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South Korea - Relations with Thailand [0.25 cm]

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

File No. 3127/11/116

SUBJECT: STH. KOREA

RELATIONS WITH THAILAND PT 1

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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

File Number 3127/11/116

Part Number 1

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NAS 1061 (APRIL 1996)

Series no:

Item no:

OUTWARD SAVINGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD SAVINGRAM I.58233

Dated: 31st August 1967.

Rec'd: 5th September, 1967.

F.3127/11/116.

From:

The Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

No. 35 UNCLASSIFIED

Political Savingram for Fortnight ending 30th August.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Viet Nam

It was announced on 28th August that Thailand would send observers for the elections in South Viet Nam on 3rd September. The observers would be officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and the Public Relations Department, but no names were given.

A.S.A.

2. The Thai Delegation to the Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South East Asia in Kuala Lumpur was led by the Foreign Minister. You will have reports from the post concerned of the outcome of this meeting.

Cambodia

3. Mr de Ribbing will return from his current visit to Phnom Penh on 31st August. The Thai Foreign Minister has told the press that Mr de Ribbing has apparently made no progress during this visit.

Korea

4. It was announced on 23rd August that the Prime Minister of Korea would make an official visit to Thailand between 4th and 7th September.

Sabah

5. The Foreign Minister has been asked by the press if he would be prepared to have talks between Malaysia and Philippines on Sabah held in Bangkok, and naturally replied that he would.

(25)

F. 3127/11/116

Visit to the Republic of Korea by Thai Prime Minister

3. The Prime Minister of Thailand, Thanom Kittikachorn, made a four day official visit to the Republic of Korea immediately prior to the visit of our own Prime Minister. The joint communiqué issued at the end of the visit announced Korean-Thai agreement to intensify military and other efforts in Vietnam and inter alia, drew attention to the usefulness of the seven-nation Manila conference held last year and the ministerial meeting of the Asian Pacific Council (ASPAC).

(24)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANBERRA

116

Name of Paper INWARD SAVINGRAM No. 9 *File No.* 3127/11/~~14~~

Published at Seoul *Date* 31-3-67

RESTRICTED

Official Visits

4. Preparations are being made for the forthcoming visits to Korea by the Thai Prime Minister, Thanom Kittikachorn, who is due to arrive on 2 April, and by our own Prime Minister who will be in Korea from 6 to 9 April.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED (23)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANBERRA

Name of Paper INWARD SAVINGRAM *File No.* 3127/11/116

Published at FROM AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, SEOUL *Date* 7/7/66

ROK/Thailand Relations

8. The Economic Minister of Thailand, Mr Sunthorn Hongladoram paid a six day visit to Korea, and had discussions with government leaders and officials on increasing Thai technical co-operation and trade with Korea. The two countries agreed to remove gradually trade barriers, and they undertook to start negotiations in Seoul in July on an air transport agreement.

CHECKED

RESTRICTED

(F) 3(27)/11/116 (22)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CONFIDENTIAL

INWARD SAVINGRAM

I26032

I.

Dated: 17th June, 1965.
Rec'd: 21st June, 1965

FROM:

Australian Embassy
BANGKOK

Saving No. 21 CONFIDENTIAL

Repeated

EVENTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 17th JUNE, 1965.

FOREIGN

There has been considerable activity in preparation for the coming Afro-Asian Conference in Algiers. The Government announced that it would support the participation of Malaysia, South Vietnam and South Korea, but the entry of Russia "is a matter on which a decision must be made after first seeing what the developments in the situation are" (Thanat Khoman, 16th June). The Government felt the Bandung principles were still useful if practised sincerely, but was fully aware the Communists would attempt to use the meeting as a propaganda forum.

Raja Dinesh Singh, India's Deputy Minister for External Affairs, visited Thailand as a guest of the Government. His public statements were strongly critical of Communist China and supported Malaysian participation at Algiers.

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement strongly critical of North Vietnam's aggression and Cambodia's duplicity.

16 members of the Defence College of the Republic of Korea visited Thailand. After the customary calls in Bangkok, they made an observation tour of the North-East border area adjacent to the Mekong.

In a routine transfer the 16th Thai Company attached to the United Nationa command in Korea was relieved by 120 soldiers from the 17th Thai Company.

The Dalai Lama's proposed visit was postponed because of the recent death of the Supreme Patriach.

