REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1907

EPARING OFFICE
L INDICATE WHETNER
l rate
Day letter
Night letter
rge Department: XX
Full rate
Day letter
Night letter
Charge to
$

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTAIR
PLAIN

PART RESTRICTED, AND CLEAR

January 2[illegible], 1942
9 pm

AMERICAN LEGATION

BERN

217

740.00115A Pacific War/1

American interests - Thailand.

Department's 440, December 31, to which no (repeat no) reply has been received.

BEGIN BROWN One. Department has (recently) received from reliable source a report that on December 9, Japanese troops occupied the American Legation at Bangkok where the American Minister and his staff have since been held prisoners and the following report concerning the treatment of non-official civilian American nationals in Thailand:

QUOTE All American citizens with the exception of the staffs of the Legation and Consulate General have been concentrated under the guard of the Thai authorities in the School of Political Science; also interned there are British and Dutch subjects. Living conditions are primitive but fairly comfortable. Priests and nuns are also confined in the same place.

Food

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.*, _____, *19*____, _____

1—1403 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

740.00115A PACIFIC WAR/1 SUPPLEMENT

FILED

95

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER
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
PARTAIR
PLAIN

Department of State

Washington,

Food is scarce but food packages can be brought by visitors who are authorized to call at certain hours. Those interned were permitted to leave the camp for one day to gather up that portion of their personal belongings which had not been stolen. The large majority of homes, particularly those of American, English and Dutch residents are occupied by the Japanese. American firms have been sequestrated by the Thais and their administration has been placed under the direction of the Ministry of Economy. UNQUOTE. END BROWN.

Two. Please so inform Swiss Government in paraphrase and request that, if foregoing report is substantiated, it deliver to the Thai Government, with reference to the report, the following communication:

"QUOTE The Government of the United States has learned with amazement that in Thailand, a country with which the United States is at peace, the inviolability of the Legation of the United States and the immunities of the Minister and his staff have been

Delivered to Thai Govt. Feb. 4 (Sec Berne 537, 2/12)

Omitted Leg. Bern informed Swiss Govt.

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.,* _____, *19*____, _____

1—1402 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER
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
PARTAIR
PLAIN

Department of State

-3- *Washington,*

have been wantonly disregarded, citizens of the United States have been interned, and private property of such citizens has been seized and their business enterprises sequestrated.

In the United States there has been no (repeat no) interference with the Thai Government's representatives, nor with Thai nationals (including the eldest son and a daughter of the Thai Prime Minister), nor with Thai property. The Government of the United States expects the Thai Government immediately to take effective steps to remedy the unwarranted treatment now being accorded in Thailand to the officials and other nationals of the United States and to their property there. UNQUOTE.

Three. Please ask Swiss Government to inform you of the date of delivery to the Thai Government of the foregoing communication. Inform Department by telegraph.

SD:JEH:ED:BB FE Eu

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.*, _____, *19*___, _____

JAN 24 1942

3—1462 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

SD fully concurs in the changes suggested by FE, and has so amended the draft of the telegram concerning the treatment of Americans and American property in Thailand.

SD had not previously been informed of the decision concerning the status of the Thai Minister to the United States.

January 22, 1942.

SD:JEHenderson

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. HORNBECK
JAN 24 1942
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I showed our draft aide-memoire to the British Embassy in regard to the Thai Minister to us. Clattenburg on Jan. 14, 1942. RLS

SD:JEH:ED

FE

Eu

TO BE TRANSMITTED
CONFIDENTIAL CODE
NONCONFIDENTIAL CODE
PARTAIR
PLAIN

...ate

Washington,

...ns of the
...private
...zed and their

...ply to this
... has taken
...nt of the
...nsider its
...jects, and
...o far has been
...the represen-
... friendly

...ou of the date
...regoing
...ph.

740.00115-C, Pacific War/1 Supplement

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.*, _____, *19*____, _____

1—1402 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SPECIAL DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 22 1942
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

January 22, 1942.

With regard to the draft telegram relating to American interests in Thailand, the Secretary a few days ago approved the sending to the British Government of a communication in which the British Government was informed that this Government had decided to continue to recognize the Thai Minister in Washington. In passing it may be observed that the Thai Minister here has disavowed the actions of his Government in having concluded a military alliance with Japan and that the Thai Minister here desires to be a leader of a "free Thai movement". In view of the decision which the Secretary reached with regard to continued recognition of the Thai Minister here, the last quoted paragraph of the draft telegram under reference would, if sent, convey only an idle threat. FE therefore suggests that there be substituted for that paragraph a statement to the effect that in the United States there has been no interference with Thai Government representatives or with Thai nationals, including the eldest son and a daughter of the Thai Prime Minister, and that this Government expects the Thai Government to take immediate effective steps remedying the unwarranted treatment now being accorded by the Thai Government to American officials and American nationals in Thailand.

FE:MMH:HES

SD:JEH:ED

FE Eu

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.*, _____, *19*____, _____

1—1402 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER
ct { 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
PARTAIR
PLAIN

Department of State

Washington,

have been wantonly disregarded, citizens of the United States have been interned, and private property of such citizens has been seized and their business enterprises sequestrated.

Unless immediately informed in reply to this communication that the Thai Government has taken effective remedial steps, the Government of the United States will be impelled to reconsider its treatment of Thai representatives, subjects, and property in the United States, which so far has been that accorded by the United States to the representatives, nationals, and property of all friendly States. UNQUOTE

Three. Please ask Swiss Government to inform you of the date of delivery to the Thai Government of the foregoing communication. Inform Department by telegraph.

SD:JEH:ED FE Eu

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ *M.*, _____, *19*____, _____

1—1402 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE