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BANGKOK EMBASSY AND CONSULATE

GENERAL RECORDS

1940: 620 - 800

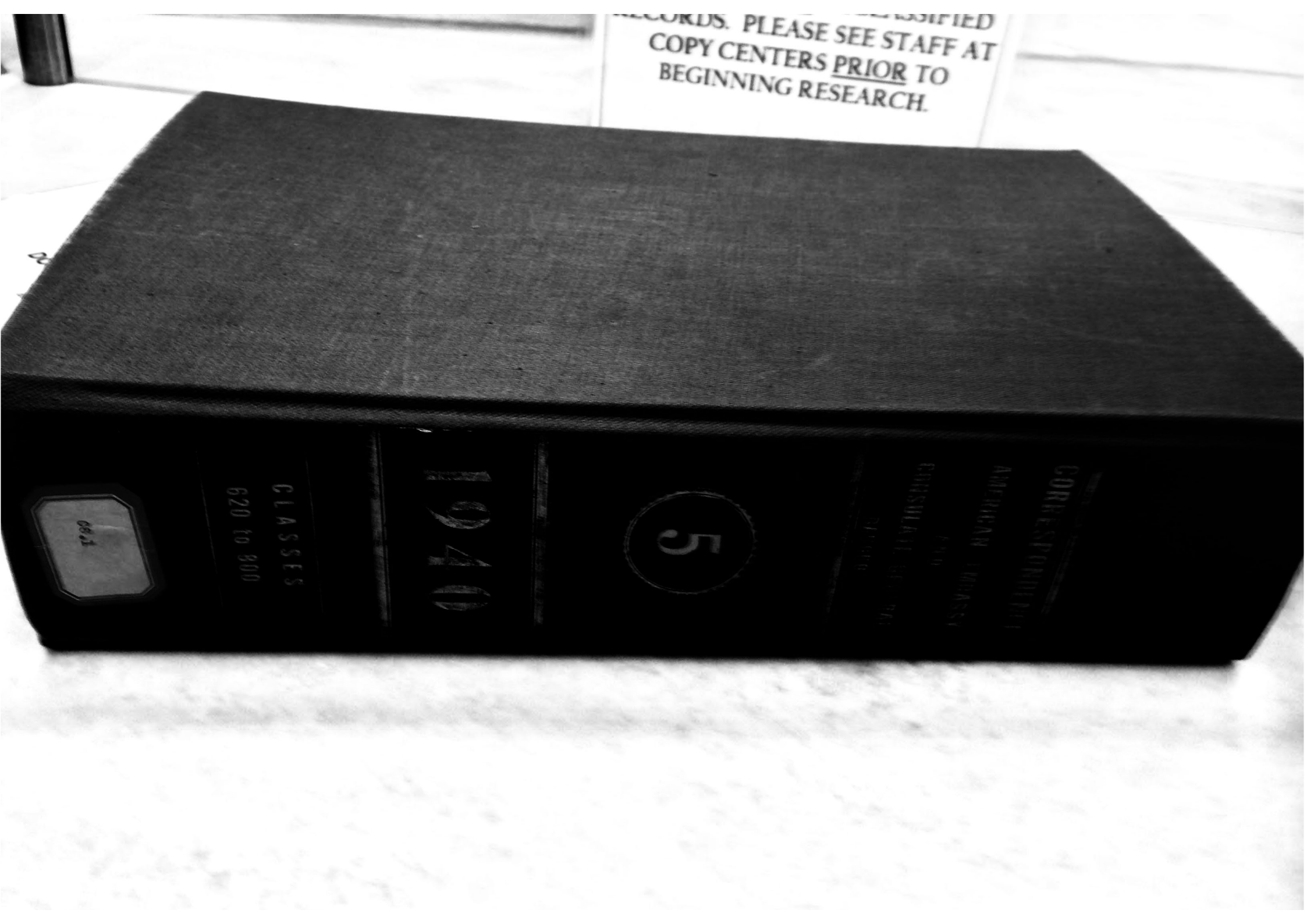
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CLASSES
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# Restrictions on Imports into China

# RELATIONS OF STATES.

## GENERAL.

# DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

# RELATIONS WITH DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICERS OF OTHER COUNTRIES

LEGATION OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FILE COPY

Bangkok, December 21, 1940

File

No. 88

Subject: Transmitting News Articles Which Have Appeared in the Thai Newspapers in Regard to Official Functions in Which the American Minister and the Members of the Legation Staff and Families Have Participated--Difficult Social Situation as the Result of the War in Europe.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for the Department's information news articles, in English translation, which have appeared in Thai newspapers in regard to official functions in which the Minister and members of the Legation staff and their families have recently participated in Bangkok.