The Thai- Europe Shipping Conference's decision to increase freight rates by up to 15% on a number of important export products, including teak (10%) and tapioca (5%), aroused considerable criticism.

Ceylon concluded an agreement to purchase not less than 100,000 tons of Thai rice per annum during the period 1966-68. (Ceylon has bought 180,000 tons of Thai rice this year.)

.../2

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(21)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
8 JUN 1965
File No. 3127/11/116
ROM. IND.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY.
SEOUL.

In reply quote No. 221/5/7
Memorandum No. 393

3rd June, 1965.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

THAI TROOPS

The 16th Royal Thai Army Company serving in the Republic of Korea is being replaced by the 17th Company. An 18-man advance party is due to arrive in Seoul on Sunday, 6th June. The official change of command ceremony will take place the following day.

2. The newly-arrived Thai Ambassador has told me that he thinks it odd that Thailand should be providing troops for the Republic while at the same time Korean troops are being sent to Vietnam. I commented that a similar situation had developed for the Americans who maintain an army here while Korean troops in considerable numbers are being sent to Vietnam.

R. A. Peachey

(R. A. Peachey)
Ambassador.

Copy sent to DL. IC. McCarthy (Tokyo)

CHECKED

MR Osmond

3127/11/116 (20)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AM

FROM: I.40000

Dated: 28th November, 1964
1325
Rec'd: 28th November, 1964
1419

Australian Embassy,
SEOUL.

198. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Tokyo 46.

Our 196.

According to Thai Embassy, Koreans asked Thanat to persuade Shiina while they are in New York, to attend Foreign Minister's Conference. Thanat was non-committal. He told Koreans that he would support them in organizing the conference but that they must make the running. In so doing they should be flexible, for example by consulting with those countries invited to express views on timing of Conference, agenda, et cetera. Consultations also necessary if preliminary meeting is to be held, on its timing and venue. Thanat repeated to Koreans his views on Japanese participation and on need of conference to have positive and concrete result.

2. He told press on departure that the proposed Conference was an excellent idea which would contribute to regional development in Asia.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s.

30th November, 1964

SEC FAS(1,2,3,4) SAS(MS) AS(JIC) S&SEA M&I M DL INT UN
PACAM PPO AMSP EA@ EAMEC E PIO INF MT
BANGKOK DJAKARTA KUALA LUMPUR LONDON MANILA NEW YORK(UN)
OTTAWA SAIGON SINGAPORE WASHINGTON WELLINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(19)

RESTRICTED

23 NOV 1964
File No. 3127/11/116
NOM. INDEX SUB. INDEX

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
SEOUL.

In reply quote No. 221/5
Memorandum No. 884

16th November, 1964.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

THAI REPRESENTATION

The Thai Charge d'Affaires has heard that the new Thai ambassador will be Mr. Yuad who served in Australia as first secretary about ten years ago and is at present Minister-Counsellor in Washington. Agrément has not yet been sought.

R A Peachey

(R. A. Peachey)
Ambassador.

CHECKED

Copy to SEA
24-11

RESTRICTED

3127/11/116 (18)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AMM

I.38705

Dated: 19th November, 1964.
1612
Rec'd: 19th November, 1964.
2134

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

973 CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated London 20 for Ministers information and Seoul 21 Canberra please pass.

Korean Proposal for Ministerial Meeting.

Your 1115.

I saw Thanat Khoman this morning and gave him an account of your views. He was very pleased to have them and was generally in agreement. He said that he was not prepared to participate in the Conference unless a reasonable number of countries participate (and again stressed the importance which he attached to Japans' attendance) and unless the aims of the meeting were clearly defined. He added, however, that he did not think Japan would have accepted even if an invitation had been extended to them at the outset. He observed, incidentally, that he understood that the Philippines was prepared to accept, but had not yet conveyed this to Korea.

2. Thanat said that he was not anxious to visit Korea, but felt he could not reasonably refuse to do so. His intentions were to have general exploratory discussions, but he will again put forward his views both on the question of representation and on the need to define the objectives of the meeting in practical terms. He can see no point in general discussions on economic and cultural co-operation (which can better be handled in E.C.A.F.E. and other international bodies) and still adheres to the views that one fruitful topic would be the establishment of machinery for the exchange of information on Communist, particularly Chinese, activities. Thanat said that he would be glad to inform Peachey of the results of his discussions in Seoul.

3. On the question of possible discussions in Bangkok, Thanat said that he was considering the possibility of inviting friendly countries of the area, including Japan, to meet informally in Bangkok to discuss the feasibility of Ministerial Conference and to consider its scope and objectives. Such a meeting, which he envisaged as being at local ambassador level, would be without commitment, and would be purely exploratory. In considering this possibility, Thanat said he had to be careful not to offend the Koreans by appearing to "Take over" their initiative. He has not yet decided whether to make this suggestion to Koreans during his visit, as this will depend on the course of his discussions. He asked whether, if he extended such an invitation, Australia would accept. I said that I thought we would, but that I would refer it to you for consideration. He has yet no date in mind, but clearly did not believe that he was committed to fit in with the Korean proposal that the Ministerial Meeting would be in April 1965.

.....2/

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

(17)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AMM I.38705

Indeed, he observed, in view of the poor response to the Korean proposal, and of Japans' attitude, that the proposal to meet in April just could not be adhered to.

4. Thanat said that he would be pleased to discuss this matter with the Minister in New York, if the Minister wished to do so.

Loomes.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.(3127/7/1)
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

20th November, 1964.

EA Please advise Communications Duty Officer whether telegraphic retransmission to Seoul is desired.

SEC FAS(1,2,3,4) SAS(MS) AS(JIC) S&SEA M&I M DL INT UN PACAM AMSP EA@ EAMEC E INF ER MR MCMILLAN PPO PIO MR ARNOTT DJAKARTA KUALA LUMPUR LONDON MANILA NEW DELHI NEW YORK(UN) OTTAWA SAIGON SEOUL SINGAPORE TOKYO WASHINGTON WELLINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

3127/11/116 (16)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

EGM:

I. 34868

FROM:

Dated: 22nd October, 1964
1223

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

Rec'd: 22nd October, 1964
1757

923. SECRET.

Korean Proposal for Foreign Ministers' Conference.

My 903.

Thanat Khoman last evening confirmed that Thailand agreed in principle with the proposal but this has been conveyed only orally to the Koreans. Formal reply will await reactions from the Koreans on suggestions for preparatory work, including preliminary meeting of officials, which Thanat regards as essential to success of the Conference. He also feels strongly that Japan should be invited. He stressed that a conference called without an agenda and without clearly defined aims would merely result in a series of general speeches followed by a vague communique like that which came out of the 1961 Manila Meeting. This, he felt, would serve very little purpose. I asked what kind of practical result he had in mind - he said one possibility might be the establishment of machinery (with a small expert bureau) for the continuing exchange of information on Communist movements and tactics.

2. Thanat said he would welcome our ideas on the scope and aims of the conference and would be happy to concert with us in working out practical proposals which might be usefully discussed. He said that he would, if others wished it, be prepared to offer to hold the conference in Bangkok, which might be more central and which would avoid possible embarrassment if Japan were invited. He asked for our views on this.

3. Thanat said that he had been urged to visit Korea on his way to New York for the Assembly. He felt that he should accept, and he would take this opportunity of discussing the Korean proposal with the Foreign Minister. The date of his departure is not yet fixed in view of doubt as to the commencment of the Assembly, but you might wish to let me have your further views which I could put to him before he leaves.

Loomes.

A/MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M.'s

23rd October, 1964

SEC FAS(1,2,3,4) SAS(MS) AS(JIC) S&SEA M&I M DL INT UN PACAM AMSP EA EAMEC E INF MT MR ARNOTT MR MCMILLAN LONDON NEW DELHI UN NEW YORK SEOUL TOKYO WASHINGTON

SECRET SECRET SECRET

3127/11/116 (15)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

AMM

I.34197

Dated: 16th October, 1964.
1500
Rec'd: 16th October, 1964.
1852

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

903 SECRET.

Korea - Proposal for Foreign Ministers Meeting.

Your memorandum 1182.

I have now learned that Thailand has indicated agreement in principal with Korean proposal. Thais have however pointed out that "preparatory work to defend the scope of the meeting and to determine an agenda is essential, and that a preliminary meeting of officials might be desirable. They also feel that an invitation should be sent to Japan to participate.

2. I shall be discussing this question further with Thanat Khoman early next week, and will report further.

Loomes.

SECRET

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT DEFENCE
P.M'S

17th October, 1964.

SECRET

SEC FAS(1,2,3,4) SAS(MS) AS(JIC) S&SEA M&I M DL MR ARNOTT
INT UN PACAM AMSP EA MR MCMILLAN EAMEC E INF MT
NEW DELHI LONDON NEW YORK(UN) SEOUL TOKYO WASHINGTON

RESTRICTED (14)

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
SEOUL.

In reply quote No......
Memorandum No. 89

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
11 FEB 1963
504/19
CANBERRA

5th February, 1963.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

THAI TROOPS

A recent report from Bangkok about the company of Thai troops which forms part of the United Nations Command caused the Thai Ambassador some surprise. Apparently the Thai Government was on the point of withdrawing them but he had not been consulted. From somewhere they had a report that the troops were not wanted and this came after an incident in which the Thais tangled with a local police station because the police misappropriated some money which they contributed for the purification of their girl friends.

2. Both the Thai and United States Ambassadors here took action to see that the Thai troops remained. The Americans are anxious to maintain the multi-nation character of the United Nations forces and do not want to lose the Thai troops, just as they did not want to lose the Turkish Company last year.

3. The United States Ambassador told me that the Thai Government has now agreed to leave the Thai Company in Korea for another year.

(J. D. Petherbridge)
Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

Copy to IC UN

11.2.63

Mr Yourday

RESTRICTED

EA file (13)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANBERRA.

Name of Paper Summary of World Broadcasts File No 504/19

Published at London Date 15.3.62

S Korean Air Force leader in Thailand The South Korean Air Force Chief of Staff, Kim Sin, left Seoul for Thailand on 13th March on a three-week goodwill visit at the invitation of the Commander of the Royal Thai Air Force. While in Thailand, he will visit Government leaders and inspect military installations. (Seoul 08.00 13.3.62)

F 504/14 (12)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONFIDENTIAL

INWARD SAVINGRAM

. /JS

I. 5096

Dated: 5th March, 1960.

Recd: 9th March, 1960.

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

SAV.18. CONFIDENTIAL.

Communism

Sarasin told me that evidence had come to hand that one of the most senior members of the Buddhist hierarchy had come under Communist influence. He stressed that it was not the Acting Supreme Patriarch but someone close to him and that there was considerable cause for uneasiness in this development. Thai Buddhists are traditionally anti-communist and the hierarchy is only very loosely knit because of the independence of individual abbots and monks, and the successful penetration of even a senior member of the hierarchy would not necessarily have farreaching effects.

Political Situation.

2. Pibul, who in spite of newspaper reports to the contrary is still in Japan recently sought a visa to spend twelve months in Hong Kong, after which he was planning to proceed to Inida to become a Buddhist priest Whittington took an opportunity afforded by Lord Selkirk's visit to ask Sarit for his views. Sarit reacted very violently and accused Pibul of political intrigue. Whittington has therefore recommended that a visa for Hong Kong should not be granted since it would embarrass the United Kingdom in their relations with Thailand.

3. Sarit's anxiety is difficult to understand as Sarit seems more firmly in the saddle than over.

Korea.

4. Joint communique has been issued at the conclusion of the Korean Goodwill Mission, recognising the necessity for greater unity among the free nations of Asia and the need for closer economic, cultural and political co-operation. Both countries are to raise their missions to Embassies.

5. Goodwill Mission attracted little interest here.

Burma

6. King and Queen left on a brief State visit to Burma on 2nd March and returned on 5th March. This visit has been widely reported in the Thai and foreign language press with stress on how the warmth of the welcome afforded the King and Queen contrasted with the cool reception accorded Khruschev.

CONFIDENTIAL

I-50/1/19 (11)

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD SAVINGRAM

..MMc

I.4490

Dated: 27th February 1960

Rec'd: 2nd March 1960

FROM:

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

SAVING 16. RESTRICTED.

Malaya.

Thai Press reports state that the Interior Ministry has drawn up plans for an all-out campaign against Chinese Communist terrorists in the southern border areas and that the Deputy Commander of the Frontier Police, Major-General Charn Angsuchote, has left for the south to set up his headquarters at Songkhla.

2. Attacks by Thai police units on Communist terrorists in the border zone have been widely reported. This show of Thai interest in terrorist suppression on the Malayan border is a new development.

Germany.

