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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 659

Bangkok 504
1-13-71

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ACTION EA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 PM-05 NSC-10 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-08 NSAE-00 P-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 NIC-01
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R 130923Z JAN 71
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1494

UNCLAS BANGKOK 504

SUBJ: MOSCOW ON THAILAND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S.

REF : A. FBIS BANGKOK 091006 JAN 71; B. FBIS BANGKOK 061011 NOV 70.

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YOUR ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO REF A WHICH IS TEXT OF ARTICLE BY VITALIEY IVANOV ON SECRETARY LAIRD'S VISIT TO BANGKOK. ACTUALLY, VISIT IS USED ONLY AS THE LAUNCHING PAD FOR A GENERAL CRITICISM OF THAILAND'S CLOSE RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH US. WHILE CRITICISM OF THAI LEADERS IS IMPLICIT, IT IS CLEAR THAT MAIN TARGET IS US POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. IN FACT, THAILAND IS PORTRAYED AS BOTH AN UNWITTING AND UNWILLING PARTNER WHICH IS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO BROADCASTS OUT OF PEKING WHICH DWELL UPON RTG "COLLUSION" WITH US. ARTICLES OF THIS NATURE HAVE BEEN A REGULAR IF INFREQUENT FEATURE OF MOSCOW BROADCASTS IN THAI (LAST SUCH WAS ON OCTOBER 31 - SEE REF B) AND WHETHER SUBJECT IS THAI COOPERATION IN US MILITARY EFFORTS OR THAI ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES IT IS AMERICAN CONNECTION RATHER THAN RTG ITSELF WHICH IS INVARIABLY PRIMARY TARGET OF ATTACK.
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