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TO : OCB - Col. Richard Hirsch

4-DRF/SEA:FS, 1052

VIA : CPI - F. Bowen Evans *FBE*
FROM : CPI/DRF - Jane Young *JY*



SUBJECT: Southeast Asian Comment on Soviet Use of Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes

Although wire service despatches reporting the Soviet announcement were carried by the press of Burma and Thailand, and presumably by the press of other countries throughout the area, the recent Soviet announcement of the inauguration of an atomic-powered electric generating station has elicited no reported non-Communist Southeast Asian commentary to date.

Communist attempts to capitalize upon the announcement have been observed to date in only two countries throughout Southeast Asia. In Burma, the July 30 edition of the weekly information bulletin of the Soviet Embassy carried a feature article on the new atomic-powered generating plant. In Indochina, a short item lauding this development was broadcast on July 20 (in Morse code only) by a Communist-controlled relay transmitter in North Vietnam, presumably for publication by Communist papers in the Viet Cong zones.

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