THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bangkok, Thailand,
July 24, 1940.

FILE COPY

No. 737

Subject: Prime Minister's Press Conference on July 17.

Respectfully yours,

J. Holbrook Chapman
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for the Department's information accounts from the Bangkok Times and Bangkok Chronicle of July 16, 1940, of the press conference of the Prime Minister, Major General Luang Pibul Songgram, held on July 17, 1940.

Of particular interest are (1) the Prime Minister's statement that Thailand intends to retain its membership in the League of

Nations

Nations; (2) his remarks about the army mobilization and the attitude of Thailand toward the war; and (3) his statements on the subject of dictatorship.

It has been learned that approximately 100,000 Thai troops are already mobilized and a rather considerable number of them have been moved up along the eastern and north-eastern Indochina border. For the time being, however, the situation on the border appears to be quiet.

Respectfully yours,

J. Holbrook Chapman
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Enclosures:

1,2. Press clippings from Bangkok Times and Bangkok Chronicle.

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A true copy of the signed original

Original and four copies to Department.