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RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy BANGKOK DATE: October 28, 1971

SUBJECT : BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING: RTG Appoints New Under-Secretary of State in The Ministry of National Development and New Director-General of The Mineral Resources Department

REF : CERP D

Summary

Vija Sethaput, the Director-General of the Mineral Resources Department, was replaced by his former deputy, Saman Buravas, when he became Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of National Development on October 1. Both men were educated abroad and have risen to their present positions after long careers in the Thai bureaucracy. Mr. Vija is considered to be a special protege of his boss, Pote Sarasin, the Minister of National Development and Deputy Prime Minister.

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On October 1, 1971, when Mr. UTAI Vudhikula retired as Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of National Development, he was replaced by Mr. VIJA Sethaput. Mr. Vija had been Director-General of the Ministry of National Development's Mineral Resources Department for several years. He will be succeeded in that position by his former deputy, Mr. SAMAN Buravas.

Mr. Saman was born in Bangkok on September 14, 1918. He graduated from Bangkok's Amnueysilp School in 1934 and, having won a King's Scholarship, was sent to study at the Royal School of Mines at the University of London in 1936. He graduated with a B. Sc. degree in Mining Geology in 1940.

INR/O:L/B Info noted
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