

- (a) To occupy the Kra Isthmus if either he has good information that a Japanese expedition is advancing with an apparent intention of landing at the Isthmus, or the Japanese violate any other part of Thailand;
- (b) To put into operation the plans already agreed on with the Netherlands authorities if Japan attacks the Netherlands East Indies.

3. The British have received an assurance from the President that the United States will give armed support, the character of the support to be decided by the Staffs,

- (a) if the United Kingdom find it necessary either to forestall the Japanese landing in the Kra Isthmus or to occupy part of the Isthmus as a counter to Japanese violation of any other part of Thailand;
- (b) if the Japanese attack the Netherlands East Indies and the United Kingdom goes at once to their support;
- (c) if the Japanese attack the United Kingdom.

4. The action which the British have taken followed a series of discussions at Washington between the President and Lord Halifax. The President had asked what the United Kingdom would do if Japan sent an unsatisfactory reply to the President's question about troop movements. The British replied that the proper reaction would be simultaneous warnings to Japan by the United States, United Kingdom and the Dutch, that if Japan attacks Thailand, Malaya or the Netherlands East Indies or attacks the Burma Road from Indo-China, Japan will do so at her own peril. If Japan ignores this warning and if there were a direct Japanese attack or threat of attack on the Kra Isthmus British forces would occupy the Kra Isthmus, provided that Great Britain were correct in its assumption that armed support would be forthcoming from the United States if the action resulted in hostilities with Japan. The President agreed that armed support would be forthcoming and said that the character of this support must be decided by the Staffs.

5. The other question asked by the President was what the United Kingdom would do if there were a Japanese attack on Thailand other than an attack on the Kra Isthmus. (An attack covering, in the President's mind, such Japanese pressure on Thailand as to force concessions to the Japanese dangerously detrimental to the general position.) The British replied that the proper reaction would be that British forces should occupy the Kra Isthmus, provided that Great Britain were correct in its assumption that armed support would be forthcoming from the United States if the action resulted in hostilities with Japan. The President indicated assent to this procedure and Lord Halifax has no doubt that the United Kingdom can count on armed support from the United States.