

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2010 10:18 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: Secretary's Video Speech

FYI

From: John, Eric G
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2010 4:29 AM
To: Campbell, Kurt M; Marciel, Scot A; Smith, Demian
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Secretary's Video Speech

Kurt:

You'll be happy to know that the Secretary's video message was the subject of a great op-ed in today's Thai Rath, the leading newspaper in Thailand. They took exactly the line that we hoped they would – seeing her message not as the U.S. intervening in politics, but, rather, as a very personal message from someone who cares deeply about Thailand. The writer even referred to the Secretary's autobiography.

Thai Rath (leading Thai language daily), a commentary on Thai politics, April 16, referenced Secretary Clinton's video statement calling for a peaceful solution to Thailand's political crisis: "I would like to thank U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for making a request herself and on behalf of President Obama for the two opposing parties to return to the negotiating table so as to end their conflict. The short video message in which she mentioned Thailand was full of sincerity. She started by saying that she was making this request as "a long-standing friend of the Thai people" She referred to the Songkran festival which is the Thai New Year and said the opposing parties should consider this an opportunity for a new round of talks. She emphasized that violence cannot bring happiness and peace and that the opposing parties should talk in order to solve the problem. I believe Mrs. Clinton said this with sincerity. I have read a book in which she wrote about her brief visit to Thailand as First Lady several years ago and showed her goodwill toward the Thai people and Thailand in the book. During her most recent visit to Thailand last year, Mrs. Clinton gave an interview and expressed her opinion about Thai politics in the most amicable way. Normally, I do not quite approve of the U.S. because I think it often meddles with other countries' affairs. But I wholeheartedly agree with Secretary Clinton's request and would like to sincerely thank her for it." (To see the video, click [here](#). To read the original article in Thai, click [here](#).)