

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFORMAL REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Siam/Indochina

DATE DISTR. 23 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Arrival of Tran Van Tuyen and Nguyen Ung Thai in Bangkok

NO. OF PAGES 2

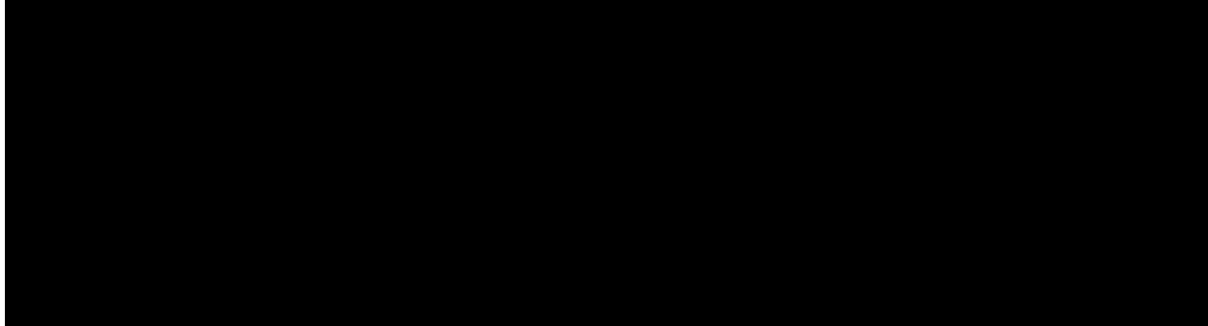
PLACE ACQUIRED Siam, Bangkok

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 25X1A2g

DATE OF INFO. 11 January 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X6



1. Tran Van Tuyen and Nguyen Ung Thai arrived in Bangkok from Saigon on 7 January 1949 via Air France. Tran Van Tuyen is travelling under the alias Pham Thai.* Both he and Nguyen Ung Thai hold French passports with Vietnamese nationality, documents which are not easily obtained.
2. Nguyen Ung Thai is a Chinese about 45 years of age. He speaks Swatow dialect, Cantonese, and Cochinchinese with fluency. He also speaks some French. Nguyen Ung Thai claims to be a merchant and journalist and has written many anti-French articles in the Saigon press for which he was recently threatened with deportation. To obtain a French passport under Vietnamese nationality, he paid a French Surete agent 5000 piasters. Nguyen Ung Thai has many connections with Bangkok Chinese businessmen and it is through them that he hopes to accomplish certain commercial projects while in Bangkok.
3. Both Tran Van Tuyen and Nguyen Ung Thai have received permission to remain in Siam for a period of a month through the assistance of Chinese friends. They have declared that they want nothing to do with the French authorities although they could more easily arrange immigration matters.
4. A Siamese police officer paid an unofficial visit to Tran Van Tuyen at his room in the Europe Hotel in Bangkok on 9 January. This meeting lasted three hours which possibly indicates a deep interest on the part of the police.
5. The Viet Minh is aware of Tran Van Tuyen's arrival. In the opinion of one source, Tuyen is an important figure and is thought to be on a rather significant mission. The Viet Minh maintains a close surveillance of his activities.**
6. Immediately upon arrival, he called on several Siamese princes. The Siamese Consul in Saigon is a close friend.

25X1X6

25X1X6

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION			
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	FBI				

Document No. 010

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS

DIA Mem. 11 Apr 77

REG. 77/1765

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

25X1A2g

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

25X1A6a

25X1A2g

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ gave detailed background information on Tran Van Tuyen and outlined his connection with Bao Dai. Tuyen was formerly closely associated with the VNQDD and has served as a liaison between that group and Bao Dai.

25X1X6

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. Tran Van Tuyen's story of virtual flight from Saigon is probably untrue as he threatened to return to Saigon rather than endure slight inconveniences imposed by the Siamese immigration authorities. A refugee with a French passport and a former emissary of ex-Emperor Bao Dai would hardly find it necessary to flee Saigon.

~~CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL