

EXHIBIT NO. 169

SELECTION OF

STATE DEPARTMENT DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THAILAND.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. State Department Information Bulletin No. 132 dated Aug. 6, 1941, concerning statement made by Secretary Hull that date at a press conference on the subject of Thailand.
2. Dispatch dated Aug. 7, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning the Secretary's press conference of Aug. 6, 1941.
3. Memorandum of Conversation dated Aug. 7, 1941, between the Thai Minister and M. M. Hamilton concerning "American press reports in regard to this Government's attitude toward developments relating to Thailand."
4. Dispatch dated Aug. 8, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning item No. 3 above.
5. Dispatch dated Aug. 8, 1941, from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department concerning reaction in Thailand official quarters to statements of Secretary Hull on Aug. 6, 1941.
6. Memorandum of Conversation dated Aug. 12, 1941, between the Thai Minister and M. M. Hamilton concerning "Thai Government's desire to obtain an expression of the attitude of the American Government toward Thailand."
7. Memorandum of Conversation dated Aug. 14, 1941, between the Thai Minister and Mr. Peck concerning "Request of Thailand for permission to purchase arms in the United States."
8. Dispatch dated Aug. 15, 1941, from U. S. Minister Foote, Batavia, to State Department concerning British reports of position of U. S. and Britain in relation to Netherlands East Indies and Thailand.
9. Memorandum of Conversation dated Aug. 18, 1941, between Secretary Hull and the Thai Minister concerning "Attitude of U. S. Government toward Thailand in event of Japanese attack".
10. Dispatch dated Nov. 3, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning aid to Thailand.
11. Memorandum of Conversation dated Nov. 4, 1941, between British Minister Sir Ronald Campbell and Under Secretary Sumner Welles concerning "Situation in Thailand."
12. Dispatch dated Nov. 6, 1941, from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department, concerning aid for Thailand.
13. Memorandum by S. K. Hornbeck concerning Aide Memoire handed the British Minister Sir Ronald Campbell on Nov. 6, 1941, and the attached Aide Memoire concerning material aid for Thailand.
14. Dispatch dated Nov. 11, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, requesting inquiry on Thailand's petroleum requirements.
15. Dispatch dated Nov. 18, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning military aid to Thailand.
16. Dispatch dated Nov. 22, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning policy of this Government toward assistance to Thailand in the event she should be invaded.
17. Memorandum of Conversation dated No. 22, 1941, between First Sec'y. British Embassy and Mr. Smyth concerning "Reported request of Japanese for use of Thai airdromes for 'survey flights'".
18. Memorandum of Conversation dated Nov. 25, 1941, between the British Ambassador and Under Secretary Sumner Welles concerning "Aid Needed by Thailand."
19. State Department Radio Bulletin No. 280 dated No. 26, 1941, concerning press conference of Secretary Hull that date and information furnished press concerning the delivery of the so-called "Ten point note" to the Japanese Ambassadors.
20. Dispatch dated Nov. 27, 1941, from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning the withdrawal of nationals from Pacific areas.
21. Memorandum dated No. 27, 1941, of conversation between the Thai Minister and Mr. Smyth and Mr. Adams, concerning the Minister's inquiry about press reports of the note handed the Japanese Ambassadors on Nov. 26, 1941 by Secretary Hull.

22. State Department Radio Bulletin No. 282 dated Nov. 28, 1941, which relates briefly the President's Press Conference of that date at which he mentioned the U. S.-Japanese negotiations.
23. Memorandum of Conversation dated November 28, 1941, between the Thai Minister and Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Smyth concerning "Aid to Thailand."
24. Dispatch dated Nov. 28, 1941, from U. S. Minister, Bangkok to State Department concerning radio speech by Thai Prime Minister on Nov. 27, 1941.
25. Memorandum of Conversation dated Nov. 29, 1941, between the Thai Minister and Mr. Smyth concerning "Thailand's treaties with Great Britain and Japan."
26. Memorandum of Conversation dated Dec. 1, 1941 between the Thai Minister, the Thai Military Attache and Mr. Adams and Mr. Smyth concerning "Aid to Thailand."
27. Dispatch dated Dec. 2, 1941 from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok, concerning talks with Japanese.
28. Dispatch dated Dec. 2, 1941 from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok and attached dispatch of same date to American Consul, Singapore, concerning contemplated aid to Thailand in concurrence with British in form of aviation petroleum products.
29. Dispatch dated Dec. 3, 1941 from U. S. Minister, Bangkok to State Department reporting conference he had with Thai Foreign Minister concerning recent Japanese attitude toward Thailand and assistance offered by British and U. S.
30. Dispatch dated Dec. 4, 1941 from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department concerning his conversation that morning with Thai Foreign Minister who said the Thai Government hoped the American and British Governments would issue public statements that Japanese invasion of Thailand would incur armed resistance of those two countries in addition to Thailand's.
31. Dispatch dated Dec. 5, 1941 from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department relating conversation between Thai Foreign Minister and Japanese Ambassador concerning Japanese forces in Indochina.
32. Dispatch dated Dec. 6, 1941 from Ambassador Gauss, Chungking, to State Department reporting rumor regarding proposed occupation of Thailand by British.
33. Dispatch dated Dec. 6, 1941 from State Department to U. S. Legation, Bangkok concerning credit extension to Thailand.
34. Memorandum of Conversation dated Dec. 7, 1941 between First Secretary, British Embassy and Mr. George Atcheson concerning "Reported desire of the Thai Government that British forces not move into Thailand."
35. Dispatch dated Dec. 7, 1941 from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department reporting Japanese attack on Thailand.
36. Dispatch dated Dec. 8, 1941 from U. S. Minister, Bangkok, to State Department reporting the agreement of Thai Government to allow Japanese passage through Thailand for their troops in order to attack Burma and Malaya, and related matters.

(NOT FOR THE PRESS)
(FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY)

Department of State
Division of Current Information No. 132

COUNTRY JAPAN

DATE Aug. 6, 1941

Subject: Increasing indications that Japan is making demands on Thailand; statement in House of Commons by Mr. Eden that anything that threatens Thailand was of immediate interest to Great Britain

At the press conference today Secretary Hull said:

THAILAND

A correspondent remarked that there are increasing indications that Japan is making demands on Thailand. He said that Mr. Eden stated today in the House of Commons that anything that threatens the security and integrity of Thailand was of immediate interest to Great Britain, and he inquired if the Secretary would care to say anything on the situation in regard to our own policy. The Secretary replied that he believed we have many times discussed the question of conquest by force on the part of certain countries and that this has included the Pacific area. He said that we have made very clear our concern and our interest in respect to steps carrying out that sort of policy. He stated that Mr. Welles just a few days ago had occasion to give the press a statement on that general question as it relates to the Pacific area and that he might refer to the fact that prior to giving out that statement Mr. Welles read to the press his own (the Secretary's) statement of the issues that were presented when he himself appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in support of the Lease Lend Bill last January and that he need not repeat those things here. Asked if the Secretary could say whether this Government had had occasion to express any views to the Government of Thailand concerning the present crisis there, Mr. Hull replied that he could not go into details now because it is not at a stage where he could be very definite on account of the many angles to the matter. A correspondent

remarked that certain steps followed the occupation by Japan of Indochina and he asked if it was fair to assume that certain other steps would follow the occupation or attempted occupation of Thailand by Japan. The Secretary replied that it is fair to have increasing concern about any movement which would include the step to which the correspondent refers. A correspondent asked if the press could infer that this Government has increasing concern over events out there. Mr. Hull replied that this is what he was trying to say and that anything that Mr. Welles said regarding the Pacific area and Indochina would have a special application to Thailand in the present situation. A correspondent inquired if there have been some indications that Thailand has been offered what amounted to a protectorate over Malaya as well as Indochina so that the Japanese would have a protectorate similar to that of the British Commonwealth of Nations over Canada. Mr. Hull replied that we had not been advised on that subject. He said, of course, as the press knew, there had been a multiplicity of rumors and reports coming out of that area lately and that there are many angles to different and important phases of the situation, all of which we are observing as closely as possible.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTAIR
PLAIN

Collect Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Department of State

"Gray"

Charge Department:

Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Washington,

August 7, 1941

Charge to
\$

8 P.M.

ALLEGATION,

BANGKOK.

There is repeated for your information an extract from the radio bulletin of August 6, 1941 in regard to my press conference of that date as follows:

QUOTE A correspondent mentioned that there were increasing indications that Japan was making demands on Thailand and he referred to Mr. Eden's speech in the House of Commons to the effect that anything that threatened the security and integrity of Thailand was of immediate interest to Britain, and he wondered whether the Secretary would care to say anything on the situation in regard to our own policy. The Secretary said that he thought that we had many times discussed the question of conquest by force on the part of certain countries, and that it included the Pacific area. He said that we had made very clear our concern and our interest in respect to steps carrying out that sort of policy. He pointed out that Mr. Welles just a few days ago had occasion to give the correspondents a statement on that

91
The 0011 Pw

740.0011 R.W./428A

PS/H

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M. _____ 19 _____

Gray

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER
Collect { Full rate
Day letter
Night letter
Charge Department
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter
Charge to
\$

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

Department of State

Washington.

-2-

general question as it related to the Pacific area.

Asked if he could say whether this Government had had occasion to express any views to the Government of Thailand concerning the present crisis out there, Mr. Hull said he could not go into details now because it was not at a stage where he could be very definite. A correspondent pointed out that certain steps followed the occupation by Japan of Indochina and he inquired whether it was fair to assume that certain other steps would follow the occupation or attempted occupation of Thailand by Japan. The Secretary replied that it was fair to have increasing concern about a movement that would include the step to which the correspondent referred.

Asked if the correspondents could infer that this Government has increasing concern about events over there, the Secretary said that that was what he was trying to say. He added that anything that Mr. Welles had said regarding the Pacific area and Indochina would have a special application to Thailand and the present situation. UNQUOTE.

103 7 19:30

Hull

Enciphered by situation. UNQUOTE.

Sent by operator FE M. 19
FE: PAS: L J H
PA/R
CI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

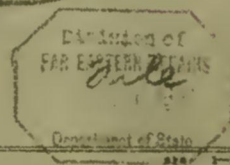
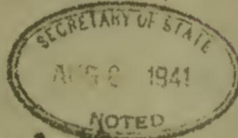
Memorandum of Conversation
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DATE: August 7,
1941.

SUBJECT: American press reports in regard to this
Government's attitude toward developments
relating to Thailand

PARTICIPANTS: The Thai Minister
and
Mr. Hamilton

COPIES TO:



~~PAI~~
FE

PCR

740.0011 P. W. / 434

PS/VE

The Thai Minister called this afternoon at his request. He said that he had noted reports in the press last evening and again this morning in regard to matters relating to his country; and that, in as much his Government was very busy, at times it did not take occasion to inform him of current developments. The Minister then said that he wished us to know that, if there should be any items of information which we would wish to bring to his attention, he was constantly available and would be glad to come to the Department at any time for that purpose. I inquired whether the Minister had anything particular in mind. He replied in rather general terms and said that he was not in position to make an express inquiry

PW

RECORDED
AUG 11 1941

-2-

inquiry in as much as he had received no instructions from his Government. After some general remarks I mentioned that we would of course be glad to inform him at any time upon request of exactly what the Secretary may have said at a press conference. The Minister then indicated eagerness to be informed of what the Secretary had said yesterday which had formed the basis of many stories in the American press.

I told the Minister that I had anticipated that he might wish to inquire in regard to the basis for the stories in the press and that I had at hand the record of what the Secretary had said at his press conferences yesterday and today. I then gave the Minister orally the substance of an extract from the Radio Bulletin of August 8, as follows:

"A correspondent mentioned that there were increasing indications that Japan was making demands on Thailand and he referred to Mr. Eden's speech in the House of Commons to the effect that anything that threatened the security and integrity of Thailand was of immediate interest to Britain, and he wondered whether the Secretary would care to say anything on the situation in regard to our own policy. The Secretary said that he thought that we had many times discussed the question of conquest by force on the part of certain countries, and that it included the Pacific area. He said that we had made very clear our concern and our interest in respect to steps carrying out that sort of policy. He pointed out that Mr. Welles just a few days ago had occasion to give the correspondents a statement on that general question as it related to the Pacific area.

"Asked

-3-

"Asked if he could say whether this Government had had occasion to express any views to the Government of Thailand concerning the present crisis out there, Mr/ Hull said he could not go into details now because it was not at a stage where he could be very definite. A correspondent pointed out that certain steps followed the occupation by Japan of Indochina and he inquired whether it was fair to assume that certain other steps would follow the occupation or attempted occupation of Thailand by Japan. The Secretary replied that it was fair to have increasing concern about a movement that would include the step to which the correspondent referred.

"Asked if the correspondents could infer that this Government has increasing concern about events over there, the Secretary said that that was what he was trying to say. He added that anything that Mr. Welles had said regarding the Pacific area and Indochina would have a special application to Thailand and the present situation."

I then informed the Minister that at the Secretary's press conference today the Secretary had been asked whether he had anything to say in regard to newspaper reports that the American and the British Governments had already promised Thailand aid if it should resist Japanese aggression; that the Secretary had replied that he did not have anything especially in mind on that subject; and that, when the Secretary had been pressed to confirm whether or not we had made such a communication to the Thai Government, the Secretary had replied that he did not know of any such communication.

I added that the Thai Minister of course was fully aware of the general attitude and policy of this Government in regard to countries which were resisting attack
by

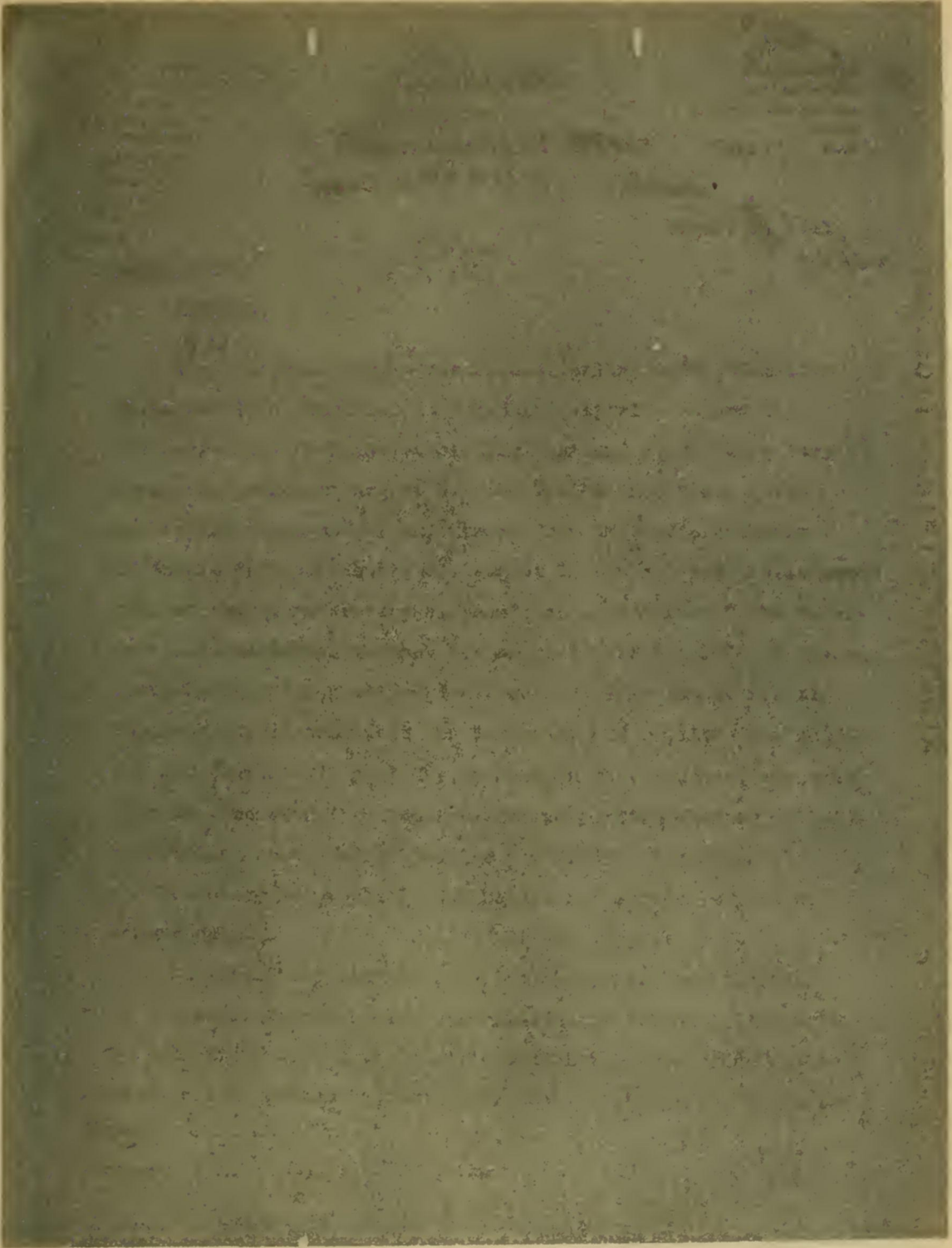
-4-

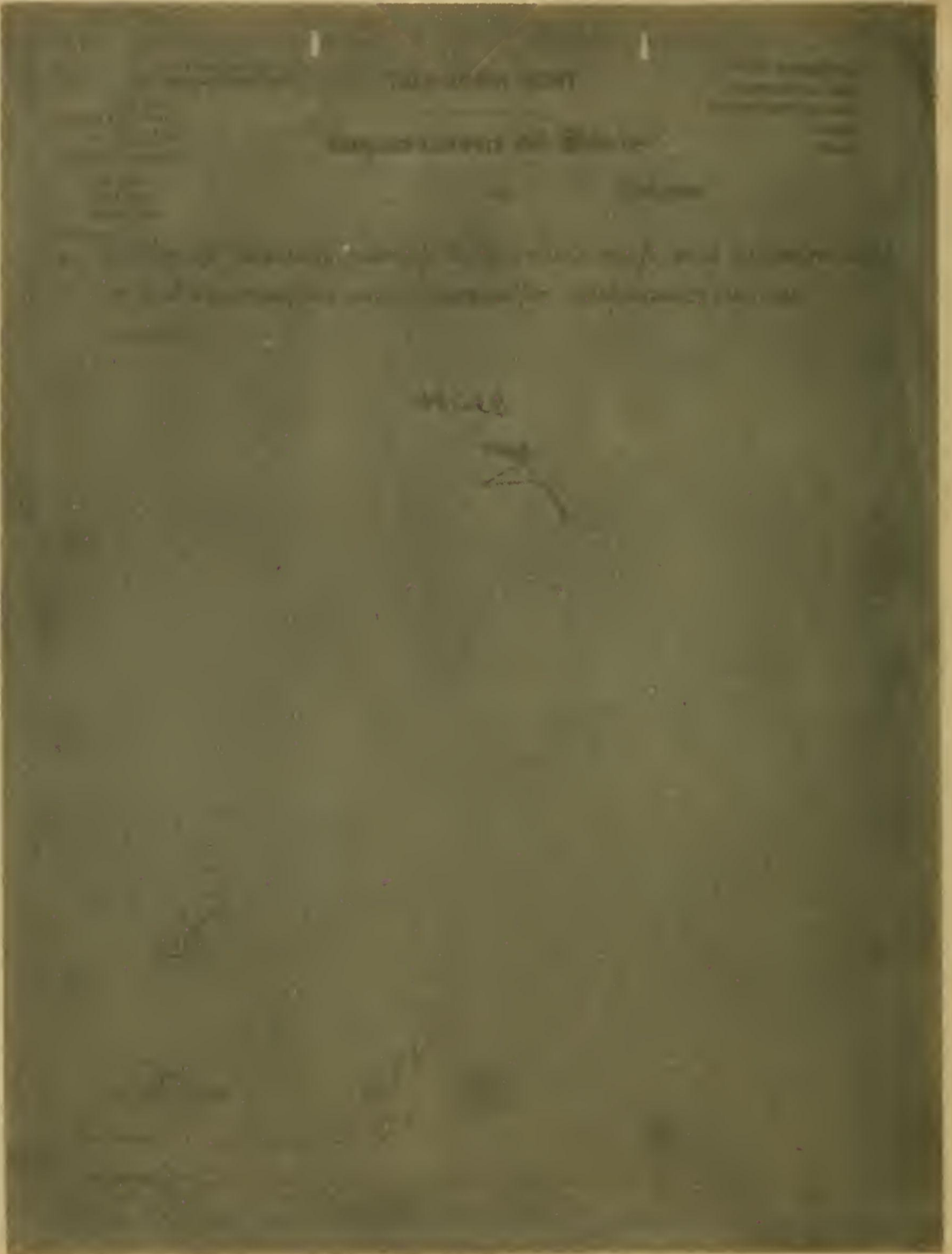
by forces of aggression. I mentioned that there was a country nearby to Thailand, namely, China, which was a good illustration of the attitude and policy pursued by this country in this respect.

The Minister seemed very appreciative of my having given him an account of what the Secretary had said at his press conferences yesterday and today in regard to Thailand.

7/7/41

FE:MMH:HES





The following is a summary of the conversation between the undersigned and the Prime Minister of Japan on August 18, 1941, at the residence of the Prime Minister in Tokyo.

The undersigned arrived in Tokyo on August 17, 1941, and was received by the Prime Minister at 10:30 A.M. The Prime Minister was accompanied by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Education, and the Minister of Health and Welfare.

The undersigned first expressed his appreciation for the Prime Minister's kind reception and then stated that both the Prime Minister and himself were much pleased. He expressed the hope that more cordial relations between the American Government and Japan would follow.

He then reiterated his informal statement of yesterday as indicated in my telegram of August 17, 1941, and I believe the Japanese are now bluffing and that the Axis should resist the Japanese pressure by doing some bluffing on their own. He would receive the suggestion most cordially and suggested that he see him to the Prime Minister who has left for his home tomorrow.

GRANT

By [Signature] Minister.

240,00011 P.M. / 406

AUG 18 1941

FILED

PS/LR

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~~DIVISION OF EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS~~

August 22, 1941

August 22, 1941

DATE:

SUBJECT: Thai Government's desire to obtain an expression of the attitude of the American Government toward Thailand

PARTICIPANTS: *Yes*
Non Rajawongse Sasi Pramo, Thai Minister
Mr. Hamilton

COPIES TO: *A C exp*

The Thai Minister called this afternoon at his request. He said that he came on an important matter and under instruction from his Government. He stated that his Government had directed him to approach the Department with a view to obtaining an indication of this Government's attitude toward Thailand in the present international situation. He said that the Thai Government had, during the past few weeks when attention was centered on his country, made clear through a statement by the Thai Publicity Bureau -- which statement his Government had instructed him to confirm to us -- that the Thai Government desired to remain on friendly terms with all countries but that the Thai Government would, if Thailand should be attacked by some

-3-

by some other country, defend itself against such attack. The Minister said that his Government was gratefully appreciative of the statements made by Mr. Hall in reference to Thailand during his recent press conferences.

The Minister said that if I felt that it would be preferable that he call on the Secretary in regard to this matter, he would of course be glad to do so. I commented that that was my initial reaction. I said that I would like, however, to discuss the matter with higher officers of the Department, after which I would expect to get in touch with him.

I then continued that of course the Minister was fully familiar with the attitude of this country toward Thailand. I referred to the fact that the Thai Government had been the first Far Eastern Government with which the American Government had entered into treaty relations many decades ago. I stated also that since that time there had been a long record of friendship between our two peoples and our two Governments; that some months ago when we thought that the Thai Government was following a dangerous course we had frankly told the Thai Government that we thought it was "playing with fire"; and that, as I had stated to the Minister only a few days ago, the attitude and policy of this Government toward sending material assistance to countries which were resisting aggression

were

-3-

were well known. I reminded the Minister that at that time I had said that a country weary as Thailand, namely, China, furnished a good illustration of the way in which there had applied this country's policy of extending aid to countries resisting aggression.

The Minister said that he interpreted the instruction from the Government, although the instruction did not expressly so state, to mean that the Thai Government desired to cooperate actively, in the event that Thailand should be attacked and should resist that attack, the Government of the United States would extend material assistance to Thailand.

I said again that I would take this matter up with the State officers of the Department and would then report to you to confer with the Minister.

Very respectfully,
 [Signature]

File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

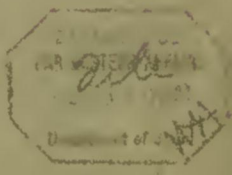
DATE: August 14, 1941

SUBJECT: Request of Thailand for permission to purchase arms in the United States

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Rajawongse Seni Pramoj, Thai Minister

Mr. Peck

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
COPIES
11-11-41
1941 AUG 19 PM 1 07



892 24

The Thai Minister called to see Mr. Hamilton, but since the latter was engaged, he asked to see Mr. Peck.

The Minister recalled, for the information of Mr. Peck, that he had called on August 12 to inform Mr. Hamilton that he had just received a telegram from his Government which pointed out that the Thai Government had formally announced its intention of resisting with force any armed aggression that might be attempted against Thailand. On the basis of this declaration, the Thai Government inquired what the attitude of the American Government would be toward Thailand if such armed aggression should, in fact, take place; particularly, would the American Government render any assistance to the Thai Government in this emergency?

892.24/73
10/10

Th

-2-

The Minister said that Mr. Hamilton had outlined to him the American Government's attitude and policy toward rendering assistance to countries which were resisting aggression, and Mr. Hamilton had instanced the aid that the United States is giving to China. The Minister, said further that Mr. Hamilton had indicated, before an authoritative reply could be given to the Thai Government's inquiry, he would wish to lay the matter before higher authorities of the Government.

The Minister said that today he had received another telegram from his Government which, in the gravity of its tone, indicated that a critical state had been reached in respect of the threat of invasion. His Government urged him to spare no effort to obtain an expression of the views of the American Government in this situation.

Reverting to his conversation two days ago with Mr. Hamilton, the Minister said that from the circumstance that Mr. Hamilton referred to American assistance to China, he inferred that Mr. Hamilton had in mind assistance of the Lend-Lease variety. Assuming this to be the case, the Minister wished to say that the Thai Government was not asking for armament on credit, but was prepared to make purchases on a commercial basis. The early acquisition of
the arms

-3-

the arms it sought was of the utmost importance to the Thai Government, which, at present, is poorly supplied with equipment. Consequently, the Thai Government would be very grateful to learn how soon, if the American Government could make arms available for purchase, shipments could be arranged and could begin.

The Minister said that, speaking as man to man, the Thais were traditionally suspicious of Japan; he personally felt that in the recent contact with Japan his country had "played with fire", but he trusted that Mr. Peck understood the background of the matter.

The Minister observed, as his own personal reaction to recent news, that the large number of troops dispatched by Japan into Indochina was an ominous sign. The Japanese must have been aware that they would meet with no resistance in Indochina, which was under the control of Vichy and hence of Germany, and these forces must be intended for use elsewhere. Mr. Peck remarked that the newspapers suggested they might be intended for use against Malaya. The Minister replied that the Japanese, in his opinion, would never dare to make an attack on Malaya without previously occupying Thailand, because to do so would be to leave their flank open to attack from Burma. He deduced that these forces were intended for the occupation of Thailand and that the danger to Thailand was accordingly imminent and serious.

The fact

-4-

The fact of the matter now is that Thailand is determined to maintain its independence, if it can possibly find the means of doing so. In this emergency the Thai Government is anxiously waiting to learn the nature of the reply that the American Government will give to the inquiry transmitted on August 12.

Mr. Peck said that he would report to Mr. Hamilton at once the observations made by the Thai Minister.

MSP
FE:Peck:MHP

TRANSMITTED BY AIR

SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
August 13, 1941

DEPT. OF STATE
AUG 13 1941

SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALL, August 13, noon.
STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

One. In a telegram dated August 8 addressed to the Governor General of the Netherlands Indies Mr. Smiter, Minister of Colonies, said that the British Foreign Minister had made the following statement to the Netherlands Minister at London:

"We have assumed the duties of safeguarding and restoring the possessions and rights of the Netherlands Government to the best of our ability during the war and after peace. It follows therefore that an attack upon the Netherlands Indies would lead us to do the utmost in our power. We must, however, remain sole judge of what actions or military measures are practicable and likely to achieve our common purpose. Should the United States of America be disposed to take supporting action many things would become possible which we cannot undertake now."

Two.

AUG 25 1941

FILED

7-0-0011 P.M./444

PS/H

- 1 - 111, August 10, noon, from Batavia.

Two. Mr. Walter Edon addressed the following message to the Governor General:

On a question in relation to this statement Edon confirmed that in the event of an attack by Japan the British Empire will back us up completely. The Declaration of the British Government can be considered satisfactory politically but it is disappointing from a strategical point of view. On the eighth instant a conference will be held with Edon to discuss the possibility of drawing up another formula in which the proposed staff discussions come automatically into action, since it has become clear now that the United States and England will not resist Japanese occupation of Thailand with force of arms. It is also brought to your attention that any guarantee or certainty of United States participation by force of arms is absolutely excluded."

