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Re 533 June 25. Dept does not regard development Siam-Japanese trade necessarily inimicable to development Siam-US trade. Dept committed to policy fostering general development international trade on multilateral basis permitting equal access all countries to markets, thereby enabling importers every country take advantage lowest prices, lowest transportation costs, highest quality, etc. obtainable. These objectives expressed in ITO Charter and GATT which US Govt strongly supports. Purpose is to increase total volume international trade including US trade. Purchase by every country in cheapest markets would result in greater volume of trade movement than would otherwise occur. In instant case if Siam can obtain railroad rolling stock, machinery, etc. more advantageously in Japan resultant savings will enable Siam purchase products in US and other countries most advantageously obtainable there, which in turn will enable the US and other countries to increase their foreign purchases. In many cases such products in tight supply and difficult to procure in the US at present so that purchase by Siam in Japan might bring more prompt delivery. Furthermore, Japan would receive exchange with which to pay for larger portion imported supplies and thereby reduce portion paid for by American taxpayers. To conserve scarce dollars Japan being encouraged increase purchases from nondollar areas to greatest extent practicable, especially rice and raw materials from historical and economic sources of supply in Far East. Revival of Japan's international trade

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imperative in order to rehabilitate Japan's economy and release US from maintenance costing several hundred million annually.

Inasmuch as US can readily purchase tin, rubber, etc from Siam for dollars it is not anticipated that development of Siam-Japanese trade will interfere with US stockpiling program. If such trade in fact jeopardizes US stockpiling program in particular items Dept will issue appropriate instructions.

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