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COUNTRY: Japan/Thailand REPORT NO. FJT-1884
SUBJECT: Connection between TANAKA Seigen and Thai Government DATE OF REPORT 19 March 1957
NO. OF PAGES 2

REFERENCES

CS-3,311,963

DATE OF INFO. 12 February 1957

PLACE & DATE ACQ. Japan, Tokyo (13 February 1957)

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATIONS.

SOURCE: Japanese businessman (B). Appraisal of Content: 2 (that letter is authentic)

The following is the text of a letter dated 12 February 1957 from TANAKA Seigen, President of the Tanaka Development Industry Company, Limited, Tokyo-to, Minato-ku, Shiba Ta-machi 9-6, to Major Raki Panyarachun, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Thai Government, through T. TAKAGI, who resides at the Metropole Hotel in Bangkok:

Excellency: I wish to express my heartfelt thanks toward the kindness of Your Excellency in sparing the precious time to meet me for times during my stay in Bangkok.

Immediately after my return to Tokyo, I started meeting those key personnel as Ambassadors Shibusawa and Arakawa, Minister Kishi and other officials concerned of Foreign Ministry as well as Messrs. Matsunaga and Kaya.

The reasonings I give these gentlemen in my persuasion are that, since with Your Excellency on the front line, the highest Government authorities of Thailand now ready to negotiate the settlement of Special Yen with Japan; seriousness of the atmosphere this time is entirely different from that of the previous occasions. Should the negotiation fall short of success, future development of friendly relation between the two countries will never be expected again; that Japan should cooperate and back up present Thai Government in the coming election of February 26th, in which His Excellency Phibulsonggram and Your Excellency will run for the poll, and where crashing of the Opposition Party led by the former premier Abiyon is definitely necessary; and that the standstill of Special Yen settlement is in the hand of the Opposition Party as one of the most powerful weapon of attack against the Government, and for which the Government could not nothing but stand on defense:

The ultimate object of Ambassador Shibusawa and I is to persuade the Government to round up the basic plan for the settlement of Special Yen before the 20th inst; and most desirable, to bring about the

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Government so that a joint-communique under the names of Your Excellency and Ambassador Shibusawa be issued not later than 22nd declaring that the agreement has been arrived at in principle.

I have been requested by Ambassador Shibusawa to deliver to Your Excellency the following personal message:

"Dear Excellency: I wish Your Excellency would understand that I am seeking for the opening to the satisfactory settlement of Special Yen, resolutely, deliberately and positively. Without any result of some account, I would not be coming back to Bangkok."

Ambassador Shibusawa's resolute and energetic activity for the soonest settlement seems so admirable to me.

Now, except Premier Ishibashi who is still in bed, the only one more person to be persuaded is Mr. Ikeda, the Finance Minister. We will do our best on him too.

Excellency, please convey my best regards to His Excellency Phibhulsongram when you have time.

1. Field Comment. According to Source, the Tanaka Development Industry Company has a branch in Bangkok, of which T. TANAKA, whom we were not able further to identify, is presumed to be the manager. The Japanese named in the text of the letter are identified as follows:

X SHIBUSAWA Shinichi	J. P. ... Ambassador to Thailand
X ARAKAWA Shoji	J. P. ... Counsellor, Foreign Ministry
X KISHI Nobusuke	J. P. ... Former Foreign Minister, now Premier and concurrently Foreign Minister
X MATSUNAGA Yasuzaemon	J. P. ... Director, X Central Electric Power Research Institute
X KAYA Okinori	J. P. ... Former Finance Minister, reportedly close to Premier KISHI
X ISHIBASHI Tanzan	Then Premier; since resigned because of ill health.