3. A suggestion for establishing a German Bank, which it has been stated would facilitate German investment, has attracted unfavourable criticism from the Bankers' Association of Thailand and the Bangkok Chamber of Commerce. On the other hand, Nai Thawee, Chairman of the National Investment Board, has given some support to the idea and Cabinet is reported to be favourable.

4. This represents part of a strong German drive for increased influence in Thailand. There are at present more Thai students in West Germany than in France and Australia combined (more than 300) and Germany ranks third after the United States and United Kingdom. Germany has supplied and staffed a highly efficient technical training school. Lengthy enquiries by a German Trade and Economic Mission which took place recently are expected by the Thais to lead to German investment. German goods, including cars, are selling very well.

Cambodia.

5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs has again stated that it will not be drawn into comment on Cambodian accusations. We have seen no significant anti-Cambodian reference for some weeks now and suspect Cambodian press is reprinting old comment.

6. The Fine Arts Department has arranged an exhibition of photographs and models of Khao Phra Viharn. This was opened by the Prime Minister and has attracted large attendances, suggesting that in Bangkok at least, there is considerable curiosity about the ruins.

Indonesian Visit by King and Queen.

7. Although it was probably unfortunate that the visit so closely preceded Khrushchev's, nevertheless Thais regarded it as a great success. Foreign Minister Thanad told me that general arrangements and care which had gone into the planning was markedly superior to the treatment they had received in Vietnam. This is perhaps unfortunate as it has confirmed Thai somewhat contemptuous attitude to the Vietnamese.

Rice.

8. Rice exports up to 25th February totalled 182,397 tons. Amount available for export during 1960 is estimated at 1,300,000 tons. Agitation over American sales of surplus rice has diminished but Government is still anxious over reported sales to India and Pakistan which have led to cancellation of negotiations with Thailand and Johnson is still being pressed for some action by the United States to meet Thai difficulties. Thanad informed the press on 26th February that a satisfactory arrangement had now been reached.

Miscellaneous.

9. The Prime Minister's Office has denied a report that Sarit told pressmen that he was absolutely opposed to political parties. The report states that political parties are a sine qua non of a democracy.

10. Usually reliable daily Siam Rath reports that the National Security Council is to consider a scheme for a canal across the Kra Isthmus.

11. Khrushchev's visit has been widely reported in the foreign language and Thai press on the basis of agency cables but headlined to suggest that the visit has not been particularly successful. Editorial comment has suggested that his statements in India have caused grave concern in Communist China.

12. Announcement that United States Military Aid will exceed last year's figure by United States Dollars 7,000,000 has been headlined.

13. A Korean goodwill mission headed by Mr. Dong Cho Kim arrived on 23rd February and will stay until 26th February.

14. Thailand has received an invitation from Cuba to participate in a conference of Asian, African and South American countries to discuss economic development.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE.
J.I.C.
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C=M)
MIN. & DEPT. PRIMARY INDUSTRY (C=M)
TREASURER & TREASURY.

2nd March, 1960.

SEC A/Ss MR. EASTMAN ER PAC&AM EA AM&SP S&SEA SA SEA E.AF&ME E INF DL MT INTELL

BONN LONDON NEW DELHI NEW YORK (UN) OTTAWA PARIS PHNOM PENH SAIGON SINGAPORE WASHINGTON

(10)

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
BANGKOK.

In reply quote No......
Memorandum No. 281

24th February, 1959.



The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

SOUTH KOREA

The first Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from South Korea, Mr. Choi Duk Shin presented his letters of credence to the King of Thailand on 19th February, 1959.

(J.K. Waller)
Ambassador

Mrs Nelson
C&P Pt 13 P.A. JKB 3/3
East Asia

RLC. 3.3.59

(acquired on 30/10/11/90)

RLC. 3.3.59

(1) Mr Marshall 10/3
(2) Mr Headon JCH 9/3
(3) file 504/19

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY,
BANGKOK.

In reply quote No. .....

Memorandum No. .....



RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
- 2 SEP 1958
504/19
CANBERRA

AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS
COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND
REHABILITATION OF KOREA
SEOUL,
KOREA.

27th August, 1958.

Memo. No. 45
File No. 8/1/8

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

Prospective Exchange of Diplomatic Missions between the R.O.K. and Thailand.

The Thai Alternate Representative on UNCURK, Mr. Busparoek, recently returned to Seoul after leave and consultation in Bangkok. During his absence, he discussed the question of opening a Thai mission in Seoul and learnt what his Government's intentions were in this regard.

