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ANALYSIS BRANCH
Action Taken

FROM : AmEmbassy BANGKOK

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1971

Type of Action
Action Office Symbol
Name of Officer

SUBJECT : British Support for Thai Counterinsurgency Operations

REF : Bangkok 13514, 26 Oct 1970

1. The British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Army) Geoffrey Johnson Smith on September 2 presented to Lt. General Saiyud Kerdphol of the Communist Suppression Operations Command 130 radios valued at 60,000 pounds ($144,000 US) to be used in a new counterinsurgency operation in northern Thailand. The radios will be used to link up village defense units, strike platoons, and a cavalry company headquarters in Chiang Rai and Nan Provinces surrounding the Doi Pachit mountain where Communist terrorist (CT) elements are located. The network will allow the village defense units to report intelligence quickly to the reaction forces so that the latter can respond more rapidly and hamper CT movement from the mountain down to the lowland areas in which the villages are located.

2. The British gift was made as a result of discussions between the British Embassy, CSOC, and the U. S. Mission after the British showed an interest last year in providing some help to complement U. S. support in this field. The genesis of the British gift was a visit by Parliamentary Secretary of State Anthony Royle to Bangkok in October 1970 reported in reftel.

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