

5th Asia Pacific Forum

September 2003

140 Years Peace

Fundamental Conditions for the Commencement of German-Thai Amity



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Preface

The event of the 5th Asia Pacific Forum under the aegis of the Senate of Berlin in September 2003 affords the opportunity of fundamental comments concerning the sad condition of world peace at present and historical considerations about the conditions for international peace.

Within this frame the following report is given to an international audience at University of Applied Sciences Berlin accompanied by an exhibition of historical pictures which also show some milestones in the 140 years of peaceful relationships between the two countries.

As in the last 140 years the acting Royal Thai Ambassador, Excellency Cholchineepan Chiranond, likes to promote this matter as well as to encourage all activities conserving and meliorating these good relationships. In the same manner the staff of the Royal Thai Embassy likes to operate.

With kind assistance every project concerning the historical background of the Thai-German Relationships has been accompanied by the "Bundesarchiv" in Berlin and I have to thank PD Dr. A. Menne Haritz as well as Mrs. E. Dolatowski and Mrs. Käß for all their kind help when I simultaneously planned and arranged an exhibition in this marvellous archive.

May all this be a very small contribution for bringing forward the good relationships between the two countries and might this relationship be a small seed crystal for the peace in this world.

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Baierl



Visiting the exhibition in the Bundesarchiv, right to left: Royal Thai Ambassador Excellency Mrs. Cholchineepan Chiranond, Mrs. Rawiwan Baierl, Director PD Dr. A. Menne Haritz, deputy Mrs. E. Dolatowski. behind: First Secretary Mr. Surapol Phoneprasert, Minister Counsellor M.R. Adisorndej Sukhavasti, Minister Mr. Jukr Boon-Long.

Fundamental Conditions for the Commencement German-Thai Amnity

(Royal Power, Contractual Structuring, Goods and Information Flow)

It began with a dream of the subsequent Regant Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia, a law of Queen Victoria and the Hamburger Businessmen Thies and Pickenpack. The young Prince Friedrich Wilhelm IV (1795-1861), architect and pious Romantic, had at his disposal Johann Baptist Tavernier's Book of Travels, which was published in 1861 in Nürnberg in the German language, in which one reads about Siam (the Country and City Ayuthaya respectively) the following: The countryside of Siam bears rice and other fruits in remarkable abundance, of which the most excellent are mango, durion and mangosteen. The forests are plentiful with elk, elephants, tigers, unicorns and apes... There are of them (snakes) everywhere, which exceed 22 feet in length and have two heads, of which the lower one has the form of a tail... The rivers in this Kingdom are very clean, and the one, which flows past Siam, is everywhere along it's entire course, of the same breadth. The waters it channels are very healthy... These waters overflow it's banks... and make the fields, over which they flood very fertile... so that one, not without astonishment, can perceive the Providence of God... The King of Siam is one of the wealthiest of Oriental Monarchs and calls himself the King of Heaven and Earth... Twice a year he attends a public gathering and this in extraordinary magnificence. The first time he is splendidly accompanied (entourage) should he go to the Pagoda, whose tower is covered inside and out with beautiful Gold... The both Pagodas, of which I report, that the King calls there with an entourage, are completely surrounded by gold-studed pillars, and near the island, where the Dutch live, at the same time a monastery has been magnificently executed. The centre of it is built as a large Chapel, whose interior is completely covered with gold... and likewise 6 Miles from Siam, and not sparsely, Pyramids have been erected, possessed of such beauty, that one must be amazed at the industry of this people, plying such a task.

1826 Friedrich Wilhelm IV received as a gift from his father the Charlotte Court-Grounds, a piece of land with a Villa bordering the Sanssouci

premises. He built and landscaped it jointly with the Building Master, Schinkel and the Gardner Lenné and called it his Siam.