2. Mr. Busparoek says that Thailand wishes to establish an Embassy in Seoul next year, in response to a R.O.K. request and that a budget for this has been tentatively drawn up. He is now investigating the costs and availability of suitable accomodation and general living costs in Seoul. He will pass his findings back to Bangkok for incorporation in this budget; when this is finally compiled, it has to be put to Parliament, which "may take some time", but Mr. Busparoek appears to have little doubt that it will be approved.

3. The Embassy is apparently to consist of Ambassador, First Secretary and Consul. Mr. Busparoek believes that the Thai Representative on UNCURK will be quite separate from the Embassy, on the pattern recently established by Turkey.

4. When, and if, this Embassy is set up, Australia will be the only country on the Committee of UNCURK which does not have a regular diplomatic mission in the R.O.K.

5. A copy of this memorandum is being sent to Bangkok.

(H. A. Dunn)
Representative.

RESTRICTED

Mr Brennan 4/9

Copy to S.E.A

D/L to see ADMIN.

dfm 3/9.

(8)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
12 AUG 1958
504/19
CANBERRA

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS
COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND
REHABILITATION OF KOREA
SEOUL,
KOREA.

1st August, 1958.

Memo. No. 416
File No. 8/1/8

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

Thai Forces in Korea.

We refer to your memo. No. 121 of 14th July (File 504/19) and have made local enquiries on this matter of which we had had no previous word.

2. The Thai representative on UNCURK informs us that the question of withdrawing Thai forces from Korea has been discussed in the Thai Parliament several times recently but to his knowledge, no decision has been reached. He implied that it was unlikely that the Thai army contingent, consisting of one company, would be withdrawn.

3. There is no Thai Air-Force contingent in Korea. Mr. Busparoek says that the only such contingent in the area was in Japan until "two or three months ago", when it was withdrawn.

Copy to M
Watt
18/8.

(H. A. Dunn)
Representative.

The Marshall Sec 19/8
2 " Brennan 18/8

RESTRICTED

E.R.

PH/AD.

143

ENCLOSURES ATTACHED

504/19

8th August, 1958.

The Australian Delegation to U.N.C.U.R.K.,
SEOUL,
KOREA.

Thai Forces in Korea.

Further to our memorandum No. 121 of 14th July, 1958 concerning a report that a Thai Air Force contingent was being withdrawn from Korea, I attach for your information a copy of memorandum No. 889 of 24th July, 1958 from the Australian Embassy in Bangkok, which adequately explains the earlier report.

(H. Marshall)
for the Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL (6)

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY.
BANGKOK.

504/19

In reply quote No. ASA/AIR/220/8

Memorandum No. 889/58.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

24th July, 1958.

ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE CONTINGENT - KOREA

I refer to your memorandum No. 568 addressed to the Australian Delegation to U.N.C.U.R.K.) dated 14th July, 1958.

7 No - To Bangkok.

2. The following report may supplement any information the Delegation can collect:

a) On 27th June, 1958, Prince Wan Waithayakorn, the Thai Foreign Minister, announced that Thailand has decided to withdraw the Royal Thai Air Force contingent in South Korea. The withdrawal will leave only an Army unit who find it useful for training in the handling of modern weapons.

b) The Royal Thai Air Force contingent of three C.47 aircraft and three crews was first sent to Japan in 1951 and absorbed into the United States 315th Air Transport Division at Tachikawa Air Base. The detachment of crews was for a period of one year, most of which was spent in training and very little on operational flying. On their return to Thailand the crews were of a higher standard than the other Royal Thai Air Force crews, but now most if not all of No. 61 Transport Squadron have completed the detachment and the aircraft can be more usefully employed in Thailand.

c) It may be remembered that one of the C.47 aircraft crashed on take-off on 10th October, 1957, injuring the crew, thus leaving only two C.47 aircraft.

Seen. Memo. to Send drafted. me 6-8

E. F. Aitken

(E.F. Aitken)
Lieutenant-Colonel
Armed Services Attache

① Mr Mansell 6/8
② Mr Brayshaw
③ Mr Auchinleck 6/8
④ DL DR
⑤ MR ASHWIN - to see

CONFIDENTIAL

G.R.

RESTRICTED (5)

HM.NT

S.R

121 504/19

14th July, 1958.

The Australian Delegation to U.N.C.U.R.K.,
SEOUL.

