6 Sept

American Embassy,
Bangkok, Thailand,
May 18, 1959.

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Dear Eric:

I have read with interest the conversation that you and Bushner had with Jotisi on May 1, 1959 which concerned the entry into West Point of Thai students. Until I received your Memorandum I did not realize that there was any particular problem in this regard as I knew that there had been Thai students in West Point. However, I now understand that it has required special legislation in each case. The problem that had been raised with me, particularly by Pote, was the entry of Thai students into Annapolis. It was also Pote's understanding that there were admissions to West Point and he said that he had worked hard while in Washington to get some into Annapolis, but without success. The problem of entry into the Air Force Academy is also arising, although it has not yet been raised directly with me.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to ask whether you possess anything useful that I could use in this regard. I of course realize that this concerns not only Thailand but all our other allies also, particularly in the Far East where service academies are not strong. It is obviously to our advantage to have a few American service academy graduates scattered in the armed forces of these countries and I would hope that some way could be found for it to be done.

Sincerely,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND948832

U. Alexis Johnson

Eric Kocher, Esquire,
Director,
Office of Southeast Asian Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington 25, D.C.

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