Three. While the general public has no knowledge of the above quoted telegram it has been circulated rather freely among high officials where it has aroused varying degrees of gloom, pessimism, and some bitter feeling against the United State.

FOOTE.

NPL

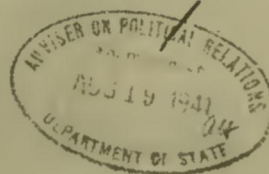
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: AUGUST 18, 1941.

SUBJECT: **ATTITUDE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT TOWARD THAILAND IN EVENT OF
 JAPANESE ATTACK.**

PARTICIPANTS: **SECRETARY HULL AND THE MINISTER OF THAILAND,
 NOM RAJAWONGSE SENI PRAMOJ.**

COPIES TO:



The Minister of Thailand called by mutual agreement. He had previously had a conference with Mr. Hamilton of the Far Eastern Division, in which he discussed the purpose of his call to see me. (Reference is made to the record of Mr. Hamilton's conversation of August 12, 1941.)

The Minister said that pressure had been brought to bear on his Government in connection with rubber and perhaps one or two other commodities; that the troops of Japan have been moved up to a point on the new border between Thailand and Indochina just opposite and overlooking Bangkok. He was of the opinion that their first objective is to go south and attack Singapore. He said that the largest military forces are opposite Bangkok

and

and that the Navy had all of their military power with the exception of the fleet at Saigo. He believes that the Japanese will probably first move south and land against Saigon in order to destroy the Burma Road network.

The Minister indicated that pressure on his Government was more and more threatening and that no one could tell what day or what hour Japanese troops and other forces might move into his country. He said that his Government had announced that it was neutral and friendly towards every country, but that if it should be attacked it would defend itself as best as it possibly could. He then stated that his real interest in calling on us was to ascertain what the attitude of this Government would be towards his country in case it should be attacked and endeavor in good faith to defend itself. I repeated to him what Mr. Hamilton had said concerning the long friendship existing between our two countries and about the probability of Japanese intervention by force at any time despite agreements and understandings to the contrary. I stated that we have ascertained this by experience with them in the Chinese invasion and in other instances; and that they are unquestionably out on a rampage of invasion by force, the seizure of any and all weaker countries, and the placing of them under a military

-3-

military despotism, which would dominate their political, economic, commercial and other affairs and interests and which would channel straight to Tokyo the cream of all benefits, advantages and gains.

I reminded the Minister that we have been aiding China against the aggression of Japan--aiding her in many ways--and that we would place Thailand in the same category; that I have already more than once expressed the serious concern of this country with reference to threatened Japanese intervention. I then added that in aiding all countries subjected to aggression and intervention by force, especially by countries like Germany and Japan, we do the very best possible to distribute such aid where it will be most effective. I said that we are increasing our production fairly rapidly and that the State Department will be glad to contact the officials in charge of the defense program and inform them of the needs and desires of Thailand. I finally said that I would be glad to have the Minister call at any time for the purpose of exchanging information about the situation. He remarked that Thailand had the money to pay for the material that they would like to purchase in the United States.

C.H.

S:CH:MA:AR

PREPARE NUMBER
INDICATE WHETHER

BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE X
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

November 3, 1941

Rate
Cable letter
Night letter
Charge - Department
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter
Charge to
\$

MEMORANDUM

BANGKOK (THAILAND).

Your 405, October 22, 10 a.m.

The Department is particularly interested in the statement made to you by the British Minister that planes could be sent to Thailand from Singapore. The Department was on the point of informing the British Embassy. In reply to an inquiry, that it favored the sending of planes from Singapore, but ^{that} ^{on our part} reply has been held up pending consideration of ~~the matter~~ ^{matters.} related to the ~~question of resistance to~~ ~~Thailand~~

302.24179
P.O. AD

Handwritten signature

RLS SKY

RLS
FE:RLS:LJH

WAA
FE

PAW
SKY

DE

NOV 5 1941

Enciphered by

Sent by operator M. 19

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 4, 1941

SUBJECT: Situation in Thailand.

PARTICIPANTS: Sir Ronald Campbell, British Minister;
Mr. Welles, Under Secretary.

COPIES TO: S, A-B, PA/H, FE, EU



FW 392.24/83 1/2

PS/AML

Sir Ronald Campbell called to see me this morning at his request.

He inquired whether this Government could as yet give the British Government a reply to the communication he had left with me a few days ago regarding the situation in Thailand.

I told the Minister that I had assumed that a reply had already been made to him by Dr. Hornbeck in as much as I had approved a draft reply some days ago and that it was my understanding that the Secretary of State had likewise approved this draft. I then called Dr. Hornbeck on the telephone who told me that the delivery of the reply had been held up owing to the information which had reached us last Saturday from Chungking relating to a

892
y4

RECEIVED
NOV 18 1941

-3-

anticipated attack by the Japanese by way of Indochina on
Ceylon.

I consequently told Sir Ronald that certain questions
of an urgent character involving China as well as Thailand
had arisen just as Dr. Hornbeck was about to give the
reply of this Government to the British Embassy, and that
for the time being, therefore, our reply would have to be
postponed.

Sir Ronald said he fully understood the circumstances.



U:SV:IJ

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

TK **Bangkok**
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (C). FROM

Dated November 6, 1941
Rec'd 9:10 p.m.

DCR
file

Secretary of State

Washington

AS - Division of FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

URGENT.

div
11/6/41 7 22X

504, November 6, 5 p.m., (SECTION ONE)

Department's 137, November 3, 10 p.m.

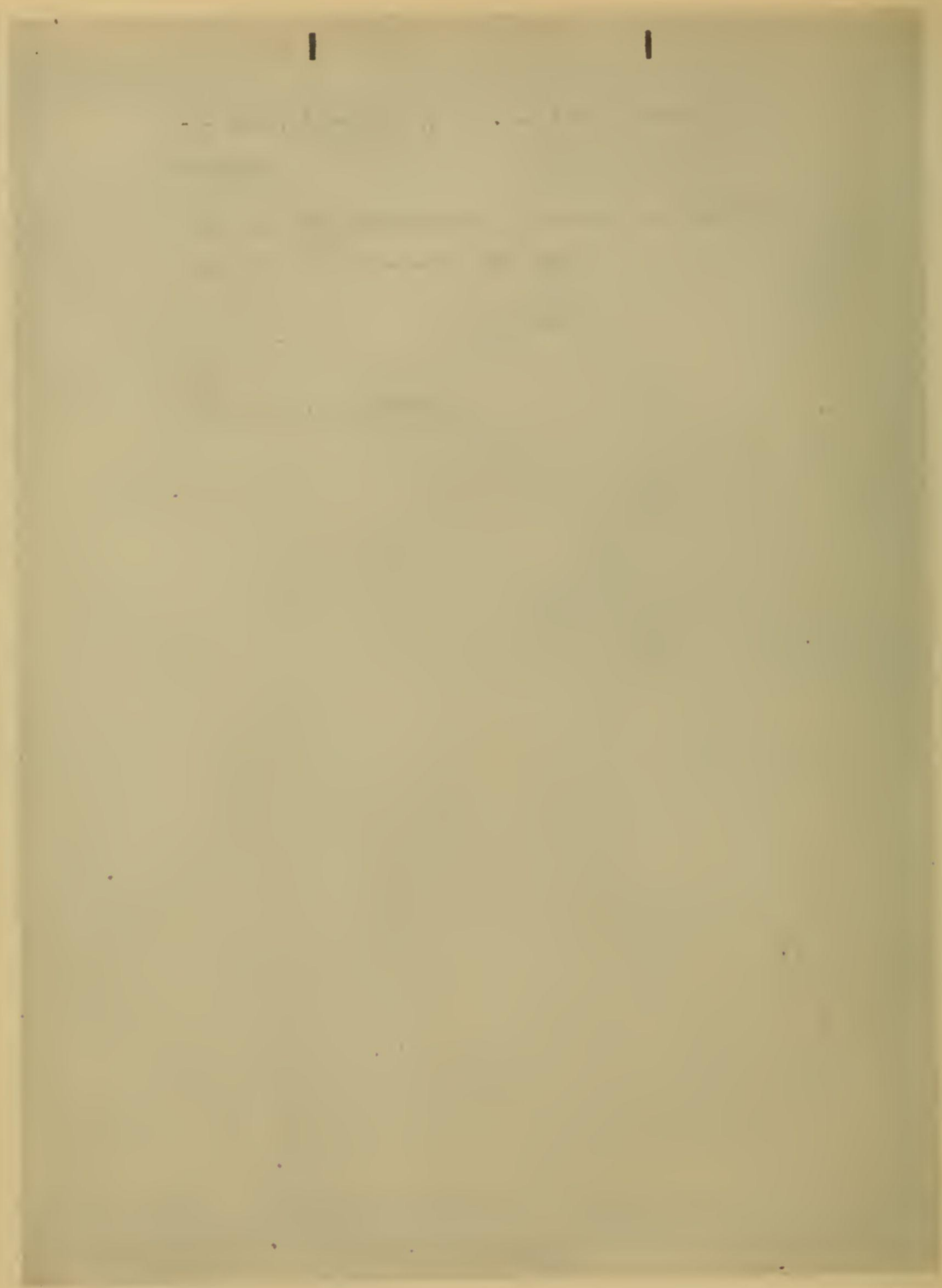
One. Both the British Minister and I, in suggesting that 24 fighter planes be transferred to Thailand from Singapore, had in mind their replacement from the United States. I have asked the Naval Attache now in Singapore to report whether surplus planes exist there.

Two. I venture to suggest below factors relevant to consideration of American policy with respect to Thailand. Whatever has been the Thai feeling toward Japan during the Siam Incident, the movement and people are undoubtedly urged to support the Japanese Administration in Bangkok. The Japanese Government has been in Bangkok since 1941, and the results are well known. The Thai people are well known to be friendly to the Japanese.

892.44/03

PS/h

FILED



TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM

[Faint, illegible text of a telegram message]

MA

Bangkok

This telegram must be
 closely paraphrased be-
 fore being communicated
 to anyone. (C)

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

November 6, 1941

Rec'd 9:56 p.m.

FROM

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

URGENT.

504, November 6, 5 p.m. (SECTION THREE).

Schemes has been of considerable advantage to the United States and Great Britain because if Japan had acquired a dominant position in this country it would have had a favorable position from which to negotiate for seaports and airfields and to obstruct American and British access to the tin and rubber resources here. If Thailand had in any important particular during recent months sided with Japan as the self styled champion of Asia against American and British Imperialism the benefit to Japan's program would have been immense. As things stand Great Britain has been left undisturbed in control of three fourths of the tin output and our joint rubber purchases begun ^{October} ~~September~~ 18 are proceeding at the rate of over 3,000 tons monthly. Our extensive missionary enterprises are continuing without the molestation they have encountered in Japanese controlled areas. The military implications

PECK

HTM

75

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

to arrive. (2) _____

FROM

Secretary of State,

Washington.

11/24/41

624, November 24, 1941. (SECTION FIVE)

of a possible Japanese domination of this country
 whether acquired by intimidation or invasion seem
 to concern us in a general way because of the possible
 advent to Japanese strategy and in particular is
 the fitting American aid to Thailand through Burma
 but on the whole military considerations concern Great
 Britain more than the United States. The United States
 during the progress of hostilities is under no specific
 obligation to assist Thailand to maintain its independ-
 ence whatever may be our future obligations or our general
 pronouncements once victory over aggression is achieved.

Third. I have been informed of the purport of
 reply from the British Government to the inquiry of
 the Thai Prime Minister concerning British intended
 action in the event of a Japanese invasion. Apparently
 this draft can be reduced to an undertaking to give
 Thailand aviation gasoline and lubricating oil for military
 purposes at once, the

PECK

-4TM

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

GS
 This telegram must be
 closely paraphrased be-
 fore being commu-
 cated to anyone. (C)

Bangkok

Dated November 6, 1941

Rec'd 10:04 p.m.

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

URGENT

504, November 6, 5 p.m. (SECTION FIVE)

36 pieces of artillery over a period of about nine months and a promise to occupy Southern Thailand with armed forces when the invasion takes place in the north. Disregarding other considerations this seems a small return to make for the practical advantages we are receiving and for the risk Thailand is incurring through repudiation of Japanese overtures. If it could be done it would certainly be preferable to preserve this country as a political and military entity rather than to envisage partition of the country as a temporary expedient. Moreover, it happens that the British owned tin mines and all the rubber plantations are in the south and if they were saved and the bulk of the country abandoned to Japan a hostile propaganda would allege this to be proof of our merely selfish aims in the Orient.

Four. Indochina and Thailand will be dry and

PECK

HTW

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

TO
 This telegram was sent to
 chief representative of
 from office communicated
 to press. (C)

Bangkok
 Dated November 5, 1941
 Rec'd 8:37 p.m.

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

URGENT.

504, November 5, 5 p.m. (SECTION SIX).

Suitable for military activities from January to
 April inclusive. Possibly bombing and parachute
 attacks could take place at any time. In the mean-
 time these leaders who support a policy of independ-
 ence in this country must fight the possibility of
 responsibility and of co-territory. In China Japan has
 overwhelmed areas and its army is larger than
 those of Thailand. No country or coalition of countries
 could guarantee successful resistance to a determined Japanese as-
 sault. But the public and private utterances of of-
 ficials here indicate a strong belief that if
 we assist the Government to acquire the aviation gaso-
 line, lubricating oil, and fighter planes for which it
 is pressing there will be no surrender until feasible
 resistance has been tried and lost.

PECK

WTM

TELEPHONE RECEIVED

TO: [Illegible]
FROM: [Illegible]
DATE: [Illegible]

MEMBERS OF STAFF

MEMBERS OF STAFF

MEMBERS OF STAFF

MEMBERS OF STAFF

Failed. This will give us valuable insight
to better the former... of our...
to be... of... that...
by... with...
retaliation from the United States...
that... is...
I...
the further... that if...
that Japan's...
the aim of...
we will...
democracy would...
effect...
the...
the...
of... liberty.

(END OF MESSAGE)

PEP

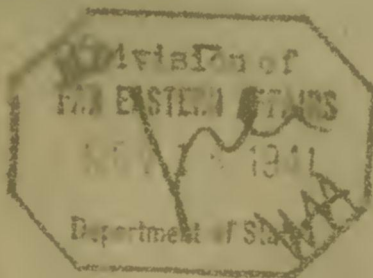
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 THE UNDER SECRETARY
 LIAISON OFFICE

November 18, 1941.

