiration for you as a man who understands well the problems of Asia and the sensitivities of Asians. The King has but a limited role in the government. However, his prestige, as a Monarch of a long and proud dynasty in a country where the Monarch is deeply revered and as a person highly admired for his exemplary personal life, makes him a significant political force. He frequently exerts a useful behind-the-scenes influence on events in Thailand. Finally, he can communicate perhaps more effectively than any other person with the people of Thailand.

Your sensitivity during your recent visit to Thailand in conveying your desire for a Thai troop contribution in Vietnam without making a direct request was greatly appreciated by the

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