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Secret Pact For Thai Aid Is Disclosed

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By KENNETH J. FREED

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate subcommittee has released testimony disclosing a secret money-for-troops agreement between the United States and Thailand under which Bangkok sent 10,000 men to Vietnam in exchange for \$200 million.

The pact, according to an extensively censored summary of hearings seven months ago, was signed on the ambassadorial level Nov. 9, 1967.

Although existence of the accord was denied at the time, Thailand announced Nov. 14, 1967, it was meeting a Saigon request and sending a division of volunteers to fight in South Vietnam.

MISSOURI Democrat Stuart Symington, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee that held the hearings, coupled disclosure of the agreement Sunday with a letter to Secretary of State William P. Rogers asking for details of American aid to Thailand in exchange for sending troops to Cambodia as well as to South Vietnam.

The testimony during a week of closed hearings last November indicated the United States would cover the cost of training, equipping and overseas allowances for a Thai division in South Vietnam. This included providing logistic support and mustering-out bonus for the soldiers.

Besides such aid, the United States also agreed to send Bangkok a battery of Hawk anti-aircraft missiles and to increase the military assistance program by about \$30 million during fiscal 1968 and 1969 to speed the modernization of Thailand armed forces at home.

BANGKOK announced last week it was sending volunteers to Cambodia, along with other assistance, to be paid for, at least in part, by a U.S. military aid program.