

DOCUMENTATION

Thailand — U.S.S.R. Joint Communiqué

The following is the text of the joint communiqué issued in Moscow at the conclusion of Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan's six-day visit to the Soviet Union as issued on 28 March by the Department of Information of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangkok.

1. At the invitation of the Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan, paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from 21 to 27 March 1979.

2. In addition to Moscow, the Prime Minister and his party visited Leningrad. They had an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the life of Soviet people and the achievement of the Soviet Union in the fields of economy, science, and culture. The distinguished guest from Thailand and his party were everywhere accorded a friendly welcome, for which they expressed their profound appreciation.

3. During the stay in Moscow, the Head of the Thai Government laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of V.I. Lenin and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

4. The Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan, had a meeting with the Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, L.I. Brezhnev.

5. Talks were held between A.N. Kosygin, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; and the Prime Minister of Thailand, Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan, taking part in which were:

On the Soviet side:

Nikolai S. Patolichev, Minister of Foreign Trade

Semen A. Skachkov, Chairman of Economic Relations of State Committee

Nikolai V. Ogarkov, Chief of Staff, First Deputy Minister of Defence, Marshal of the Soviet Union

Nikolai P. Firiubin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

Yuri I. Kuznetsov, Ambassador of the USSR to Thailand

Igor A. Rogachev, Chief of Southeast Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

On the Thai side:

Mr. Sunthorn Hongladarom, Deputy Prime Minister

Dr. Upadit Pachariyangkun, Minister of Foreign Affairs

General Lek Naeomali, Minister of Interior

Mr. Prida Karnasut, Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives

Mr. Somporn Punyagupta, Minister of Prime Minister's Office

Mr. Kasame Chatikavanij, Minister of Industry

Mr. Prok Amranand, Deputy Minister of Commerce

General Serm Na Nakorn, Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces

Mr. Sathit Sathirathaya, Ambassador of Thailand to the USSR.

6. In the course of the talks conducted in an atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding, a broad exchange of views was held on various aspects of bilateral relations as well as on important international problems of mutual interest.

7. The two sides reaffirmed the intention of the Soviet Union and Thailand to continue along the road of strengthening good relations and co-operation for the interests of the peoples of both countries. The two sides expressed their intention to further develop these relations as far as possible and agreed in principle to expand economic, trade, scientific, and technical ties based on equality and mutual benefit.

8. It was also noted that increasing contacts between the peoples of the two countries in various fields, such as exchange of parliamentary visits, cultural and sports exchanges, and development of tourism, will promote the deepening of overall relations and mutual understanding between them.

9. The two sides noted with satisfaction the identity or proximity of stands of the USSR and Thailand on many international problems and stressed their determination to continue their efforts towards the strengthening of peace and international security, and the prevention of the threat of war or the use of force in order to ensure peace, stability, and economic progress of the peoples and nations of Southeast Asia.

10. The Soviet Union and Thailand reaffirmed their desire to take further efforts for the purpose of relaxation of international tension and the development of co-operation among all countries.

11. The two sides emphasized the importance and the urgency to find solutions to the problems of curbing the arms race and the implementation of effective disarmament measures. In this context, they expressed their support of the recommendations approved by the United Nations General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament and expressed their readiness to co-operate with all countries with a view to their implementation. The two sides stressed that an early conclusion of a new Soviet-U.S. Agreement on the

Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms would be a major contribution to ending the arms race.

12. Both sides deem it necessary to continue to exert efforts in the interests of strengthening peace in the world including Asia, and of developing co-operation among all states on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, non-use of force, inviolability of borders, territorial integrity and political independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. Guided by the deep interest of both sides in ensuring peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the Soviet Union and Thailand will maintain mutual contacts and consultations with regard to constructive measures which could promote this goal.

13. The Prime Minister of Thailand defined the determination of the Thai Government to conduct an independent foreign policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and aimed at strengthening friendly relations with all countries irrespective of the political economic and social systems for the benefit, of peace, progress and prosperity. The Soviet side acknowledged with satisfaction this statement and believed that Thailand can make a constructive contribution to the cause of peace and stability in the region.

14. The Thai side described the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) aimed at furthering regional economic, social, and cultural co-operation of its member states. The Soviet side stressed that the Soviet Union, consistently opposing closed politico-military and economic blocs, takes note of the statements by leaders of ASEAN member states to the effect that they seek to develop regional economic, social, and cultural co-operation and that the Association is not of a military character. The Soviet side declares that the Soviet Union is prepared in its relationship with the member states of ASEAN to have deeper mutually advantageous ties which would contribute to stronger peace and security in Asia. The Soviet side takes a positive view of the idea sponsored by Southeast Asian countries to establish a zone of peace in that region.

15. Both sides expressed their serious concern over the existing tensions in Southeast Asia, which are fraught with grave consequences to the cause of peace and security of the peoples of the region. They stressed the urgent need to find peaceful and just solutions to the problems in order to restore peace and stability in the region.

16. The two sides expressed their intention to continue to exert every effort in order to facilitate the elaboration at the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference of a new convention. They consider it important that substantial progress towards this goal be achieved at the forthcoming session of the Conference.

17. Both sides considered it necessary to work for restructuring international economic relations of a just and equitable basis which would facilitate the establishment of a new international economic order, based on respect for national sovereignty, on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. They expressed the hope that the forthcoming UNCTAD V in Manila will contribute to this goal.

18. The Soviet Union and Thailand agreed to continue to act with a view to further strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations in maintaining universal and lasting peace, consolidating the security of peoples, and promoting international co-operation in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

19. The two sides expressed their gratification at the exchange of views that took place and stressed the usefulness of personal contacts between leaders of both countries. They expressed their willingness to hold regular exchange of views on the further development of bilateral relations as well as on important international problems of mutual interest.

20. Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, extended an invitation to A.N. Kosygin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to pay an official visit to Thailand. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

Moscow, 27 March 1979