As under the reign of Queen Vitoria of England (1819-1901, married in 1840 to the German Prince Albert) 1848 through an Act of the Royal British Government all foreign ships were granted trading rights equal to English ships for the import and export to and from East-Indian ports- with the exception of those bearing opium and salt freight- (Graf Fritz zu Eulenburg), an essential threat of encumbrance to the free trade of German businessmen was removed. In the year 1858 the Hamburger businessmen both Theodor Thies and Paul Pickenpack, the latter returning from China with the support of King Mongkut, as well as the Bremener Businessman A. Markwald, founded a Trade Centre in Bankok. Falling back on the prevailing British Trade Agreement, Th. Thies immediately negotiated an Amity and Trade and Navigation Agreement, which he and the Siamese Government signed on 10.25.1858 and which was ratified by the Senates of the Hanseatic Cities of Lübeck, Hamburg and Bremen. Only after this success was he appointed as the Hanseatic Consul to Siam, but owing to severe sickness vary soon thereafter, he was forced to turn over his official duties to his associate Paul Pickenpack, who was awarded the Consul Patent of the Hanseatic Cities in 1864. The British Consul to Siam was the explorer and businessman Robert Schomburgk (1804-1865, Berlin-Schöneberg). Am 12.22.1859 the Prussian Consul to Hamburg, Stegeman, remitted a copy of this Agreement to the Prussian Foreign Ministry in Berlin. Successively modified, all succeeding Amity and Trade and Navigation Agreements were drafted from it's model: On 02.17.1862 with Prussia etc., on 02.17.1912 with the German Reich, on 04.07. 1928 with the German Reich and on 12.30.1937 with the German Reich (ratified 1953).

After equipping the ships Arcona, Thetis and Frauenlob Friedrich Albrecht (Fritz) Graf zu Eulenburg was appointed Extraordinary Envoy to the Prussian Mission to Eastern Asia by Kaiser Wilhelm I as a representative of his brother Friedrich Wilhelm IV accompanied by Max August Scipio von Brandt as Attaché. After an adventurous voyage and negotiations in Japan

and China, the expedition reached Siam. Upon the arrival of the delegation, which he had been expecting for one year, King Mongkut expressed his delight and inquired about the number and size of the warships. Immediately thereafter he asked if the Prussians maintained colonies or had the intention to acquire them. The question answered in the negative consoled him: he was all the more delighted to gain new unselfish friends as the old ones just became difficult (Fritz Graf zu Eulenburg). After a long sojourn, on 02.17.1862 Fritz Graf zu Eulenburg signed an Agreement comparable to the Hanseatic Agreement in the name of Prussia, the States of the Customs Union and Mecklenburg. Thus, the way was smoothed for contractually secure relations between Germany And Siam on political, diplomatic, cultural, commercial and private levels.

Aspects of the Origination and Resolution of Conflicts within the Framework of the Presentation of the Exchange of German Representatives in Thailand

(On the basis of misinformation and secrecy trifling causes mature to strong, effi-cacious conflicts, whose assuagement and resolution are achieved chiefly on the basis of personal ties and past historical experiences)

After the Hanseatic-Siamese Treaty was negotiated by Th. Thies and the Hanseatic Consulate was established, the task remained for his successor Consul Paul Pickenpack of building solidly structured relations between agencies of Home Government and the German community in Bangkok. Prussia appointed upon his own request the management head of the firm A. Markwald, Paul Lessler as administrator of its Consulate. In 1865 he was awarded the Consul Patent and the Siamese, in turn, recognised his office as Consul. The competitor trading Companies Thies & Pickenpack on the one hand and Markwald on the other, were possessed of a well-balanced level of informational and legal tenure. As the Prussian Consulate finally in 1868 became integrated into the Northern German Alliance, the Hanseatic Consulate was disbanded and the Hanseatic Consul Paul Pickenpack duly turned over the Consulate dossiers to the Consul Lessler. The resulting legal, organisational and informational inequality precipitated