Since my arrival in Bangkok on August 6, 1940, I, together with members of my family, have been entertained

at

at official dinners and luncheons by the following colleagues: The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and British Minister, Sir Josiah Crosby; the German Minister, Dr. Wilhelm Thomas; the Belgian Minister, Monsieur Henri Segaert; the French Minister, Monsieur Paul Pierre Lépissier; the Italian Minister, Comm. Guido Crolla; and the Netherlands Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Monsieur Abraham Johan Daniel Steenstra Toussaint. Several ministers accredited to Bangkok are absent, as a result of the war in Europe, namely, the Netherlands Minister, Monsieur Christiaan Sigismund Lechner; the Swedish Minister, Monsieur Widar Bagge; and the Danish Minister, Monsieur Hialmar Collin. Since my arrival the new Norwegian Minister also accredited to Japan has arrived, having presented his credentials recently, and the French Minister, Monsieur Paul Pierre Lépissier has departed following his retirement by the Vichy government with which he was not in sympathy. The Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Monsieur Shunsuke Asada, did not entertain me. The new Japanese Minister, Yasusato Futami, has arrived recently and presented his credentials. Mr. Futami succeeds Mr. Kurematsu Murai, who was recalled to Japan, I understand, together with a large number of Japanese diplomats, before my arrival in Bangkok.

A difficult social situation exists in Bangkok as a result of the war, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corp, the British Minister and members of the large British colony, having no relationship with the German and Italian Ministers and colonies since the countries are at war. Neither did the French Minister, Monsieur Paul Lépissier,

have

have any relationship with the Germans and the Italians.

Following the presentation of my credentials on August 20, 1940, I called on my colleagues, the British, the German, the Belgian, the French, and the Italian ministers in addition to the Netherlands and Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., and in view of the absence of certain ministers as a result of the war, I also called on the Consular representative of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, and Switzerland. The calls were returned. There is considerable personal feeling among the various groups here as a result of the war in Europe, and there are indications that considerable pressure has been brought to bear by the British Legation which sponsors a large colony here, with a view of preventing Americans and the representatives of other neutral nations from having anything to do with the Germans and Italians. As far as this Legation was concerned officially I repudiated that policy at the beginning of my administration, and I have carried out my official obligations with my German and Italian colleagues. I have therefore accepted invitations from the Italian and German Ministers, and I have returned the courtesies.

Respectfully yours,

Hugh G. Grant
American Minister

Enclosures:

(See next page.)

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HGG/EMI

A true copy of the signed original

Enclosures:
News articles from:

1. Bangkok Chronicle, October 12, 1940
2. Bangkok Times, October 12, 1940
3. Tai Mai Daily News, November 20, 1940
4. Subhard Satri Daily News, November 20, 1940
5. Pramuanwan Daily News, November 20, 1940
6. Bangkok Chronicle, November 25, 1940
7. Bangkok Chronicle, December 3, 1940
8. Bangkok Times, December 3, 1940
9. Bangkok Times, December 6, 1940
10. Bangkok Chronicle, December 6, 1940
11. Bangkok Chronicle, December 23, 1940
12. Bangkok Times, December 23, 1940

No file copy of above items; By titles:

1. "Research Society Meeting: Thailand's Mineral Resources."
2. "Thailand's Mineral Wealth ..."
3. "American Minister Gave an Honor Reception to Nai Direck. Many Important Personages Attended the Function."
4. "American Minister and Wife Entertained Foreign Office Officials."
5. "American Minister and His Wife Entertained on Monday Evening."
6. "Many Notables Attend Y.M.C.A. 9th Anniversary Dinner Meeting."
7. "American Legation Party for Doyen of Diplomatic Corps."
8. "Sir Josiah Crosby Entertained by U. S. Minister".
9. "Italian Minister Guest of American Minister."
10. "American Legation Party in Honour of Italian Envoy Many Distinguished Guests."
11. "Distinguished Guests at U. S. Legation Party."
12. "Belgian Minister Guest at American Legation."