DCR
 file

FE - Mr. Hamilton:

This subject was discussed at the Liaison Meeting held on November 12. The consensus of opinion was that if any action concerning these planes should be taken, the initiative should come from the British without any urging from the United States.



U-L: CW: lēon: WLH

(File returned to FE)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE UNDER SECRETARY

November 8, 1941

U-L
Mr. Wilson: ✓

Please put this on
the agenda for the next
meeting of the Liaison
Committee.

U - LIAISON OFFICE
NOV 8 - 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

November 7,
1941.

U
Mr. Welles:

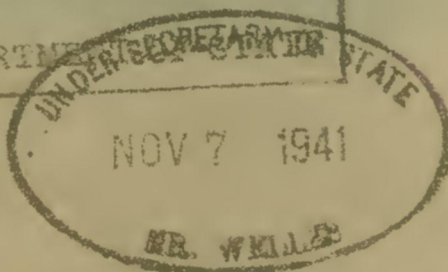
It seems to me that the question of planes for Thailand has reached a point where the only way to get forward with the matter is to have it considered by high officers of the War and Navy Departments along with officers of this Department. I therefore suggest that you may care to discuss this with General Marshall and with Admiral Stark.

U - LIAISON OFFICE

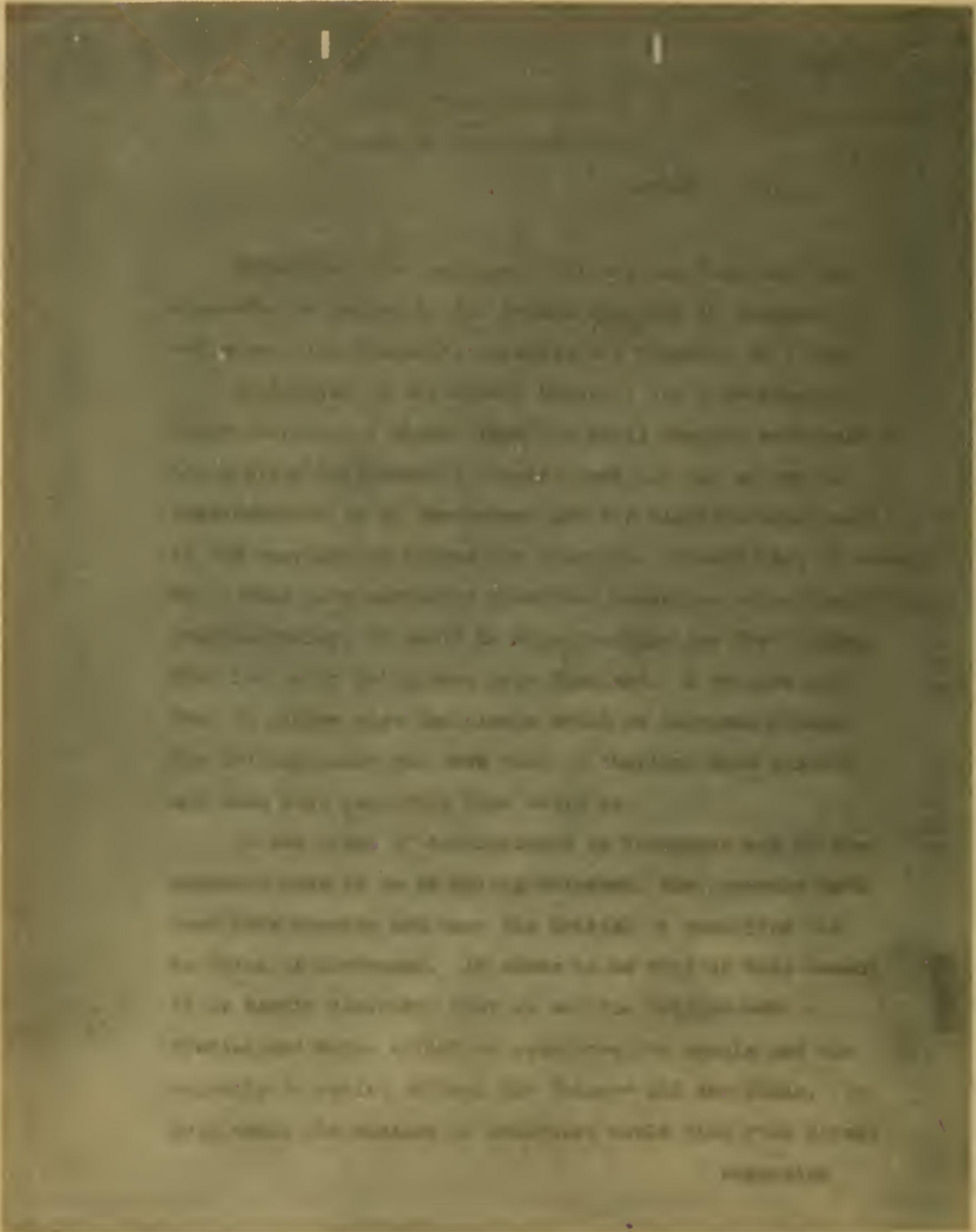
NOV 8 - 1941

892.24/88

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



FE:MMH:HES



...the

... ..

... ..

planes

plans from Singapore into China and into Thailand, with
some arrangement for a recall in certain circumstances,
without great risk as far as Singapore is concerned (but,
of course, with substantial risk so far as Hong Kong is
concerned).

1977-03-12

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DCR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
 APR 24 1942
 DIVISION OF
 COMMUNICATIONS

November 6, 1941.

Free

The reply hereunder
 was handed by me to Sir
 Ronald Campbell this morning.

PA/H:SKH:BGT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE UNDER SECRETARY
OCTOBER 29 1941
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

~~S~~
~~PA~~

~~PA/H - Dr. Hornbeck~~

FE - Mr. ~~Hamilton~~:

I concur entirely in the views set forth in the suggested memorandum to the British Embassy. I suggest that this be given to the Secretary to read and if he concurs, that Dr. Hornbeck ask Sir Ronald Campbell to come in, and hand him the reply as drafted.

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
OCT 29 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OK
C.H.
RW

U:SW:IJ

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1917-1918

Reference is made to the statement of the Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, in their report to the Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, dated June 1, 1918, in which they state that the assets of the company are not sufficient to meet the obligations of the company.

The Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, in their report to the Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, dated June 1, 1918, in which they state that the assets of the company are not sufficient to meet the obligations of the company.

As a result of the findings of the Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, in their report to the Board of Directors of the United States Trust Company, New York, dated June 1, 1918, in which they state that the assets of the company are not sufficient to meet the obligations of the company.

PS/DO

The Japanese Government has indicated that it would like to see the United States Government in a position to be able to supply the United States with the necessary equipment for the maintenance of its military forces in the East.

With regard to the proposal of the British Government to supply to the United States Government certain equipment and staff with accompanying facilities conditional on the acceptance by the Thai Government of a number of military instructors, question is raised whether a stipulation that the Thai Government accept military instructors might not be interpreted by the Japanese Government as contrary to the political accord between the Japanese Government and the Thai Government arrived at in connection with the Japanese Government's mediation of the Thai-French Indochinese border controversy, and thus serve as a pretext to the Japanese Government for the exertion of additional pressure upon Thailand.

With regard to the question of aircraft, information has been received that the American Naval and

Military

-3-

and many officials at Bangkok are under the impression that there are to certain airplanes at Singapore in excess of the number which can, with the trained pilots available there, be used to advantage. The suggestion is offered that the British may wish to consider the release to Thailand of a number of these planes. Should that be not practicable, there is offered the further suggestion that, if the British Government, after weighing its own needs and the needs of Thailand and taking into account all political and military factors, should decide to make available to Thailand from planes being supplied to it from this country a certain number of planes, this Government would be agreeable to such an arrangement.

With regard to the question of aviation gasoline and lubricating oil for the Thai air force, this matter is being looked into and we shall expect to make reply on this point in the near future.

Department of State,

Washington,

FE:WAA/KOB:HNS
10-23

FE
7/14/41

FA/R

NOVEMBER 11, 1941.
1 p. m.Amlegation
Bangkok (Thailand).
145

Confidential

Department's 137, November 3, 10 p. m. and 141, November 6, 1941, 6 p. m. to you.

In connection with consideration which the Department is giving to the question of making available to Thailand certain supplies, the Department requests that you endeavor discreetly to obtain information in regard to specifications and quantities of aviation gasoline and aviation lubricating oil that might reasonably be made available to the Thai air force under present circumstances. In sending to the Department your report and any recommendation which you may feel in a position to make, you should bear in mind the circumstance that, because of great and increasing demands upon this country's production of high octane gasoline, careful disposition of available supplies is imperative.

(SKH)

HULL.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED
X CONFIDENTIAL CODE X
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington.

November 18, 1941

4 P. M.

Collect Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge Department: Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge to
5

ALLEGATION,

BANGKOK.

Your 508, November 8, 1 p.m.

The Department has given this matter the most serious consideration and has explored every possibility of making available to the Thai Ministry of Defense the desired anti-tank and anti-aircraft guns and ammunition. It is very much regretted, however, that it has been found impossible to spare any of these guns or ammunition, in view of the tremendous needs of our own defense program as well as the very urgent needs for such materials in other areas.

092-24/04
Acty

Hull
H

812-14

PLS
FE:RLS:NBW

WA
FE
-my, m, H

SK
P
F

5:00
DE
Ch

Enciphered by _____
Sent by operator _____ M. _____

WIND

NOVEMBER 22, 1941.

3 p. m.

Amlegation
Bangkok
153.

Your 520, November 15, 2 p. m. and previous messages in regard to assistance for Thailand.

One. The Department has on several occasions informed the Thai Minister in regard to the policy of the United States of extending assistance to countries resisting aggression and has stated to him that in the event that Thailand should be invaded and should endeavor in good faith to defend itself, the United States Government would place Thailand in the same category as China.

The question of supplying planes to Thailand has been under active consideration by this Government and by the British Government. An officer of the British Embassy informed the Department November 18 that in view of the serious demands on British resources, the British Government was unable to supply any planes at the present time and that it was doubted whether bombing or fighting planes would be supplied from other sources, although inquiries were being made. The United States Government has also explored every possibility of supplying planes to Thailand, but it has been found impossible to spare any planes for Thailand at this moment in view of the tremendous demands of our own defense program as well as the urgent needs for planes by countries now actively resisting aggression.

The question of supplying aviation gasoline and aviation lubricating oil to Thailand (your telegram no. 518, November 14, 7 p. m.) has also been under active consideration by the United States and British Governments. In a recent instruction to the British Minister at Bangkok, the British Foreign Office stated that the British Government was prepared at once to furnish limited amounts of aviation gasoline sufficient for the current requirements of the Thai air force. The appropriate authorities of the United States Government are now endeavoring to arrange for the supply of aviation lubricating oil to Thailand, and the Department expects to telegraph you further in this regard to the near future.

Two. It may be stated for your information that the British Government has recently authorized the British Minister at Bangkok to offer to Thailand twelve field guns and twenty-four howitzers; if this offer is accepted, twelve howitzers would be released at once from Malaya. The British Minister has also been authorized to assure the Thai Prime Minister that in respect to general defense, the British Government is ready to furnish QUOTE unobtrusive advice UNQUOTE; for this purpose the British Minister has been authorized in his discretion to obtain the agreement of the Thai Government to the appointment of three additional assistant British military attachés to Thailand.

HULL.

(DA)

FE:RLS:MBW FE PA/H DE EA/T A-A.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

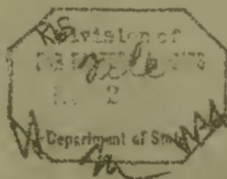
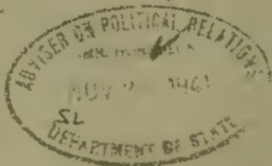
Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 22, 1941.

SUBJECT: Reported request of Japanese for use of Thai airdromes for "survey flights".

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. W. G. Hayter, First Secretary of the British Embassy, Mr. Smyth.

COPIES TO:



7519.94

Mr. Hayter of the British Embassy informed Mr. Smyth during a call on November 22, 1941 that according to a recent telegram from the British Minister at Bangkok, Japanese members of the Thai-Indochina Boundary Commission are asking for the use of some Thai airdromes for "survey flights" and also for aviation gasoline from Thailand, presumably to be used in these flights. Mr. Hayter added that this information had been given to the British at Bangkok by the Thai Minister of Foreign Affairs.

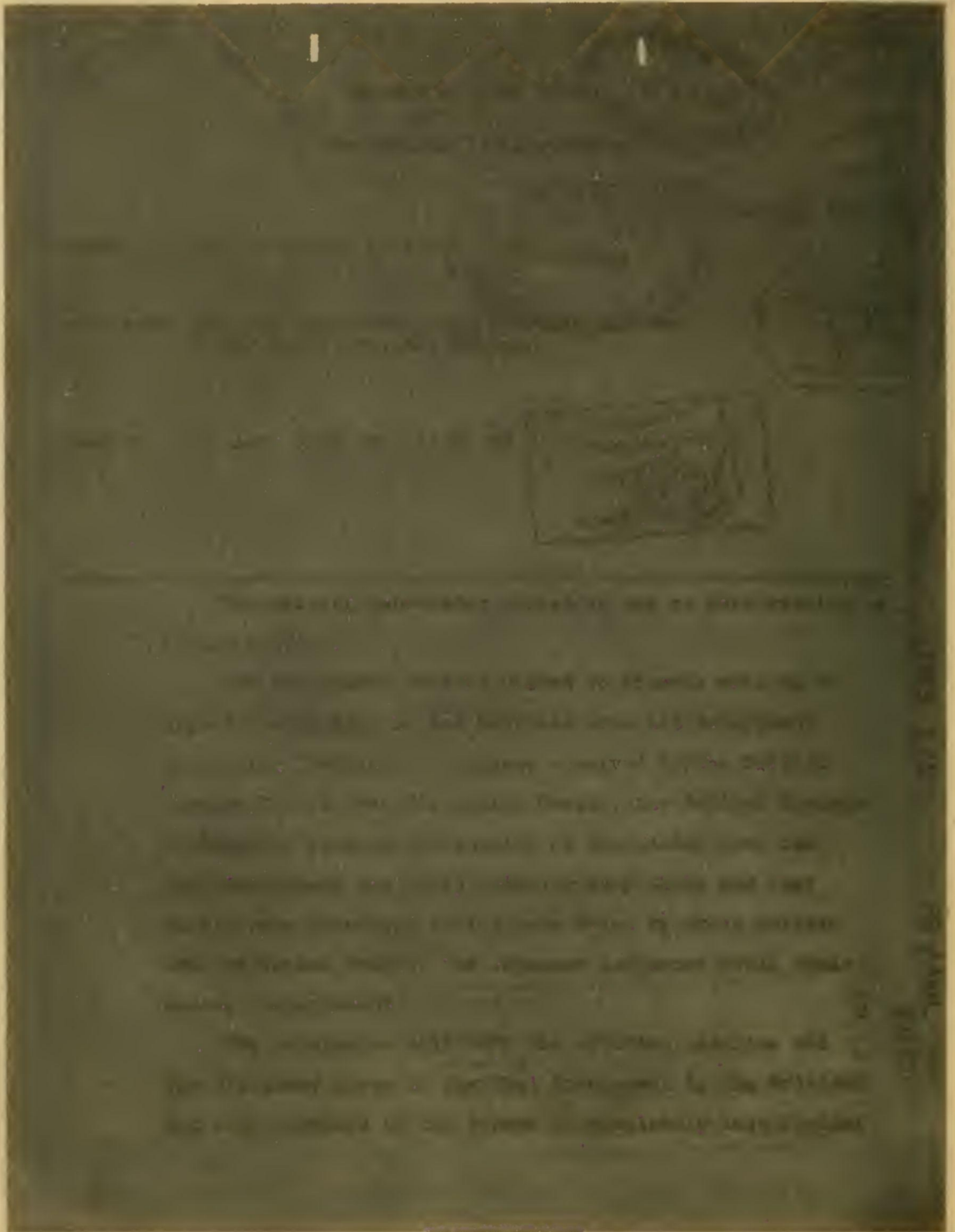
7519.94/401

FE: Smyth: NHB

NOV 24 1941

PS/UM

Fujyoi



RECEIVED
JAN 10 1942

...the effect of the... We...
...the... was... of...
...I... if... was...
...that the British... of...
...planes... by the United States... to Great Britain...
...in Singapore and make these available to the
...Government without publicity by flying them in at
...night. The Ambassador said that the trouble was that the
...British Government urgently needed all the airplanes they
...could get from us for use in Singapore. I said that that
...was the situation with respect to the United States since,
...the Ambassador... we were building up as rapidly as
...possible our air strength in the Philippines, and I had
...been informed by both General Marshall and Admiral Stark
...that the planes that we had in the Philippines are infinitely
...more valuable to us there than they would be in Thailand.