Thai Forces in Korea

Savingram 22 of 3rd July from the Australian Embassy in Bangkok reported inter alia the following:-

"Government announced on 26th June that the Thai Air Force contingent was being withdrawn from Korea"

2. We were not aware that there was a Thai Air Force contingent in Korea and would appreciate any clarification.

(H. Marshall)
for the Secretary

The Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK. 568

For your information.

(H. Marshall)
for the Secretary

RESTRICTED

504/19 (4)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RESTRICTED

INWARD SAVINGRAM.

::HP

I.10944

Dated: 26th June, 1958.
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Rec'd: 30th June, 1958.
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FROM:

Australian Embassy,
BANGKOK.

Saving 21. RESTRICTED.

Thailand recognised the Union of Arab States on 19th June, 1958.

It has also been decided to exchange Ambassadors with South Korea. The present Thai Ambassador to Taiwan will be accredited to Seoul.

Min. & Dept. External Affairs.
" " " Defence.

30th June, 1958.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

504/19

Australian Delegation (3)

UNCURK

Seoul, Korea.

20th April, 1955

Memo No. 121

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
4 MAY 1955
CANBERRA

The Secretary,

Department of External Affairs,

CANBERRA A.C.T.

Visit of Prime Minister of Thailand to ROK.

In the course of his world trip Field Marshal Pibul Songgram spent yesterday in the ROK. He visited the Thai company, attached to 8th U.S. army in the fron t line and was entertained by President Rhee at a dinner.

2. On his arrival the Prime Minister praised President Rhee as a "staunch supporter of the cause of democracy and freedom not only of his own country but also of the whole world". He was also quoted as having said that the Thai force now in Korea would stay "indefinitely", but at dinner with the President he made it clear that Thai forces would remain as long as the 8th Army remained - ie as long as there was a U.N. force in Korea. (The present Thai force is an expanded company, about 250-300 men). The press also quotes Pibul as saying that Thailand will support the admission of the ROK to Seato, but Prince Pridi says that his Prime Minister made his reference only in respect of a possible future expansion of Seato into an organisation different from its present form. At dinner Pyun took more or less the same line; that the ROK did not want to join Seato, a South East Asian organisation, but would be interested to join if and when it was extended in scope to something paralleling NATO.

3. The remainder of the official conversations were on courtesy lines, the President and the Field Marshal getting along well together. One crisis seemed to be looming when Pibul said that Nehru was a friend of his, but he disarmingly then said that it was because they never talked politics together. The only discordant note was when the President launched into a criticism of the "co-existers", to the embarrassment of the British Minister who was present.

4. The Prime Minister was accorded full dignities during his visit, and the press has welcomed him in warm terms, comparing the difficulties which the two countries face. The Thai contribution to the U.N. Command has been praised. As the Hanguk Ilbo said: "Thailand contributed to our relentless fight for national unification and economic rehabilitation by sending her representatives to the United Nations Commission in Korea and, what was more, when the time came for the ROK to bear arms against the northern puppets of the Kremlin archenemy the Thais were among the first to take to the front lines to repel Communist aggression".

5. Prince Pridi, the Thai representative on UNCURK leaves today for extended home leave, probably about two months. He has promised to return for the signing of the report. He is well beyond retiring age, but wants to come back, I would think from a genuine sense of responsibility towards the Commission in its present thin state. When he told the President that he was going on leave, the former asked him to try and return.

(H.M.Loveday)
Delegate.

Copy to UN

DL
SEA.

(2)

Australian Delegation,

UNCURK,
Pusan, Korea.

5th March 1952.

Memorandum No 1184.

The Secretary,

Department of External Affairs,

Canberra, ACT.

504/19

Republic of Korea : Diplomatic Relations.

The semi-official "Korea Times" stated on 29th February that the ROK State Council had approved on 26th February a proposal for the opening of diplomatic relations with Thailand.

ODS

O.N. Smyth.

Australian Alternate.

East Asia for your info
(Attachments S-E.A.)

(1)

New Lib
504/19
Thailand
?

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
LISTENING POST REPORT.

Karachi 30/3/50

THAILAND RECOGNISES SOUTH KOREA. Thailand has decided to grant de jure recognition to the South Korean Government.

FILE No. 501/1/3

Closed 9-10-51

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SUBJECT.
South Korea - National Assembly

PREVIOUS FILE:	
NEXT FILE:	

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