legal demeanours on the part of the sole Consul, which also for the Siamese officials became unacceptable, such that the right to execute his office as Consul was formally not given. Protests arose with respect to the conflict of interests of the office of a Consul and the activity as businessman with Consular Court proceedings. Only at the end of the Consul office term did the problem become amicably resolved. Also the former Consul Paul Pickenpack returned to Germany, not without his brother remaining behind as the director of the Trading Company, who continued to look after the Siamese part of his family Pipatpau, and also to maintain the official contacts. The Königsberger jurist and teacher at the Military Academy in Potsdam, Werner von Bergen followed as Consul fur the German Reich after the disbanding of the Consulate of the Northern German Alliance in 1871. The recognition of his Offices Consul was ceremoniously awarded by the young Prince Chulalongkorn with the resolution to a then, not yet terminated Court procedure, related to a ship's collision (Lola-accident) between the Firm Markwald and a distinguished Siamese family, attached. The tropical climate made an early replacement of this representative, who was welcome in Bangkok, necessary. The Rostocker jurist Dr. Hermann Stannius, who priorly had invested the office of Consul in Smyrna and Trieste, became the appointed successor in 1875. His peaceful term of office, himself plagued by the climate, ended after 5 years. The first Diplomatic Mission of the Siamese Government to Germany in 1879 falls during the term of office of the Consul Stannius. King Chulalongkorn expresses the wish to visit Kaiser Wilhelm I himself in the year 1880. After experience in Diplomatic Service in Constantinople and New York, the Schweriner jurist Carl Johann von Bassewitz becomes Stannius's successor, who, although most congenially received, already after two years must be relieved for reasons of health. The appointment of the former Hanseatic Consul to Bangkok, Paul Pickenpack, to Siamese Consul in Hamburg falls during this time period, a position, in which he as the good spirit is able to protect the German-Thai Relations until 1904, and which subsequently his son Martin until 1939 is likewise capable to fill. In 1882 the war-disabled Danziger jurist Rudolph von Krencki follows, coming from the General Consulate at Shanghai to the Consulate in

Bangkok. A legal suit directed toward a former Subordinate Judge at the Consular Court of 1869, who makes himself liable by illegally acquiring possession of commercial samples of a newly introduced German businessman, is so mildly punished, that with reference to the danger of judicial uncertainty of the German-Thai trade trafficking a letter of protest addressed to the Consulate from the Siamese authorities becomes unavoidable. A rude reply on the part of von Krencki is the reaction. Following on the part of the Siamese also the arrest of the servant of the German businessman Klop only one day later, which for the respective matter according to contractual agreement ensued, von Krencki writes an even more offensive letter to the Siamese Foreign Ministry. Thereupon Prince Devawongse appeals to Paul Pickenpack in Hamburg for mediation. A communiqué from Paul Pickenpack to the Reichs Chancellor von Bismark leads to temporary assuagement of relations. However, the concession of Consular protection in all matters extended to an Austrian photographer, who after a 7 month activity for King Chulalongkorn demands more than \$40.000, where in contrast the Palace regards a sum of around \$10.000 for far in excess of compensation for services rendered, leads to von Krencki's deluging King Chulalongkorn and other Princes with harsh and uncompromising legal complaints. Once again a now almost despairing letter from prince Devawongse to Paul Pickenpack leads to an objective written presentation of the matter to the Reichs Chancellor von Bismark, who ended the matter telegraphically with the terse directive to Consul von Krencki, he may refrain from further actions in the matter. A holiday without farewell ceremony for von Krencki is used to diplomatically settle the matter; thus, by sending the German Vice-Consul Gabriel from the experienced previous Prussian Eastern Asian Attaché and Consul in China von Brandt. He resolves not only the photographer problem to the satisfaction of all parties and with reception of thanks from King Chulalongkorn, but also makes the most systematic written economical and commercial reports on Siam to the German Government. Upon his return journey to China the good relations have been restored. In the meantime in 1884 through the mediation of Paul Pickenpack upon the request of Extraordinary Siamese Envoy, Prince Prisdang from Paris the

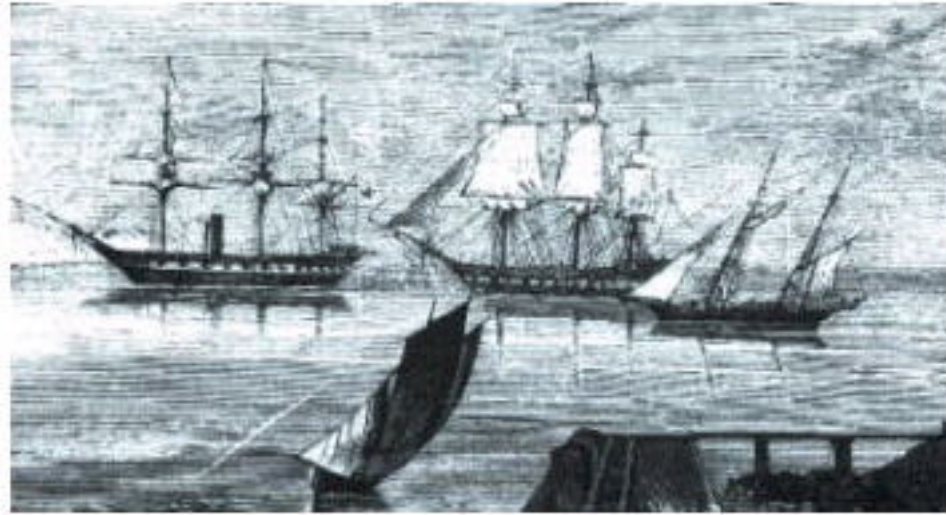
Hamburger Postal Inspector Panchow is engaged by State Secretary Stephen for the development of the Postal and Telegraph Services in Siam. From the Siamese side the wish to elevate the status of the Consulate in Bangkok is expressed. As in 1888 von Krencki is relieved by the Krefelder Philosopher and Interpreter Peter Kempermann, who before had been the German Consul to Korea, the Consulate is transformed into a Minister Residence. Soon after her arrival, the wife of businessman Klopp takes the spouse of businessman Kempermann out riding in a carriage and lets lotus blossoms be picked from a pond, that had fallen into disuse, on the estate of Prince Svasti, the brother of Prince Devawongse, the half-brother of King Chulalongkorn. The ladies were escorted by two policemen into the palace to Prince Devawongse, who explained the property situation to them and dismissed them. Unaware of the prior trespassing of his wife and Mrs. Klopp, Kempermann insists energetically on a duel. A public letter of apology, in which his wife is referred to as a pu ying, leads after explanations of its content by a British interpreter to Kempermann's total resentment, which he reports to the Reichs Chancellor in a more than 20 page report. The awkwardness and exaggeration of his re-action leads to consequences by the building of the railroad (the first Siamese State Commissions to this end were awarded to an English firm, because of Siamese de-laying actions vis-à-vis German contractors caused by Kempermann's reports) and the education of Siamese Citizens in Prussia (with reference to the Kempermann reports delayed by the Germans), which only through the continual mediation of Pickenpack are assuaged. Not until 1897 are the after-effects of this matter finally resolved.

Historical After-effects of the Era of King Chulalongkorn

The education of young Siamese citizens in Germany and commercial activity of Germans in Siam and Thailand respectively at the time of Chulalongkorn shape the strongest, most effective factors in the amicable relations of both countries, yet to-day, chiefly through the continuity of the magnitude of influence on the part of the Thais and the transposition of the historically matured responsibility. Since with a lumped mentioning of the historic factors giving their impulse yet today even a coarse evaluation of

this Statesman, as necessary as it would be, in the narrow scope of this address is not possible, only a short sentence to this end from a report of the German Ambassador to St. Petersburg from 07.17.1897 upon King Chulalongkorn's visit paid to the Car of Russia with reference to

responsibility and committed engagement of this Great Thai Statesman would be cited: To Princess Fedorowna's expression of regret for his travel exertions he replied: it is really not worth mentioning as we are to well paid and well fed.













exhibition posters with internal archive signs

Bld01: Die Preußische Expedition nach Ostasien

A2LouSia (Karte, De la Loubere), B06Schif (Exped.Schiffe), B07FrEul (Eulenburg)
B08Kapit (Kapitäne der Exped.schiffe)

Bld02: Erster diplomatischer Kontakt

B00FrWi4 (Friedr.Wilh.4), B01PPicC (Paul Pickenpack), B02LuebV (Vertrag),
A4Rame4M (Kg.Mongkut)

Bld03: Verhandlungen zum Postaufbau

C10Bhanu (Bhanurangsi), C11Steph (Postminister Stephan), C12Dewaw (Dewawong,
Außenminister), C02PPick (Paul Pickenpack)

Bld04: Besuch in Berlin beim KaDeWe, in Nauen und Bad Homburg

F11BeRa5 (Kg.Chulalongkorn), F15NaTel (Telegr.Station Nauen), F11BeKaD (KaDeWe), F22HoBer (Bad Homburg)

Bld05: Kadettenausbildung

G02BeKaL (HKA Lichterfelde), E03BeHKA (HKA), G07ViMa (Mahidol), G03BePri (Prinz Pridi, Kadett, Botschafter)

Bld06: Lokomotiven von Krauss

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