The Ambassador then suggested on behalf of his Govern-
ment that the situation might be ameliorated by a credit
of \$10,000,000 to Thailand by the United States. I said
that this matter would be given immediate consideration.

U:SW:GES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
DIVISION OF CURRENT INFORMATION,
November 26, 1941.

Radio Bulletin No. 280

NOTE: This digest has been compiled from press and other sources and is in no way an expression of official opinion.

WHITE HOUSE

Yugoslavia.—At his press conference this morning Secretary Early informed correspondents that information had reached this Government from several of its Intelligence Services to the effect that the Germans have decided to make a final assault on Belgrade. He said that the reason behind the German plans is that the Nazi Army believes Belgrade to be the base of operations for the Chetniks. He continued that according to declarations of high German officials the bombardment to which Belgrade has been subjected will be nothing to compare to what is now in store for the city, and that the Germans have decided to raze Belgrade, which will be surrounded by troops and exposed to bombardment by artillery and from the air. He added that the sources of this Government's information are convinced that the Germans have decided to carry this attack on in the same way as they have done previously with the city of Chabatz.

STATE DEPARTMENT

Press Conference.—A correspondent said that according to reports two American military observers have been captured in Libya by the Axis forces and inquired whether we had the right under international law to demand their return or whether they were to be regarded as legitimate prisoners of war. The Secretary said that he would first have to look at the law to be certain of his answer. In reply to an inquiry as to the position that would be taken with regard to the further report that some newspaper correspondents have been captured, the Secretary said that then he would certainly have to look at the law.

Questioned whether we had received any request to intervene in or prevent the reported plans of the Germans to bombard Belgrade, Mr. Hull indicated that he had no knowledge of any request so far as concerned the bombardment itself but that if he should learn anything he would be glad to tell the correspondents.

Asked about the conversations with the Japanese envoys today, the Secretary pointed out that he did not think he would serve either the correspondents or the Government any good purpose by undertaking to go into those matters at this time. In reply to a question whether he was going to meet the envoys again today or tonight, he said that the matter was now receiving attention. A correspondent pointed out that an allegedly authoritative Tokyo despatch took a gloomy view of the discussions because of the continued conference with the so-called ABCD powers, on the ground that these discussions were regarded as a threat against Japan. Mr. Hull replied that, as he had stated, he thought that it would not be of any advantage to go into these matters at the present.

Asked for comment on the reported news item from Buenos Aires to the effect that Argentina was reluctant to accept a three-year embargo on Argentine sales of strategic materials to the Axis powers in return for our agreeing to purchase Argentine commodities, the Secretary said that all he could say offhand was that we had been having some conversations on those subjects but that he thought that, perhaps with one or two exceptions, the discussions had referred to a one-year period.

Requested to elaborate on intimations received by the press from Mexico City this morning that we may soon begin a series of general staff talks with the Mexican Army, the Secretary said that we would naturally have to look to the Army and Navy for accurate knowledge on this subject.

DEFENSE

Lend-Lease.—Lend-Lease Administrator Edward R. Stettinius on Monday announced that total lend-lease expenditures at the end of October were approximately 919 million dollars and that increases since then have brought the figure to more than a billion dollars. The announcement added that the steady increase in lend-lease aid is shown by the following monthly amounts in millions of dollars:

Mar.	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Total to Oct 31, 1941
18	40	60	85	134	150	207	225	919

Actual contracts have been let for more than 75 percent of the first seven billion dollar Lend-Lease Bill and 100 percent of the funds therein have been allocated. The new six billion dollar appropriation is being allocated rapidly. Since the beginning of the war, our exports to the British, including Lend-Lease aid, have amounted to approximately five and a quarter billion dollars, most of which was financed by the British with their own dollars. In October, exports to the British were the largest of any month since the war began.

Local Defense Councils.—Director La Guardia of the OCD has announced that a total of 5,935 local defense councils have been organized throughout the United States to employ 753,407 volunteers as air raid wardens, auxiliary police, auxiliary firemen, bomb squads, rescue squads, etc., plus 196,101 persons holding Red Cross certificates issued since June 1.

He said that he was gratified at the increase in number of local defense councils but that their organization must move at an even greater rate if we are to be prepared to meet any emergency.

Defense Effort Comparison.—The OPM Bureau of Research and Statistics has issued a comparison of present industrial defense efforts with that of the U. S. during 1917 and 1918 which shows in part: (1) disbursements for industrial activity month by month are at a higher level today than in World War I; (2) due to lower price levels, the U. S. is probably getting more value for every dollar spent than in 1917 and 1918; (3) the productive capacity of each workman has greatly increased because of increased industrial efficiency through technical advances and billions of dollars of additional investment.

Maritime Commission.—In a summary of contracts and progress in their whole shipbuilding program, the Maritime Commission reported that, as of November first, there were 809 vessels for which contracts had been let. Deliveries to date have amounted to 118, keels for 261 have been laid and 146 vessels have been launched.

Light Draft Vessels.—President Roosevelt signed legislation on Monday authorizing the expenditure of \$300,000,000 for construction or conversion of 400 ships to be used as light-draft vessels by the Navy for inshore and Naval base defense work.

Ferry Command.—As the Army Air Corps Ferrying Command passes the three million mile mark in safe delivery flights, they report that their pilots pick up planes at "reception points" i. e., factories, fly them to "installation points" where flight equipment for over-water flight is installed, and deliver them to such "transfer points" as Montreal and Miami where the planes are checked over before the transoceanic flyers of the R. A. F. Ferry Command take over. The ACFC has been so organized that it will also be able to handle the President's 50,000 plane-a-year program and its operations can be changed as the theater of war changes. It is providing valuable training for pilots and crews in flying military aircraft under carefully prepared flight plans.

Ordnance.—Ordnance Department awards on Monday totalled \$94,477,819. Largest item was the contract awarded to General Motors for armor-piercing projectiles, which amounted to \$35,705,287. A total of \$11,708,300 was awarded to three firms for the manufacture of anti-aircraft guns.

The Denver Small Arms Manufacturing Ordnance Works, where production started in September will be expanded with new buildings and machinery for the manufacture of a greater quantity of small arms, the War Department announced yesterday.

Quartermaster Corps.—The Quartermaster Corps of the War Department has concentrated its purchasing this month on clothing for the Army. A total of \$76,334,471 has been spent for this equipment. Besides large orders for shoes, wool trousers, raincoats and miscellaneous items, the Quartermaster Corps has ordered 16,816,585 yards of cloth, mostly all-wool serge, to be made into clothing.

Military Attachés.—The War Department has announced the assignment of the following three officers as Assistant Military Attachés to the Legation at Cairo: Captain Paul M. Wickens, Captain William S. Moore, and Captain Guy E. Parker.

Aluminum Plants.—Federal Loan Administrator Jesse Jones has announced that upon recommendation of the OPM an aluminum plant costing \$33,000,000, including power facilities, and having an annual capacity of 128,000,000 pounds of aluminum will be constructed at Lake Catherine, Arkansas, and will be operated by the Aluminum Company of America under a five-year lease.

Concurrently he announced that an aluminum fabricating plant, costing approximately \$22,000,000 and having an annual capacity of approximately 60,000,000 pounds of fabricated aluminum, will be constructed on a 115 acre tract of land at Fairview, Oregon, and will be operated by the Aluminum Company of America.

Defense Housing Priorities.—Acting FWA Administrator Edy has announced priorities for building materials which will expedite the defense public works program now in the construction stage are being obtained for contractors from OPM. He said projects in the \$150,000,000 community facilities program will receive priority ratings generally ranging from A-2 to A-8.

USHA Administrator Straus reported the USHA is building defense homes at an average cost of \$2,789. The Lanham Act sets a \$3,500 limit on construction cost of such homes.

President Roosevelt asked Congress for \$15,000,000 in supplemental funds for defense housing. The funds would be used to build 3,000 trailers, 4,400 dormitory units and 3,550 portable houses.

Labor Supply.—The Social Security Board reports that estimates of labor needs in selected defense industries show that approximately 475,000 workers were scheduled to be hired in 9,900 establishments in 26 defense industries during the six-months period September 1941–February 1942.

Aircraft and shipbuilding industries are expected to take on nearly 250,000 workers, expanding current employment 32 and 38 percent respectively. Employers in 6,400 iron and steel and nonelectrical machinery establishments estimated they would need more than 87,000 additional workers in the next six months. The estimates forecast a layoff of 59,000 workers in the automobile and automobile equipment industry with 20,800 new hires. The tire and inner tube industry also anticipated a net reduction in employment. The number of workers engaged in manufacture of industrial rubber goods will also decline somewhat by the end of next February, the Board said.

The Board also reported labor shortages are expected to develop prior to January 1, 1942, in 179 of 306 selected defense occupations. Shortages were already occurring in 146 of these categories in mid-September. Sufficient employment service registrants are available to meet all reported demands in the remaining 127 occupations, the Board said.

Navy Enlistments.—At a Navy Department press conference this morning Admiral Nimitz, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, said that the Navy now needs 13,000 volunteers a month to keep pace with expansion under the two ocean Navy shipbuilding program, and that by next July 15,000 or more volunteers a month would probably be required.

Aircraft Merger.—The press today reported a prospective merger of Vultee Aircraft, Inc., of Downey, California, which has plants in Downey, Nashville, and Wayne, Michigan, with the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation, whose principal plant is in San Diego, California. It was pointed out that such a merger, if carried out, will unite two concerns which have defense orders totaling about \$1,000,000,000 and are turning out every type of plane—from small commercial vehicles to large 4-motor, 28-ton bombers.

The press quotes Major Reuben H. Fleet, president of Consolidated, and Mr. Richard W. Millar, president of Vultee, in a joint statement issued yesterday in part as follows: "Of our own volition we have for some time been mutually exploring the business aspects of a possible future association. The facilities, products, proximity of location and experience of Consolidated and Vultee so complement each other as to make possible the more expeditious completion of their defense assignments."

MISCELLANEOUS

Crude Oil Production.—According to the press crude oil production in the United States for the week ending November 22 shot upward to 4,300,000 barrels, establishing a new all time high record by a wide margin. The crude oil output has been increasing steadily since the beginning of this year on an average of about 3,500,000 barrels daily according to statistics of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. The Office of the Federal Oil Coordinator for National Defense has estimated that the demand might reach 4,500,000 barrels daily by next year.

Life Insurance.—According to the press the Prudential Life Insurance Company of America today announced that its reserve basis would be cut from three and one-fourth to two and one-half percent and that premiums on new ordinary life insurance policies would be increased about eight percent on January 1. This

action follows the lead of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company which last week announced a reduction of its reserve basis from three to two and three-fourths percent. Both companies attribute this move to lower yields on high-grade bonds.

Cost of Living.—Labor Secretary Perkins has reported that the cost of goods purchase by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in large cities increased 1.2 percent from mid-September to mid-October. "Advances in rents and in prices of food—clothing, automobiles, and certain house furnishings, resulted in an increase of about 1.0 percent," she said, "and excise taxes levied by the Revenue Act of 1941 caused the further increase of about 0.2 percent." Miss Perkins said the cost of goods index for October 15, 1941 was 109.4 compared with 100 as the 1935-39 average.

Construction Prospects.—The OPM Bureau of Research and Statistics has issued a survey which predicts the volume of all construction next year will be higher than any year between 1930 and 1940 despite an expected 65 percent reduction in non-defense building. Total defense building, the survey stated, is expected to reach \$9,000,000,000 in January 1942; \$12,000,000,000 by July 1942; and \$15,000,000,000 during 1943.

Home Building.—The Federal Home Loan Bank Board has announced material and labor costs for a standard six-room house as of September 1941, increased 13.2 percent above costs for the same period for 1940. Building supply costs during the 12-month period rose 12.3 percent as compared with a 15.2 percent labor cost increase.

Washington Rental Rates.—Acting Commissioner Hinrichs, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, has reported that rents were raised for approximately one-seventh of homes occupied by white tenants in Washington suburban areas during the 22-months period from October, 1939 to August, 1941. Most of the increases in the suburban counties of Alexandria, Arlington, Montgomery and Prince Georges occurred after October, 1940 and were attributed to the increasing number of Government employees brought to Washington by the expanding national defense program.

Radio.—Lloyd A. Free, Director of the FCC Foreign Broadcasting Monitoring Service, has announced the establishment in London of a listening post to report on European radio propaganda. The London office, Mr. Free said, will utilize the monitoring facilities of the BBC and will have a four or five-man force. The purpose of the office will be to (1) listen to and record propaganda broadcasts made by Governments of the European continent to their own people, and (2) sift from these broadcasts any information which might be of value to the United States.

According to the press the office would be essentially a part of the Intelligence Service of the Government which at present has in operation monitoring stations in Washington, Puerto Rico and Oregon, supplying information to about 19 Government agencies.

Coal Strike.—Dr. John Steelman, appointed by the President to represent the public on the three-man board to arbitrate the captive coal mine dispute, today convened the board at the Hotel Commodore in New York City.

Stock Market.—Volume of trading on Tuesday: 840,000 shares. Dow-Jones closing stock averages: Industrials—116.96; Railroads—28.10; Utilities—15.80.

Stocks turned down today in moderate trading. Curb stocks were mixed and Chicago stocks irregularly lower. In Chicago wheat closed off one-half to seven-eighths cents and corn was off one-fourth to five-eighths cents.

Japanese Discussions.—Following a conference this evening between the Secretary and Ambassadors and Nomura and Kurusu correspondents were informed by a State Department official that the Japanese representatives were handed for their consideration a document that was the culmination of conferences back and forth during recent weeks and that it was unnecessary to repeat what had been said so often in the past that it rests on certain basic principles with which the correspondents should be entirely familiar in the light of many repetitions.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED
X CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

TELEGRAM SENT

Collect { Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge Department:
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge to

Department of State "Brown"

Washington,

November 24, 1941

AMLEGATION,

BANGKOK (THAILAND).

Your 523, November 22, 9 a.m.

One. The Department under date of November 22 telegraphically instructed our officers in the areas mentioned as follows:

QUOTE The Department desires that the American diplomatic and consular officers concerned call to the attention of American citizens in the Japanese Empire, Japanese-occupied areas of China, Hong Kong, Macao, and French Indochina the advice previously given in regard to withdrawal and in so doing emphasize that the shipping problem in the Pacific is very difficult and that because of urgent demands elsewhere there is no assurance that it will be possible to retain in the Pacific even the present facilities. UNQUOTE.

Two. The Department believes that it would be appropriate at this time for you to acquaint American citizens of the categories mentioned now in [redacted]

390 115A/537

390.115A/537

G/C/L

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

Collect Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge Department
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge to
\$

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington.

-2-

with the nature of the renewed suggestions in regard to withdrawal as contained in the above quoted instruction.

Hull

NOV 27 1941

390.1115A/507

GA
FE:GA:ALM

VAA
RS
FE

PA/H

ALL
SD

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M. _____ 19 _____

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 27, 1941.

SUBJECT:

PARTICIPANTS: Mom Rajewongse Seni Pramoj, the Thai Minister
Mr. Smyth and Mr. Adams

Copy sent to Bangkok
RS
en
WAS

COPIES TO:

7/16/42

711.94/2377

The Thai Minister called upon his own initiative.

He said that some time ago Mr. Hamilton had told him that when he had any question to ask in regard to matters affecting Thailand he should not hesitate to call ~~Mr. Hamilton~~ and ask questions which he had in mind.

He said that he was taking advantage of Mr. Hamilton's kindness this morning.

Mr. Smyth and Mr. Adams told the Thai Minister that Mr. Hamilton was in conference and regretted that he himself could not talk with the Thai Minister.

The Thai Minister asked whether the following short two-sentence paragraph appearing in The New York Times was

accurate: *11*

20/10/41

-2-

accurate:

"The State Department said: "

' The Japanese representatives were handed for their consideration a document that is the culmination of conferences back and forth during recent weeks. It is unnecessary to repeat what has been said so often in the past that it rests on certain basic principles with which the correspondents should be entirely familiar in the light of many repetitions.' "

Mr. Adams replied that he understood that the statement was substantially accurate. The Thai Minister asked whether the last sentence might be interpreted to mean that the United States insisted that the Japanese evacuate both French Indochina and China.

Mr. Adams replied that he had no information or authority which would enable him to be specific in his reply to the Thai Minister's question. Mr. Adams said, however, that the President and the Secretary of State had on many occasions outlined the attitude of this Government toward acquisitions of territory by force. Mr. Adams said that there had been no change in this Government's attitude in that respect.

The Thai Minister thanked Mr. Smyth and Mr. Adams for the information which they had given him. He added that naturally his Government was vitally interested in the subject matter of the statement and he wished to keep his ^{that} Government

-3-

Government informed.

RE: Name: JS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
DIVISION OF CURRENT INFORMATION,
November 28, 1941.

Radio Bulletin No. 282

NOTE: This digest has been compiled from press and other sources and is in no way an expression of official opinion.

WHITE HOUSE

Merchant Ship Arming.—The White House today made the following announcement:

"American merchant vessels sailing on routes between the United States ports and ports of Spain, Portugal and their adjacent island possessions will not be armed.

"American merchant vessels sailing in the inter-American trade between ports of the United States and ports in Central and South America will not be armed.

"American merchant vessels sailing on routes in the Pacific Ocean will not be armed under existing circumstances.

"Public announcement will be made of any change of policy affecting any of these routes."

Press Conference.—The President informed correspondents that he planned to depart from Washington at 3:00 p. m. today for Warm Springs, Georgia, on a vacation that had twice been postponed, and that while he did not know when he would return, he hoped that it need not be before December 2, adding that he might have to return because of existing conditions in the Pacific. Asked how long he expected these conditions to exist, the President referred the correspondent to Tokyo and not Washington. A correspondent inquired whether the President could comment on further developments concerning the Japanese situation and the President indicated that while not able to do so, no reply had been received to Secretary Hull's note (see Radio Bulletin No. 279 of November 26), but that talks had not broken down. He added that the American policy continued to be one of infinite patience.

A correspondent asked what the Administration's policy was with regard to legal and lobbying activities on the part of former public officials, particularly in the matter of construction projects in connection with the defense program. The President said that he had discussed this with the Attorney General and that they were in favor of legislation which would prevent such activities on the part of persons having previously held responsible Government positions. He pointed out that in the past certain Government departments had prohibited such activities within a two-year period of holding public office.

A correspondent mentioned a report that the people of Puerto Rico were apprehensive over the outcome of an economic survey to take place regarding countries in the Carribean area because the so-called "plan" would prejudicially affect their country. The President replied that there was nothing in that story as presented by the correspondent. He said that a study was under consideration in which Puerto Rico would take part as well as other places in that area. He added that he did not see how the Puerto Ricans could worry about a study that has not yet begun and in which they would participate. Asked whether there was any possibility of joint Anglo-American consideration of certain problems involved, the President said that that might be possible.

The President was asked if he had any information concerning the attitude of the independent steel companies with regard to the three-man arbitration board appointed by the President in the captive mine dispute and he replied that he knew nothing other than what had appeared in the press on the subject.

STATE DEPARTMENT

Finland. In response to inquiries as to developments in the Finnish situation, the Secretary of State today stated that the Finnish note had been given careful consideration but that it had thrown no light upon the question uppermost in the mind of this Government, that is, how far and to what extent the Finnish military policy is one of combined operations of the Germans and Finns vitally to injure Great Britain and her associates and to threaten the northern supply lines over which Russia is now receiving supplies and assistance from Great Britain and the United States to aid Russia in resisting the Hitler forces of invasion and conquest, and to what extent that Finnish policy is a menace to all America's aims for self-defense. The recent journey of the Finnish Foreign Minister to Berlin to join with Hitler's puppet governments over Europe in sign-

ing the "anti-Comintern Pact" used by Hitler solely as an instrument to wage a war of conquest and domination against free peoples, is highly significant and cannot be camouflaged or explained away by propogada attacks on nations engaged in defending themselves.

The Secretary went on to say that the Department was giving careful attention to all the reports and information which might furnish a definite answer to this question. The concern of this Government, which has been emphasized by the studies made by the War Department and the statement of the Secretary of War on November 25, as to Finnish policy in this regard, has been made abundantly clear to the Finnish Government, the Secretary said.

The Secretary concluded by saying that every act of the Finnish Government since the delivery of its note has confirmed our apprehensions that it is fully cooperating with the Hitler forces.

CONGRESS

Anti-strike Legislation.—As movements continued within the House Rules, Labor and Naval Affairs Committees for various types of legislation designed to curb strikes in defense industries, the Senate Judiciary Committee today approved the bill sponsored by Senator Connally, the principal feature of which would permit seizure and operation of strike-bound defense plants (see Radio Bulletin No. 277 of November 22).

Concurrently the House Labor Committee today voted favorably on the Ramspeck bill which is described by the press as foremost among the various House proposals which have received the backing of Administration leaders and is regarded as a compromise of various proposals. According to the press, the bill at present embodies the substance of various proposals made including a strengthening by statute of the powers of the National Defense Mediation Board; a "cooling off" period before strikes could become operative; compulsory arbitration under Presidential discretion; and, as a last resort, Government seizure and operation of strike-bound plants. The press says that proponents of the bill regard it as a "reasonable measure" and thus likely to receive Presidential support, notwithstanding the anticipated opposition of the AFL as well as the CIO. President Green of the former yesterday was reported to have stated that no need existed for any such legislation in so far as concerns the AFL as it has allegedly supported no strikes of serious magnitude in defense industries. The CIO is said to oppose all anti-strike measures generally as of a "repressive" nature.

According to the press, representatives of management for the most part are in support of legislation of the type under consideration, with the exception of compulsory arbitration, which was yesterday denounced by the National Association of Manufacturers.

DEFENSE

Explosives.—The War Department today announced that production of Tri-Nitro-Toluene (TNT), the Army's most important high explosive, has increased 111 percent in the first three weeks of November at the two Government-owned plants now in operation. TNT is used alone or mixed with ammonium nitrate as a bursting charge for high explosive shells and bombs.

Army Construction.—Brig. Gen. Somervell, former Chief of Army Construction Division, now Assistant Chief of Staff, speaking at the annual meeting of the Washington Society of Civil Engineers, said "a blitzkrieg of building" during the first 15 months of the \$3,500,000,000 emergency building program has put the program "on schedule and we intend to keep it there". To date, he said, "prompt and superior" shelters and training quarters have been provided for 1,500,000 troops and "two-score" munitions plants have been erected "from the ground up," many of them months ahead of schedule. The construction effort, "the greatest ever undertaken in this Nation," is not "puncture-proof or perfect". Mistakes have been made "but they have been frankly admitted and promptly rectified," Gen. Somervell said.

Stimson.—War Secretary Stimson said at his press conference yesterday that optimistic press reports on performance of American equipment used by the British in Egypt and Libya had been borne out by meagre despatches from our military observers, but that "The whole campaign is still in a state of flux, and it will be some time before we have the whole story. So far as it has gone, our equipment has been satisfactory, and the press has not overemphasized our tanks." He said that the Army "has shown really wonderful progress, and I

think along the right lines," in the current maneuvers in Carolina, and that the Army's goal is to develop hard-hitting combat units, whether armored or infantry, adding that this meant an "application all along the line of that principle which the Germans showed only in their panzer divisions." He pointed out that for the past year the Army has been concentrating on developing new self-propelled guns and other anti-tank weapons as the answer to the armored division and that progress is being made.

Tanks.—Following the reported wide interest shown in the performance of U. S.-built tanks in Libya, the War Department has announced that plans for the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities for the production of rivetless armor casting for tanks have resulted in commitments through the Defense Plant Corp. of sums totalling \$53,500,000. Major General Wesson, Chief of Ordnance, yesterday said that production plans have for some time contemplated the complete elimination of the riveted type of construction on all combat vehicles. Cast steel hulls are now being made in considerable quantities for the medium tank and a minimum of 30 percent of future production will have the cast steel hull. The balance will be of welded construction. He went on to say that no reports from Libya criticizing the M-3 tanks, which are riveted, had been received and no orders have been issued cancelling the production of these tanks. However, the development of the cast armor plate and the use of welding puts the American tank far in advance of any known tanks. Such tanks are already in production and when the new facilities are completed, the entire output will be rivetless.

Flight Strips.—The Army Air Force has announced that it will cooperate with the Bureau of Public Roads in expediting the projected \$10,000,000 chain of "flight strips" along public highways for landing fields in connection with the defense program. The Department said the strips are urgently needed in the Northeast, the Appalachian mountains, and Northwestern regions of the United States.

Glider School.—The War Department has announced that a new glider training school for officers of the Army Air Forces will open at 29-Palms, Calif., about January 1. The school will have an initial class of 12 students, the Department said, but will ultimately train 24 pilots every four weeks until a total of 126 students have been trained. The 29-Palms school is the third Army gliding school, the others being located at Lockport, Ill., and Elmira, N. Y.

Merchant Ship Arming.—Secretary Knox stated in a press conference on Wednesday that the Bureau of Navigation has been training gun crews since April 15, 1941, but that the program was not designed originally for providing armed guards on merchant vessels. Beginning October 15, he said, special schools were established and training was designed specifically for duty on armed merchantmen. He continued: "The results of the training program are highly satisfactory and trained crews are now available in any size to fit the armament of merchant ships as fast as they are armed." For administrative purposes, he said, two armed guard centers have been established, one each on the East and West coasts, which will serve as pools to receive the output of the training schools and will continue to train men, assign them to vessels and handle replacements.

Defense Plant Corporation.—The largest Defense Plant Corporation agreement made to date has just been signed with the Columbia Steel Corporation, to construct facilities for the production of pig iron, steel, and steel plates, near Provo, Utah. The cost is estimated at \$91,000,000 and brings to \$250,000,000 the amounts obtained by U. S. Steel for its affiliates in the 10,000,000-ton steel expansion program. Altogether, Defense Plant Corporation has invested \$391,039,000 in the expansion of the steel industry.

MISCELLANEOUS

Treasury Bonds.—Treasury Secretary Morgenthau yesterday announced that the Treasury expects to borrow \$1,000,000,000 or more in another "major financial operation" next week, and "barring unforeseen developments in the international situation," the Treasury would issue new bonds, but that no refunding would be included in next week's operation.

The Treasury also announced it will issue refunding bonds in January to retire more than \$700,000,000 of Government obligations maturing early in 1942. In addition, the Treasury said, \$339,000,000 in Farm Mortgage Corporation bonds will be refunded if the Corporation's Board approves.

Taxation.—Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sullivan yesterday told a press conference that the Treasury does not plan to ask for any further increased taxes

on incomes earned during 1941 and that it does not intend to suggest to Congress any increases in the capital gain and loss tax that would apply to financial transactions made in 1941. The Treasury, however, is continuing work on new levies that would apply to 1942 earnings, he said.

Chairman Eccles of the Federal Reserve Board, speaking in New York City, said, "By the middle of next year defense expenditures will probably be running at an annual rate of somewhat more than 15 billion dollars above the middle of the current year. The conclusion is inescapable . . . that additional taxation must be imposed and further restraints applied . . ." He said he hoped "further taxation . . . will first tap the corporate excess profits and the middle and upper individual income brackets and close numerous conspicuous loopholes in the corporation, individual income, inheritance and gift tax structures . . ."

Public Works.—Acting FWA Administrator Edy has announced that prospectuses from which will be built the national shelf of post-defense public works and service projects are being received in the Public Work Reserve Washington office. The prospectuses list and describe public works and services proposed by State, municipal and other Governmental subdivisions for inclusion in the Reserve on which preliminary studies indicate that between 25 and 30 billion dollars may be expended over a six-year period.

Football Standings.—In what the press referred to as an up-set, the University of Texas football team yesterday defeated Texas A. and M. by a score of 23-0. Both teams were included in a sports writers' poll held on November 25 listing the country's ten leading teams in the following order: Minnesota, Texas A. and M., Duke, Notre Dame, Duquesne, Michigan, Missouri, Fordham, Northwestern, Texas. The same poll listed the second ten teams: Navy, Vanderbilt, Penn, Mississippi, Ohio State, Clemson, Oregon State, Alabama, Harvard, Georgia.

Army-Navy Game.—The Army-Navy game to be played tomorrow at Philadelphia at 1:15 p. m., E. S. T. will be broadcast by short-wave for foreign reception over the following stations to Europe and Latin America: WNBI, New York, 15,150 kilocycles or 19.8 meters; WRCA, New York, 17,780 kilocycles or 16.8 meters; WBOS, Boston, 11,870 kilocycles or 25.26 meters; WGEA, Schenectady, 15,330 kilocycles or 19.56 meters. To Orient: KGFI, San Francisco, 9,670 kilocycles or 31.02 meters.

Stock Market.—Volume of trading on Thursday: 810,000 shares. Dow-Jones closing stock averages: Industrials—115.64; Railroads—27.33; Utilities—15.69.

Stocks today reached new lows since June 1940 in moderate trading. Curb stocks were irregularly lower and Chicago stocks lower. In Chicago wheat closed approximately unchanged and corn was up one-fourth to one-half a cent.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Date: November 28, 1941.

Subject: Aid to Thailand.
Participants: Mom Rajawongse Seni Pramoj, Thai Minister,
Mr. Hamilton,
Mr. Smyth.

Copies to:

The Thai Minister called on his own initiative on Mr. Hamilton on November 28. He referred to recent newspaper reports in regard to increased Japanese troop movements to Indochina and stated that he was apprehensive that a Japanese attack on Thailand was imminent. He expressed the opinion that of the several possible areas in which the Japanese might attack, Thailand appeared to be the most logical; he commented that a Japanese attack on Siberia would bring Soviet air attacks on Japan, an attack from Indochina against the Burma Road would have to go through very difficult terrain, while an attack on Malaya or the Netherlands East Indies would be met by strong opposing forces. He said that the situation of Thailand was very different from that of China where the great extent of the country had permitted the Chinese to withdraw far into the interior in the face of Japanese attack. Thailand, however, was a very small country and retreat into the interior was not possible.

He continued in substance as follows: A Japanese attack on Thailand would probably be carried out by a drive of land forces through Cambodia, and by a simultaneous Japanese naval attack in the Gulf of Siam which would meet with

only feeble resistance from the few small gunboats constituting the Thai navy. The Cambodian area is chiefly jungle, but one good paved road cuts through it; Japanese mechanized forces could proceed along that road. Conscription for military service exists in Thailand, but while the army includes some 200,000 men, only about 40,000 are properly trained and equipped. A part of the Thai army, including most of the small mechanized force, is now stationed in the area ceded to Thailand by Indochina in May, 1941. During the dry season, mechanized forces can operate without difficulty through the plains of Thailand where Bangkok is located; Bangkok is the nerve center of Thailand and its occupation by an invader would practically put a stop to resistance. Thailand has only one first-class airport (at Bangkok) where heavy bombers can operate; there are two or three other small air fields in Thailand but these can accommodate only small planes, such as fighters. The capture of the Bangkok area would cut off the transportation route for relief supplies coming by railroad over the narrow peninsula from Malaya and there would remain only a few rough roads over the mountains into Burma which could not be used except in the dry season.

The Minister stated that in the event of a Japanese attack, Thailand would resist with all its forces. He expressed the hope that the United States could now supply a number of airplanes to Thailand, as this would have a very important effect on Thai morale and would "raise their spirits" immensely. Referring to statements made to him by the Department that, in case of attack on Thailand by an aggressor, the United States would place Thailand in the same category as China and would offer assistance, he suggested that immediate consideration be given to the problem of making such supplies available in Thailand, and suggested in particular that the question of transportation of supplies to the Thai military forces be carefully studied and plans made so that supplies could go forward without delay in the event that hostilities occur. Mr. Hamilton informed the Minister that this matter would promptly be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities of this Government.

In discussing the general situation, the Minister remarked that Thailand has a non-aggression pact with Great Britain in which Great Britain promises to respect the territorial integrity of Thailand, but that this is not the case in Thailand's treaty with Japan; Japan merely promises to promote cordial relations, exchange information, and cooperate in economic matters. This fact, he commented, increased his apprehension in regard to a Japanese attack on Thailand.

FE: Smyth: NHS

TELEGRAM RECEIVED



TO

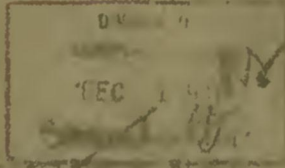
FROM

DAY

TIME

Date: November 28, 1941

Rec'd 3:42 p.m.



St. Petersburg, Fla.

Washington.



5:22, November 28, 11 p.m.

In a radio broadcast November 27, 9 p.m., the Prime Minister urged the people to be united but to prepare to fight if war became inevitable. He stated that Great Britain and the United States had promised not to attack Thailand and that the Japanese Ambassador had guaranteed that Japanese troops in Indochina are not intended for an attack on this country in any circumstances.

PEOP

128

11/28/41 PACIFIC WAR/1941

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DATE: November 29,
1941.

SUBJECT: Thailand's treaties with
Great Britain and Japan.

PARTICIPANTS: The Thai Minister
and
Mr. Smyth

SECRETARY OF STATE
DEC 4 - 1941
NOT

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
NOV 30 1941
Department of State

COPIES TO:

UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE
1941
MR. WELLES

ADVISER OF POLITICAL RELATIONS
NOV 30 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

741.9211

The Thai Minister telephoned Mr. Smyth on November 29, 1941, and, referring to his conversation with Mr. Hamilton on November 28, said that he would like to make clear a point wherein Thailand's treaty with Great Britain differs from her treaty with Japan.

He stated that Article I of the Anglo-Thai Pact of Non-aggression of June 12, 1940, reads as follows:

"Each high contracting party undertakes not to resort in any case either to war or to any act of violence or of aggression against the other, either alone or in concert with one or more than one third power and to respect the territorial integrity of the other high contracting party."

He then said that Article I of the "Treaty between Thailand and Japan concerning the Continuance of Friendly

741.9211/20

PS/GD

RECORDED
NOV 30 1941

-2-

Friendly Relations and Mutual Respect of Each Other's Territorial Integrity" of June 12, 1940, reads as follows:

"The high contracting parties shall mutually respect each other's territorial integrity and hereby reaffirm the constant peace and perpetual friendship existing between them."

The Minister pointed out that a non-aggression clause is found in the British treaty but not in the Japanese treaty.

RS
FE:Sayth:RES

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
DATE: DECEMBER 1, 1941.

Subject: Aid to Thailand.

Participants: Mom Rajawongse Seni Pramoj, Thai Minister,
Lieutenant Colonel Mon Luang Kharb Kunjara, Thai Military and
Air Attaché,
Mr. Adams,
Mr. Smyth.

Copies to:

The Thai Minister called on his own initiative, accompanied by his Military Attaché, Colonel Kunjara, on Mr. Adams and Mr. Smyth December 1, 1941. The Minister said that he had brought Colonel Kunjara along in order to explain the general military situation.

Colonel Kunjara said that according to his latest information the Japanese have approximately 150,000 troops in Indochina, about equally divided between northern and southern Indochina. He expressed the conviction that the real objective of any Japanese attack from Indochina would be the Burma Road, and he felt that it would be far easier for the Japanese to reach the Burma Road by going through Thailand than by attacking from northern Indochina through the difficult mountain country of Yunnan. He said that the Japanese could attack from southern Indochina into Thailand, using mechanized equipment, and then proceed north along the railroad from Bangkok; just south of Chiangmai a paved motor road branches off from the railroad and the Japanese could go north along this road to the Thai-Burma border and/or the Thai Indochina border. He believed that the Japanese would then probably cut through a corner of Burma toward the Burma Road. He pointed out that the pass through the mountains of northern Thailand would be far less difficult to cross from a military viewpoint than would be the passes which would have to be crossed by an army attacking from northern Indochina. For this reason he was extremely apprehensive that the Japanese intended shortly to launch an attack against Thailand from southern Indochina.

Colonel Kunjara gave the following information in regard to the Thai military and naval forces; the total strength of the Thai army is about 200,000 but only 40,000 are well-equipped and trained. The Thai air force possesses about 200 combat planes, of which 108 are pursuit planes (slower than current Japanese pursuits), 30 bombing planes and the balance observation and general service planes. There are about three pilots for every plane. The Thai artillery includes 15 regiments of field artillery (12 guns to a regiment) and one regiment of medium artillery. The mechanized equipment includes 80 tanks (all eight tons or under), several hundred trucks, and one platoon of armored cars. The Thai navy is composed of the following vessels: two heavy gunboats (2400 tons), two light gunboats (1200 tons), two sloops, nine first-class torpedo boats, five submarines, five smaller torpedo boats, twelve mosquito boats, and 36 naval planes. The naval personnel amounts to about 6,000 men.

Colonel Kunjara expressed the belief that a Japanese attack against Thailand would be carried out by a land attack through Cambodia and by a simultaneous naval attack; he believed that one Japanese naval force would attack along the coast in the region of Bangkok, while a second force would attempt to land men along the Kra peninsula in order to cut railroad communications with Malaya.

Colonel Kunjara said that the military equipment now most urgently needed by Thailand was heavy artillery, bombing planes and pursuit planes. The Minister expressed the hope that means could be found to make this equipment available immediately in order that Thailand might be better able to resist aggression by Japan.

Mr. Adams informed the Minister that the information given by Colonel Kunjara and the request of the Minister would promptly be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities of this Government.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
X CONFIDENTIAL CODE X
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

Collect Full rate
 Day letter
 Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate
 Day letter
 Night letter

Charge to

\$

Department of State

Washington.

December 2, 1941

AMLEGATION,
BANGKOK.

Reference your 536, November 27, 1 p.m., paragraph three.

As you know the Department has been carrying on for some months with the Japanese Ambassador here informal and exploratory conversations in an effort to determine whether there may be found a sound basis for the undertaking of negotiations looking to a comprehensive and ^{peaceful} [general] settlement ~~[general]~~ covering the entire Pacific area. Those conversations are still continuing.

In Radio Bulletin no. 280, November 26, ~~1941~~, it was reported that the Secretary gave the Japanese representatives for their consideration a document based upon certain fundamental principles which are well-known as the principles upon which the American people and Government believe relations between nations should be based. In Radio Bulletin no. 282, November 28, it is reported that the President at his press conference on that date informed the correspondents that the talks with the Japanese had not broken down and that the American policy remained one of great patience.

Enciphered by

Sent by operator M., 19.....

740.0011 PACIFIC WAR/855B PS/LH

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTAIN
PLAIN

TELEGRAM SENT

Collect Full rate
 Day letter
 Night letter

Charge Department
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Department of State

-2-

Washington,

Charge to
\$

Bearing in mind your request for information regarding the talks with the Japanese which might have possible effect upon the situation in Thailand, the Department would expect to inform you promptly of any information in this regard which might be of especial interest to you.

*Hull
S.H.*

W *9:15 PM*

14-2
FE:RWS:KJF

KJS
FE
20/21

1-8-
10-1

Enciphered by
Sent by operator M., 19.....

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PART AIR
PLAIN

Collect (Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge to

S

Department of State

Washington.

December 2, 1941

892-6363

AMLEGATION,

BANGKOK.

160

To: ...
Via: ...
Priority: ...

The following telegram sent to the American Consulate at Singapore is repeated for your information:

(Telegraph Section: Here insert text of attached telegram to Singapore.)
Nov. 17, 1941

You are authorized in your discretion to inform the appropriate Thai authorities of the foregoing.

Hull
D.H.

