420.31 THAI ENTRY INTO
WEST POINT

August 11, 1959

Please circulate

Air Attache

Navy Attache

~~Army Attache~~

~~Protocol~~

AUG 4 1959

Dear General Samai:

I was pleased to receive your kind letter of July 15 and to learn that you are planning to send your son to prep school at Severn Park, Maryland. I hope that he will enjoy going to school in the United States and am sure that he will receive excellent training at V.M.I. Perhaps we will meet him sometime when he comes to Washington; in any event I hope so.

In so far as admission to West Point is concerned, I sympathize with your desire to send your son there and should like to be of help to you in this connection. However, as you perhaps realize, the admission of foreign students to our service academies requires specific legislative authorization. In the past this authorization has been granted by the Congress for a very limited number of applicants on an individual country basis from year to year and at the present time we are in fact awaiting Congressional approval of a bill to admit two Thai cadets to West Point this year. We are also hoping that it will eventually be possible to secure approval of legislation enabling the service academies to admit a certain number of qualified foreign students each year without specific authorization from the Congress in each case. I trust that this proposed legislation will be in force by the time your son is ready to apply for admission and meanwhile I should like to assure you of my sympathetic interest in your desire to have your son receive a military education in the United States.

I recall our association in Vientiane with great pleasure and should like you to know how warmly my wife and I appreciate your good wishes. She joins me in sending you and your wife our most sincere greetings and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

J. Graham Parsons

Major General Samai Weoprasirt,
76 Ranong 1 Road,
Bangkok, Thailand.

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Authority NND948832

400.3/ Entry into West Point 8-4-59