DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 969041

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

A-535

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO : Department of State

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 14 12 36 PM 1970
RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy BANGKOK

SUBJECT : Transfers of Thai Provincial Governors

REF : Bangkok A-439, August 17, 1970

POL 15 THAI
IAR/P

The Bangkok Post September 4, 1970, quoting "informed sources," reported that the controversial Governor of Ubon Ratchathani, Phat Bunyarataphan, will be transferred to Phitsanulok. According to the Post, Phat will be replaced by the present Governor of Surin, Police Major General Wichien Simuntara. The Bangkok World the following day, this time quoting the Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Interior, Puang Suwanarat, carried a similar report.

In other moves, the Post and the World reported that Phitsanulok Governor Phot Chudankura would go to Naha Sarakham to replace Governor Vieng Sakhonsindh who would be moved to Uttaradit. Uttaradit Governor Vett Nijathavera would replace Governor Sa-nga Chantrasakha in Uthai Thani and Sa-nga would replace Governor Boon Promtakang in Kalasin. Buri would be moving into the position vacated by the retiring Governor of Khon Kaen, Governor Damrong Soontornsaratoon of Nakhon Pathom would replace the Governor of Chon Buri and he would be replaced by Governor Prapot Rekaruji of Saraburi, and Governor Vong Chuvichien of Ranong would go to Kanchanaburi. In addition, the Deputy Governor of Ubon, Sa-ngad Nakcharoen, would go to Surin as Governor; Deputy Governor Chalerm Suwanmeth of Songkhla would become Governor in Krabi; Police Lt. Gen. Chan Vejcharoen of Nakhon Si Thammarat would replace Governor Vong in Ranong; and Visit Chaiyaporn of the Department of Local Administration in the Ministry of Interior would replace Governor Prapot in Saraburi.

Decontrol Following 9/9/73

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

Drafted by: EMB:WLEmmerth:bb

Contents and Classification Approved by: POL:Ruth A. Metcalf

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

Bangkok A- 535

2.

Comment: Governor Phat was recently involved in a controversy with the [illegible] Provincial Assembly, which cut [illegible] being insensitive to the people and looking [illegible] the members of the Assembly's charges [illegible] not [illegible] that he be transferred, even [illegible] that he had [illegible] on numerous occasions in the past. Governor Phat's departure at this time must be viewed [illegible] in part as resulting from the pressure put on him by the Assembly.

[illegible] reluctant to actually confirm the transfers at this time. Ministry of Interior officials have said that [illegible] would be generally accurate although [illegible] to see that the newspapers sometimes [illegible] Ministry of Interior officials than [illegible]

[illegible]

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE