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United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

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EIAJ

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM
S/S

JUN 30 1989

TO: The Secretary

FROM: EAP - Richard Solomon *RS*

SUBJECT: Meeting with U.S. Ambassadors and Charges to ASEAN Countries and Laos, July 5, 1989, at 7:00-7:30 p.m., in Brunei

I. PURPOSE

- o The meeting affords an opportunity for the U.S. Ambassadors and Charges to ASEAN and Laos to offer their perspectives on key issues which are likely to arise at the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference.
- o Economic and trade issues will include Pacific Rim economic cooperation, Uruguay Round, and the ASEAN-U.S. Initiative (AUI).
- o Cambodia, China, refugees, and international terrorism will be among the regional security issues on our agenda with ASEAN.

II. KEY POINTS

- o Cambodia: ASEAN and the U.S. share the same objectives on Cambodia -- need to maintain unity until a settlement is achieved.
- o Pacific Rim economic cooperation: ASEAN has not developed a consensus on this issue.
- o Refugees: In the face of sharply higher refugee arrivals in 1988/89, preservation of first asylum for Indochinese refugees was severely threatened.
- ASEAN and Hong Kong (supported by UK and Australia) are anxious to implement involuntary return of non-refugees. We are unalterably opposed.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A JOHNSTON
DATE/CASE ID: 02 NOV 2004 200402207

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KEY POINTS (Continued)

- o ASEAN-U.S. Initiative (AUI): Neither we nor the ASEAN's have formally taken a position on the study, but its recommendations will be discussed with STR Hills at the ASEAN Economic Ministers meeting and figure prominently at the ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue this fall.
- o Anti-terrorism cooperation: US has formal bilateral anti-terrorism assistance (ATA) programs with 3 of 6 ASEAN members -- Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand; we have also cooperated bilaterally with Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei.
 - US prepared to expand bilateral ATA assistance to encourage ASEAN multilateral CT cooperation; US will work with ASEAN to obtain secure communications equipment for all six members.
- o Country Perspectives:
 - Brunei: GOB will follow the lead of other ASEANS on Cambodia and Pacific Rim economic cooperation and will not offer first asylum to refugees.
 - Indonesia: GOI is concerned that Cambodians will not be able to work out a consensus in Paris, leading to an Afghanistan-like stalemate. Foreign Minister Alatas is not keen on the Hawke initiative for enhanced economic cooperation.
 - Malaysia: GOM views creation of a forum for enhanced Pacific economic cooperation with great caution. They fear adverse effects on fragile ASEAN economic cooperation, diminished stature for Malaysia in a larger group, potential EC backlash.
 - Philippines: GOP is supportive of increased economic cooperation in the Pacific, but current efforts are focused on the MAI and the Philippines bilateral economic relationship with the U.S. The Philippines is somewhat diffident about Cambodia and will support whatever consensus ASEAN might reach.
 - Singapore: GOS is the most vocal of the ASEAN countries on the need for effective measures to control the Khmer Rouge. The idea of expanded Pacific Rim cooperation interests the GOS and Singapore strongly pushed the AUI study.

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KEY POINTS (Continued)

- Thailand: Although Thailand still formally adheres to the ASEAN line on Cambodia, PM Chatchai's independent personal approach has caused some confusion and concern within ASEAN.
- Laos: Laos is opening to the West and ASEAN, especially Thailand. We should encourage this policy shift which will, over time, attenuate Vietnamese influence in Laos. The Lao want to upgrade relations to the Ambassadorial level.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The Secretary
 ✓ Counselor Zoellick
 ✓ Ambassador John Monjo (Indonesia)
 ✓ Ambassador Daniel O'Donohue (Thailand)
 ✓ Ambassador Nicholas Platt (Philippines)
 ✓ Ambassador Robert Orr (Singapore)
 Charge d'Affaires a.i. Thomas Hubbard (Malaysia)
 Charge d'Affaires a.i. Harriet Isom (Laos)
 ✓ Charge d'Affaires a.i. Thomas Hamilton (Brunei)
 Assistant Secretary Solomon
 Assistant Secretary Tutwiler
 NSC Director for Asia Karl Jackson
 Deputy Assistant Secretary Lambertson
 Deputy Assistant Secretary Fauver
 DOD/ISA ~~Deputy Assistant Secretary Ford~~ Adm. Tim Wright

IV. PRESS COVERAGE

o None

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 RP/ASIA:LCarty (subs)
 C:JSour

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