CR
DEC 3 1941

DEC 2 1941

RS
RLS:MJF

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operative _____

892-6363/107

PS/MJF

Department of State

AMERICAN CONSUL

177

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

In accordance with the British proposals to plan to facilitate the supply to Thailand under license of certain quantities to be agreed upon of aviation grade gasoline and aviation grades of lubricating oils. A complete description of the proposals tentatively agreed upon between this Government and representatives here of the British and Netherlands Governments will be cabled to you shortly. Completion of these plans may require several days, and while we wish to facilitate the immediate delivery of small quantities of appropriate grades of aviation lubricating oils to Thailand. We understand from the Standard Vacuum Oil Company in New York that it will be possible for them to ship by first boat approximately 15 tons of aviation grade lubricating oils from their own stocks at Singapore. While they will make their own arrangements with the Thai Government for the purchase of this material, we request that you communicate with the local representative of this oil company and render all assistance possible to expedite this delivery. It is requested

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

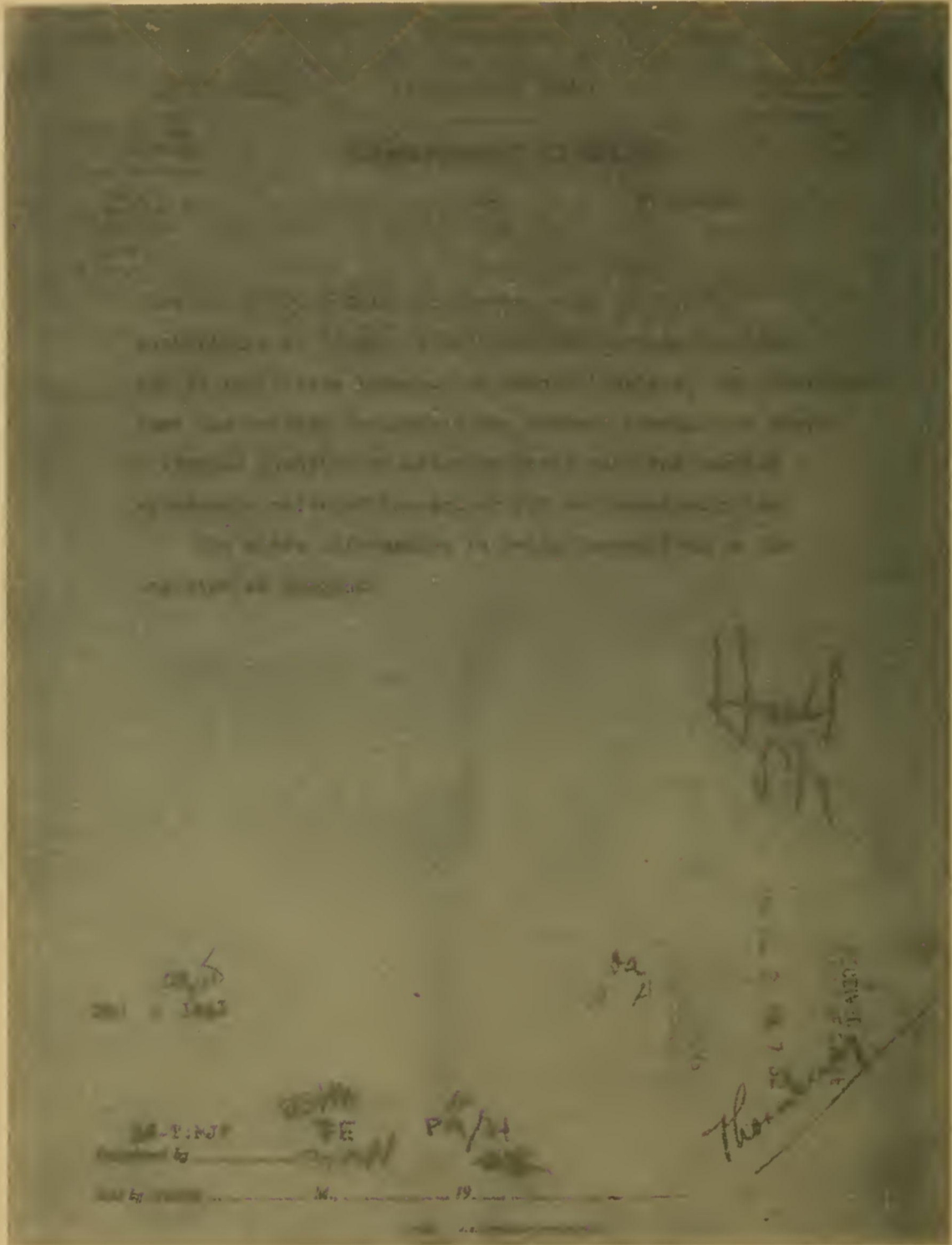
RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

167

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M. _____ 19 _____

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE



6/21/42

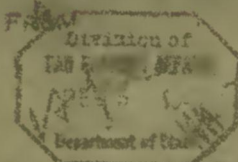
6/21/42

6-21-42
PH/4

The...

RECEIVED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
DEC 10 1941

Secretary of State,
Washington.



48. 001 P.W.

527, December 3, 3 p.m. (SECTION ONE)

One. In a conversation I have had with the Minister for Foreign Affairs he referred to the seemingly mild attitude of the Japanese toward the Thai Government lately but said that the Thai Government thoroughly understood what Japan was plotting against this country and definitely would resist Japan. I said I would be glad to telegraph this to my government. He referred appreciatively to the information received through the Minister in Washington that the United States would place Thailand in the same category as China in case of resistance to invasion.

Two. The Prime Minister was very disappointed at the meagerness of the assistance promised by the British Government in reply to his inquiry made about October 15. It is my opinion that the Government, however, as a whole and the Thai people are confidentially expecting that if the nation resists Japanese invasion it will receive immediate (*) from Great Britain and the United States.

PECK

WSB

(*) Apparent Omission

740.0011 PACIFIC WAR/671

PS/RK

FILED

DEC 17 1941

ANS

5

KD

This telegram
 closely paraphrased be-
 fore being communicated
 to anyone. (C)

Bangkok

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Dated December 3, 1941

Rec'd. 4 p. m.

FROM

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

547, December 3, 5 p. m. (SECTION TWO)

The Thais are well aware that these two nations are opposing Japanese aggression even at the risk of war and naturally infer that their own efforts will receive British and American support. See the Legation's telegram 534, November 26, 11 p. m. paragraph no. 3, quoting two popular radio commentators as saying that Thailand will have friends to come to her assistance.

Three. If Japan invades this country and no aid as described is provided there is bound to be popular resentment against our two nations and possibly our citizens. This will be fomented by the Japanese and some Thais. I earnestly suggest that the British and American Governments as soon as possible inform the Thai Government what immediate and long term assistance it can expect against invasion.

PECK

EPA

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

EJ Bangkok
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased ~~from~~ Dated December 3, 1941
fore being communicated
to anyone. (C) Rec'd 2:55 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

547, December 3, '5 p.m. (SECTION THREE)

This will enable the government to plan for the future intelligently either for resistance to the last extremity in the hope of ultimate victory through supporting British and American action or for a truce while awaiting a later settlement. Preliminary advice will also do much to avert a revulsion of feeling if American and British aid is not speedily forthcoming. The Thai have confidence in Britain and the United States in spite of refusal to supply them with military equipment and I feel that it would be fair to inform them of our intentions with reference to their situation as soon as those intentions can be communicated.

My British colleague is telegraphing along the same general line.

(END OF MESSAGE).

PECK

HPD

TELEGRAM ENCRYPTED

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FROM THE LEGATION, BANGKOK



The Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning
made a statement to the press in the Department and
said that the Thai Government was the intention of
the Thai Government will issue public statements
to the effect that Japan by invading Thailand would
lose the unity and moral resistance of those
countries in addition to Thailand's. He recalled
American and British statements of last August which
I referred to in paragraph two of the Legation's 504,
November 5, 5 p.m. and said the Thai Government be-
lieved a new and even stronger statement would ac-
plish the results--it would deter the Japanese from
the invasion on which they are now determined and
strengthen the will to resist of a Thai faction
is wavering because of disbelief that our two
will actually come to the aid of Thailand when it is
called on to resist aggression. He said this faction
has considerable political influence and that it is
discouraged by the Japanese attitude that all the

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

MA

Bangkok

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (C)

Dated December 5, 1941

FROM Rec'd. 1:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DEC 12 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
Department of State

551, December 5, 3 1941

During a call on the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning in reference to gasoline supplies he informed me that the Japanese Ambassador had just called and informed him that the Japanese forces in Indochina definitely would not be used to invade Thai and that they were concentrated for use against the Burma Road. Consequently Thailand need feel no anxiety. The Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me that his Government, in spite of Japanese assurances, is nevertheless greatly worried because it has received additional evidence that an attack by land and air is imminent. He was unwilling to tell the nature of the evidence but said he had asked the British Minister to call in order to check up on the report. Mr. British colleague has received no (repeat no) evidence of this sort recently so far as I am aware. The

Foreign

740001 P.W.

HNS

740001 PACIFIC WAR/681

FILED

DEC 16 1941

PS/RK

-2- #551, December 5, 3 p.m. from Bangkok.

Foreign Minister inquired anxiously whether I had reported to the American Government the hope of the Thai Government that public statements would be issued by Great Britain and the United States promising to stand by Thailand if invaded by Japan (see Legation's 550, December 4, 3 p.m.).

PECK

673

HTM

FE
110

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

EJ
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (a)

Chungking via N. R.

FROM Dated December 6, 1941

Rec'd 11 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

12 1941
AS
rule
2

477, December 6, noon.

The Chief of the Information Department of the Foreign Office informed a member of my staff yesterday that the British "wanted to move into Thailand but hesitated to do so in the absence of a clear indication of the American attitude. He said that this report came from a very reliable source in the United States. I attach no significance to the report except as indicative of an interesting and somewhat prevalent tendency to play up the situation.

GAUSS

PEG

11PW

740.CC11 PACIFIC W/R/712

FILED
DEC 17 1941

FS/ATB

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTIAL
PLAIN

Collect Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Charge- Department.
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Department of State

Washington,

Charge to
\$

December 6, 1941

6 P. M.

AMERICAN LEGATION,

BANGKOK, (THAILAND).

Rush

549 162

Your ~~6~~, December 4, 2 p.m.

21

You may assure Thai authorities that extension of a credit to Thailand for current needs is fully agreed to in principle, and that Department expects no delay in working out details with the appropriate lending agency of this Government.

892.51/238

892.51/238

*Full
H*

FD:FL:ME

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M. _____ 19____

PS/ME

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ministry of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE EASTERN AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: D-C
Reported statement by Thai Government
that British forces not move into Thailand

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. W. G. Hayter,
First Secretary,
British Embassy,
and
Mr. Atcheson

COPIES TO:

Division of
EASTERN AFFAIRS
Department of State

RECEIVED
DEC 12 1941
FE WHT

During a call on Mr. Atcheson this morning Mr. Hayter,
in response to an inquiry whether there was any news,
stated, after some hesitation, that the British Minister
in Thailand had sent a message to the Foreign Office
which began "For God's sake" and which was endorsed by
the Thai Foreign Minister requesting that British armed
forces not move into Thailand.

FE:Atcheson:HES

RECEIVED
DEC 12 1941

PACIFIC WAR/ICM1

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

AW
SPECIAL DIVISION
DEC 11 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM GRAY
BANGKOK

DIVISION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DEC 10 1941
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Dated December 7, 1941

Rec'd 4 a.m., 8th

*Tel to Chicago
289 Dec 8 5 pm
RIS*

Secretary of State,

Washington.

TRIPLE PRIORITY.

555, December 7, 8 a.m.

CONFIDENTIAL
12/12/41
REK

The correspondents have been officially informed that the Japanese attacked Thailand at various places on the land and sea frontiers at 2 a.m., December 8, and that Thai forces resisted. The Government ordered cease firing 7:30 a.m., and negotiations are taking place. Bangkok is quiet. American citizens will concentrate in the Legation in case of disorders.

PECK

HM

DEC 12 1941

FILED

740.0011 PACIFIC WAR/708

PS/ATB

*HPW
2286
792-94*

*2285
392-1115*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM Bangkok

Dated December 8, 1941

Rec'd. 2:39 P.M.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

LWA

A MB
File

TRIPLE PRIORITY

157, December 8, 8 P.M. (SECTION ONE)

1PW
747
792.94

The Minister for Foreign Affairs summoned me and other diplomatic representatives in succession this afternoon. His remarks to me were the same as made to the British Minister. The gist follows:

1st. He informed me with I believe sincere grief that his Government had yielded to overwhelming Japanese force and at D'Annunzio today had signed an agreement permitting passage of Japanese troops through Thailand by way of Bangkok in order to attack Burma and Malaya. In return Japan guaranteed the sovereignty independence and honor of the country and gave an assurance that the country would not be disarmed. The Japanese offered to include restoration of all lost territory but the Thai Government refused because it wished the world to know that it only yielded to force and not for gain. I inquired how this arrangement

HMS

PECK

740.0011 P.M./331

DEC 11 1941
RIP

P-1/K 31

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

NOTE
This telegram must be
clearly paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (C)

Bangkok
FROM
Dated December 8, 1941
Rec'd. 2:43 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

TRIPLE PRIORITY

357, December 8, 5 p.m. (SECTION TWO)

affected the status of the American Legation and
American citizens and the Foreign Minister replied
that these points were not discussed and that since
Thailand remained independent he believed that
American status was not involved. He volunteered
that in reply to a question from the British Minister
he had assured the latter that if British forces as
well entered this country to oppose Japan they
would not be opposed.

(The Prime Minister confirmed this over the
telephone to the British Minister)

Three. Events leading up to this agreement were
as follows: At 11 o'clock night of December 7 the
Japanese Ambassador and staff called on the Minister
for Foreign Affairs but the latter was absent near the
frontier at Aranya. The Japanese were finally received
by the

-2- 557, December 8, 5 p.m. (SECTION TWO) from Bangkok.

by the Foreign Minister and the latter was told that Japan was fighting for its life with Great Britain and the United States and intended to make wide spread attacks on their territory at 1 o'clock in the morning of December 8,

PECK

JRL

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

PH
 This telegram must be
 closely paraphrased be-
 fore being communicated
 to anyone. (C)

FROM Bangkok
 Dated December 8, 1941
 Rec'd 2:39 p.m.

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

TRIPLE PRIORITY

557, December 8, 5 p.m. (SECTION THREE)

part of these attacks would be made through Thailand and Japan demanded that passage of troops be allowed. Japan offered this country certain choices (one) to join Japan in the war against the United States and Great Britain in return for which Japan would not only guarantee the sovereignty, independence and honor of the country but would restore all territories lost prospectors to foreign powers; (two) Thailand could join the three power pact and permit passage of troops in which modified proposal there would be no promise of restoration of territory. The Thais refused to join the pact and the final agreement has been described. The Thai representatives said that in the absence of the Prime Minister who is Commander-in-Chief no (repeat no) reply could be given and no orders could be

-2-#557, December 3, 5 p.m. (SECTION THREE) from Bangkok.

could be given and no orders could be issued to the

PECF

JRL

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

PT

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (C)

Bangkok

Dated December 8, 1941

FROM

Rec'd 6:33 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

TRIPLE PRIORITY

557, December 8, 5 p.m. (SECTION FOUR)

Thai troops; they asked therefore that the forcible attempt to enter Thailand at one o'clock should be at least deferred. The Japanese replied that no change would be made in the planned attack.

Fighting occurred during the night and this morning at Singora, Pattani and Prachuab on the southern coast and at Watana and Aranya on the Eastern frontier. The Thais lost possibly a battalion of troops at Pattani.

The Foreign Minister was deeply moved; he recalled the efforts made by his (*) to (*) arms (?) and he expressed gratitude for the friendliness shown by the United States. He said that the hearts of the Thai were with the United States and Great Britain and I

PECK

LMS

(*). apparent omission

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

PY
 This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (C)

Bangkok
 Dated December 8, 1941
 Rec'd 4:52 p.m.

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

557, December 8, 5 p.m. (SECTION FIVE)
 could not but admit the sincerity of this country's effort to resist Japan and the overwhelming force to which it finally yielded.

It is the intention of the British Minister and myself to continue our duties normally as far as we can. It is almost impossible for our nationals under existing circumstance to leave and they have been offered quarters in the Legation if they wish them.

The Legation telegraphed American citizens in northern Thailand advising them to consider leaving for Burma. The city seems as peaceful as usual.

(END OF MESSAGE)

PECK

LMB