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CODEL MURKOWSKI

CINCPAC FOR CARL TAYLOR

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREF, PREL, OREP, MOPS, US, VM
SUBJECT: CODEL MURKOWSKI MEETING WITH VIETNAMESE DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTER HOANG BICH SON: JANUARY 17, 1986:
EXCEPT ODP DISCUSSION

1. (CONFIDENTIAL-ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. CODEL MURKOWSKI MET WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HOANG BICH SON AT THE STATE GUEST HOUSE IN HANOI ON JANUARY 17, 1986. NGUYEN CAN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS AT THE MFA, VU THI HUE AND NGO HOANG OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIRECTORATE AND LE TRAN TIEN OF THE PRESS DIRECTORATE ASSISTED SON. DO VAN MINH ACTED AS INTERPRETER. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN A CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. THE MOST INTERESTING NEW ELEMENT WAS SON'S USING A FORMULA WHICH CREATED A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF AMBIGUITY ON THE QUESTION OF LIVE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM. THE CODEL OFFERED TO MAKE THE EXPERTISE OF THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HAWAII AVAILABLE TO THE VIETNAMESE TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY THEIR OWN MIA'S. SON'S REPLY WAS NONCOMMITAL.
3. SENATOR MURKOWSKI, AT SON'S INVITATION, BEGAN THE DISCUSSION, BY INTRODUCING HIS PARTY. IN DOING SO HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE CODEL CAME AS ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THAT ITS MISSION, THOUGH COMPLEMENTARY, WAS NOT THE SAME AS THAT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARIES WOLFOWITZ AND ARMITAGE DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK. IT WAS BENEFICIAL TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE BEGUN BY THE ADMINISTRATION AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO AN INCREASED COOPERATIVE EFFORT ON MIA'S IN THE FUTURE. HE NOTED THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE CONCERNED BY ALLEGATIONS OF AMERICANS REMAINING IN VIETNAM AND HE WANTED TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF AMERICA AND VIETNAM JOINTLY FOLLOWING UP THESE REPORTS.

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4. THE SENATOR ALSO UNDERLINED THE FACT THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE ADMINISTRATION GIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO RESOLUTION OF THE MIA ISSUE. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE WORK PLAN TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE WITHIN TWO YEARS. WE SHOULD EXPLORE HOW TO INCREASE COOPERATION IN ITS RESOLUTION BY USING WHATEVER RESOURCES WERE NECESSARY IN THE EFFORT. HE ADDED THAT THE DELEGATION WOULD LIKE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF VIETNAMESE CONCERNS REGARDING THE ORDERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM.

5. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ALSO OBSERVED THAT WE COULD DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES AND A POSSIBLE AMERICAN TECHNICAL PRESENCE IN HANOI, BUT THAT MESSRS. WOLFOWITZ AND ARMITAGE HAD SAID THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR SUCH AN OFFICE UNLESS THE PACE OF ACTIVITY INCREASED. HE SUGGESTED THAT, KNOWING VIETNAM'S CONCERN FOR ITS OWN MIA'S, AMERICAN TECHNICAL EXPERTISE MIGHT ASSIST VIETNAM IN ITS OWN RECOVERY EFFORTS. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE THOUGHT WE MIGHT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF AMERICAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN VIETNAM'S EFFORTS.

6. THE SENATOR THEN SUGGESTED THAT THE VIETNAMESE MIGHT INFORM THE CODEL REGARDING THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND ON THE BORDER WITH CHINA.

7. REGARDING LIVE SIGHTINGS OF AMERICANS, THE SENATOR TOLD SON THAT WHEN HE RETURNED TO WASHINGTON HE WOULD HOLD EXTENSIVE HEARINGS ON THE SUBJECT. THE VETERANS COMMITTEE WOULD INVITE AMERICANS WHO HAD MADE SUCH ALLEGATIONS TO GIVE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE BASES OF THEIR ACCOUNTS AND THEN ALLOW THE ADMINISTRATION TO RESPOND TO THE INFORMATION PRODUCED. HE PROPOSED THAT VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES MAKE A JOINT EFFORT TO RESOLVE THESE REPORTS.

8. SON IN REPLY OBSERVED THAT THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM, BUT THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH AMERICAN DELEGATIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH THE ARMITAGE GROUP, HAD REVEALED THAT WE BOTH HAD SOMETHING IN COMMON. WE BOTH WANT TO RESOLVE THE HUMANITARIAN ISSUE OF THE MIA'S. WE ALSO BOTH AGREED THAT IT WAS SEPARATE FROM OTHER ISSUES.

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THE FACT THAT WE HAD SOMETHING IN COMMON WAS VERY IMPORTANT. WE HAVE AGREED TO KEEP THIS HUMANITARIAN ISSUE SEPARATE FROM OTHER ISSUES. THE UNITED STATES SAYS THAT THIS A HUMANITARIAN ISSUE, BUT ALSO SAYS IT IS A PRECONDITION TO NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. WE CAN RESOLVE IT WITH OR WITHOUT NORMALIZATION.

9. ON THE WORK PLAN, SON SAID, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED REVISIONS TO OUR PLAN AND WE RESPONDED. GENERALLY SPEAKING WE AGREED WITH YOUR PROPOSALS. YOU ARE NOW STUDYING OUR RESPONSE, BUT YOU HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO US. THERE IS, IN ANY CASE, BASIC AGREEMENT. WE HAVE NARROWED OUR DIFFERENCES. WE INTEND TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES IN 1986 AND 1987. WE CAN NOW DO MORE THAN PREVIOUSLY BECAUSE OF THE IMPROVED SECURITY AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN OUR COUNTRY. IN 1986 WE WILL MOBILIZE THE PEOPLE. WE HAVE RECEIVED COOPERATION FROM THE UNITED STATES. IT

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BROADCAST A STATEMENT AGAINST TRADING IN REMAINS. MANY PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH WERE DOING SO. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WAS OF GREAT ASSISTANCE. WE ARE HAPPY TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE. AMERICAN TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IS VERY HELPFUL IN JOINT EXCAVATIONS. WE WILL TRY TO FINISH IN TWO YEARS. SOONER WOULD BE BETTER, BUT IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DO SO WE WILL PROLONG THE PERIOD.

10. SON AFFIRMED THAT ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR HAD BEEN HANDED OVER. WE TURNED OVER EVERYBODY IN THE NORTH AND THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT DID SO IN THE SOUTH. WE ARE NOT HOLDING ANY LIVE PRISONERS. WHEN WE RECEIVE REPORTS REGARDING LIVE AMERICANS WE WONDER WHO THEY ARE. MAYBE THEY REMAINED IN VIETNAM AS FORCES AGAINST OUR COUNTRY. WE WONDER IF THESE AMERICANS WERE SENT BY THE UNITED STATES TO INFILTRATE AND LIVE HERE.

11. AFTER THE WAR SOME AMERICANS INFILTRATED ILLEGALLY INTO VIETNAM. WE ARRESTED THEM AND HAVE SINCE HANDED THEM OVER TO YOU. THERE HAVE BEEN THREE OR FOUR, THE LAST ONE IN 1985. WE CHARGED AND FINED THEM, BUT ONE HAS NOT YET PAID HIS FINE. WE DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THERE MAY BE SOME OTHER ILLEGAL INFILTRATORS FROM THE UNITED STATES. THEY MAY BE SENT BY THE UNITED STATES OR ENTER ILLEGALLY.

12. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED SON IF HE KNEW OF ANY SUCH AMERICANS. SON REPLIED THAT EVERYONE WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED HAD BEEN FREED. WE AFFIRM THAT THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT IS NOT HOLDING ANY PRISONERS. IF ANY AMERICANS ARE HERE THEY ARE NOT IN OUR CONTROL.

13. SON SAID THAT VIETNAM HAS TOLD THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT WE WOULD INVESTIGATE THEIR LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS. WE HAVE DONE SO, BUT NONE HAS PROVED TO BE TRUE. ONE, FOR INSTANCE TURNED OUT TO BE AN INDIAN. ANOTHER, WITH BROWN HAIR, WAS A KHMER. WE TOLD THE AMERICANS LAST WEEK THAT WE WOULD CHECK OUT SUCH REPORTS, BUT SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT GIVEN US ANY NEW INFORMATION.

14. WE TALKED TO THE ARMITAGE DELEGATION ABOUT THE CONTINUOUS PRESENCE OF A TECHNICAL GROUP IN HANOI. WE FIND IT UNNECESSARY TO HAVE SUCH A PRESENCE NOW. THERE ARE TECHNICAL MEETINGS EVERY TWO MONTHS AT WHICH WE CAN EXCHANGE INFORMATION. THERE IS NO REASON FOR A CONTINUOUS TECHNICAL PRESENCE. THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE SENSITIVE ON SUCH QUESTIONS AND THEY SAY THERE SHOULD BE RECIPROCITY BY THE UNITED STATES.

15. SENATOR DECONCINI ASKED IF VIETNAM WOULD CONSIDER THE TEMPORARY PRESENCE IN HANOI, FOR THREE OR FOUR MONTHS, OF AN AMERICAN TEAM WHICH WOULD HAVE ONLY TWO PURPOSES: TO INVESTIGATE LIVE SIGHTINGS, AND TO EXPEDITE THE DISCOVERY OF REMAINS AND THEIR REPATRIATION. SON REPLIED THAT THE TECHNICAL MEETINGS WHICH TAKE PLACE EVERY TWO MONTHS WERE ADEQUATE. THE SENATOR RESTATED HIS QUESTION. SON

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REPLIED THAT IF IT WAS NECESSARY THIS WOULD BE

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DISCUSSED.

16. SENATOR DECONCINI OBSERVED THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAD BEEN MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. IF THE MIA QUESTION WERE SOLVED THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE MOVEMENT TOWARD RELATIONS. THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH BELIEVES WE SHOULD WORK WITH VIETNAM ON THE QUESTION TO ASSURE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS ARE GONE AND THAT WE ARE NOT SENDING ANY AMERICANS INTO VIETNAM. A TEMPORARY PRESENCE IN HANOI SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. (COMMENT: THE CAMBODIA ISSUE WAS ADDED IN THIS CONTEXT LATER IN THE CONVERSATION. END COMMENT.)

17. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES NOW COOPERATE TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. MEETINGS TAKE PLACE EVERY TWO MONTHS IN WHICH WE EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ADVICE. IF, IN FACT, THERE SHOULD BE AN OFFICE HERE IT SHOULD BE BASED ON RECIPROCITY. WE DO NOT NOW NEED TO HAVE AN OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, HOWEVER.

18. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF SON WAS INTERESTED IN HIS SUGGESTION REGARDING AMERICAN ASSISTANCE IN REGARD TO VIETNAM'S 300 THOUSAND MIA'S. THE AMERICAN EXPERTISE CENTERED IN THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HAWAII MIGHT BE USEFUL. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM WAS TRYING ITS BEST TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION BY ITSELF, BUT IN PRINCIPLE IT WELCOMED ASSISTANCE.

19. SENATOR MURKOWSKI SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY. THIS WAS A HUMANITARIAN ISSUE. OUR PEOPLE IN HAWAII MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU. I PRESENT THIS IDEA TO YOU ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY. WE SHOULD KEEP THE MATTER IN THE HUMANITARIAN AREA AND OUT OF THE POLITICAL AREA. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM WOULD CONSIDER ASSISTANCE. HE WELCOMED THE SENATOR'S PROPOSALS.

20. SON THEN TURNED TO THE ORDERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM WHICH IS COVERED IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM.

21. AT THE END OF THIS DISCUSSION REP. MCEWEN RETURNED TO THE SUBJECT OF ALLEGED AMERICAN INFILTRATORS AND ASKED HOW MANY THERE HAD BEEN. SON REPLIED, THREE WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED AT SEA. REP. MCEWEN ASKED WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THEM. SON REPLIED THEY HAD BEEN CAPTURED, HELD, FINED, AND THEN FREED. ALL SAID THEY HAD BEEN WELL TREATED. ONE HAD NOT PAID HIS FINE AFTER PROMISING TO DO SO.

22. REP. MCEWEN ASKED IF VIETNAM HAD ANY OBJECTION TO AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION INVESTIGATING LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS. SON STATED THAT VIETNAM WAS A SOVEREIGN NATION. IT WAS READY TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, BUT THERE COULD BE NO VIOLATION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY. REP. MCEWEN ASKED IF AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION COULD MAKE SUCH INVESTIGATIONS JOINTLY WITH THE VIETNAMESE. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM OBJECTED TO VIOLATIONS OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND WOULD REJECT THIS PROPOSAL. THEY HAD TOLD ARMITAGE TWO THINGS. THEY WOULD NOT ACCEPT IMPOSITION FROM ANYONE AND THEY WOULD NOT ACCEPT INTERFERENCE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, EITHER FROM THE WEST OR FROM THEIR FRIENDS.

23. SENATOR DECONCINI ASKED HOW THIS FIT WITH THE SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE AT CAMRANH. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM HAD NOT ALLOWED THE SOVIETS TO ESTABLISH

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A BASE THERE. THEY MAY VISIT VIETNAM, BUT THEY CANNOT HAVE A BASE.

24. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF VIETNAM WAS PREPARED TO CONSIDER HAVING AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION INVESTIGATE LIVE SIGHTINGS. SON REPLIED THEY WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION.

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25. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF VIETNAM WOULD ALLOW A UNITED STATES NAVAL VESSEL TO VISIT CAMRANH. SON SAID SINCE WE HAD NO RELATIONS, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE. COULD A BRITISH NAVAL VESSEL DO SO? SON REPLIED THAT, THOUGH VIETNAM AND BRITAIN HAD RELATIONS, THE BRITISH WERE NOT FRIENDLY TO VIETNAM. THE SOVIETS WERE VISITORS. INDIA AND OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES ALSO SENT VISITING VESSELS. VIETNAM WOULD NOT SELL ITS SOVEREIGNTY. THERE COULD BE NO IMPOSITION OR INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT IT WAS READY TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM ANYONE.

26. REP. BILIRAKIS NOTED THAT SON HAD SAID THAT ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR HAD BEEN RETURNED. WAS SON SAYING THAT THERE WERE NO MORE LIVE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM? SON REPLIED THAT THERE WERE NO AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN VIETNAM. REP. BILIRAKIS ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY AMERICANS IN VIETNAM AT THEIR OWN CHOICE. SON SAID THERE WERE NONE UNDER VIETNAM'S CONTROL. WE CANNOT GO EVERYWHERE. WE CANNOT ENTER A CHURCH. THERE ARE JUNGLES AND CAVES. IF THERE ARE ANY, THEY ARE NOT UNDER OUR CONTROL. REP. BILIRAKIS NOTED THAT THE SENATE VETERAN'S COMMITTEE WOULD BE HOLDING HEARINGS ON LIVE SIGHTING SOON. WOULD THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION RESULTING FROM THE HEARINGS, INVESTIGATE IT AND TELL US THE RESULTS OF THEIR INVESTIGATION?

27. SON REPLIED THAT VIETNAM WOULD INVESTIGATE ALL SUCH REPORTS. THERE WERE NO LIVE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM UNDER VIETNAMESE CONTROL. VIETNAM WOULD CHECK INTO ANY REPORTS.

28. REP. MCEWEN ASKED IF VIETNAM HAD ANY REMAINS IN ITS POSSESSION. SON REPLIED THEY WERE LOOKING AND THAT WHEN THEY FOUND REMAINS THEY TURNED THEM OVER TO US. PERHAPS SOME WOULD BE TURNED OVER AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. THE SEARCH GROUP WILL MAKE A REPORT IN FEBRUARY. REP. MCEWEN ASKED IF MORE THAN 50 REMAINS WOULD BE TURNED OVER. SON REPLIED, MAYBE MORE, WE HOPE SO. OUR HOPE IS HIGHER THAN YOUR HOPE. SENATOR DECONCINI ASKED WHAT THE NUMBER WOULD BE. SON SAID HE COULDN'T TELL HIM NOW. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF WE COULD SAY PUBLICLY THAT SOME REMAINS WOULD BE TURNED OVER. SON SAID WE ARE NOW EXAMINING THE SITUATION. WE HOPE TO HAND OVER SOME REMAINS. SEARCH GROUPS WERE NOW CHECKING. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY OBJECTION TO OUR TELLING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SO. SON REPLIED THAT HE HOPED REMAINS WOULD BE TURNED OVER, BUT HE COULD NOT AFFIRM THAT THERE WOULD BE A TURNOVER. REP. BILIRAKIS ASKED IF WE COULD SAY THE MINISTER HOPED THERE WOULD BE A REPATRIATION. SON SAID YES.

29. REP. BILIRAKIS NOTED THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE GENEROUS AND HELPED OTHER PEOPLES AFTER WARS OR

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NATURAL DISASTERS. THEY BELIEVED IN HUMANITARIANISM AND, INDEED, PRIVATE AMERICAN GROUPS HAD GIVEN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BELIEVED IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO RESOLVE THE MIA ISSUE. IF WE CAN COOPERATE TO RESOLVE ISSUES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES THEN OUR PEOPLE WILL ALLOW US TO DO MORE TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS. IF THAT IS SO, MAYBE NEXT TIME I CAN COME TO VIETNAM AS AN ORDINARY TOURIST.

30. SON REPLIED THAT HE APPRECIATED THE REPRESENTATIVE'S STATEMENT. THE TWO SIDES WERE DETERMINED TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE IN A HUMANITARIAN SPIRIT. HO CHI MINH HAD SAID THAT WHEN AMERICAN PILOTS WERE IN THE AIR THEY WERE THE ENEMY. BUT WHEN SHOT DOWN AND ON THE GROUND THEY WERE VICTIMS AND VIETNAMESE SHOULD TREAT THEM AS SUCH. THERE WAS ALWAYS FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLES IN SPITE OF THE WAR.

31. SON THEN LAUNCHED INTO A LONG HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EVENTS IN CAMBODIA LEADING TO THE

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NECESSITY FOR A VIETNAMESE MILITARY PRESENCE THERE. THE PRINCIPAL THEME WAS THAT CHINA WAS TO BLAME. HE MOVED ON TO VIETNAM'S POSITION ON A SETTLEMENT, BUT DID NOT DEVIATE FROM STANDARD FORMULATIONS.

31. SENATOR DECONCINI ASKED IF VIETNAM WOULD ACCEPT A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ARRIVED AT THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS' GOOD OFFICES. SON REPLIED THAT BOTH ASEAN AND VIETNAM HAD PUT FORWARD FORMULAE FOR SOLUTIONS, BUT THE TWO SIDES HAD NOT DISCUSSED THEM. VIETNAM'S SOLUTION WAS TO WITHDRAW ITS FORCES IF CHINA WOULD STOP ITS SUPPORT OF POL POT AND THAILAND WOULD NOT ALLOW THE REACTIONARY KHMER TO HAVE BASES IN ITS COUNTRY. THE SENATOR ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY HOPE FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION BEFORE VIETNAMESE TROOPS WITHDREW IN 1990. A SOLUTION IN CAMBODIA WOULD BE A MAJOR STEP TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN US. SON STATED THAT IF THERE WERE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, VIETNAM WOULD WITHDRAW SOONER. A SOLUTION IN KAMPUCHEA SHOULD BE LEFT UP TO THE KHMER PEOPLE, BUT POL POT MUST BE ELIMINATED. SENATOR MURKOWSKI ASKED IF VIETNAM WOULD ACCEPT FREE ELECTIONS IN CAMBODIA SUPERVISED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. SON REPLIED THAT IT WAS "OUR" INTENTION TO HOLD FREE ELECTIONS. THE KHMER PEOPLE REFUSE INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION. THEY WILL ALLOW OBSERVERS, BUT ARE SENSITIVE TO ANY HINT OF SUPERVISION BY OUTSIDERS. OBSERVERS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT NOT SUPERVISION.

32. REP. MCEWEN ASKED IF VIETNAM WOULD ACCEPT ASEAN'S PROPOSAL REGARDING FREE ELECTIONS TO RESOLVE THE CAMBODIAN PROBLEM. SON REPLIED THAT THERE WERE SEVERAL ASEAN PROPOSALS, INDONESIA'S, MALAYSIA'S AND OTHERS. INDONESIA HAD A 12-POINT PROPOSAL. SOME POINTS WERE ACCEPTABLE, BUT VIETNAM OBJECTED TO OTHERS. THESE COULD BE DISCUSSED: VIETNAM HAD FIVE POINTS. INDONESIA REPRESENTED ASEAN IN DISCUSSIONS ON KAMPUCHEA WHILE VIETNAM REPRESENTED INDOCHINA.

33. THE DISCUSSION THEN ENDED.

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34. COMMENT: THE POSITIONS ADVANCED BY THE CODEL ON THE ISSUES OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION, A HANOI PRESENCE FOR MIA AND LIVE SIGHTINGS INVESTIGATIONS, THE PACE OF AMERICAN-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS, "MUTUAL INTERESTS", AND RELATIONSHIP OF THE CAMBODIA ISSUE TO NORMALIZATION, WERE ALL REPEATED AND EXPANDED IN CODEL'S SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH, PER SEPTEL. END COMMENT. THE CODEL HAS CLEARED THIS MESSAGE.

BROWN
END OF MESSAGE

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