



REPORT REGARDING SOME ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION IN NANKING

by

PHRAYA ABHIBALRAJAMAITRI
(TOM BUNNAG)

AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND TO
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA,
NANKING, 1949



Translated, Introduced, and Annotated by
Captain Apisake Monthienvichienchai, PhD

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Introduction

On the auspicious occasion that Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn attained Her Fifth Birthday Cycle on 2 April 2015, the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Foundation had a project to publish academic books in the fields of Her interest, such as history and traditional culture, in Her honour.

As for this book entitled “Report Regarding Some Aspects of the Situation in Nanking of Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri (Tom Bunnag) Ambassador at Nanking”, it was the gracious wish of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn that the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Foundation reprint it for She saw that it has academic benefits.

The Foundation wishes to thank Dr. Tej Bunnag, grandson of Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri, for kindly providing the original copy of the book as well as for writing the Foreword. The Foundation wishes to thank also Captain Dr. Apisake Monthienvichienchai of the Department of History, Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, for translating and annotating the book, as well as for introducing it with an article entitled “The World of Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri”, which places Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri in historical context by giving additional knowledge concerning the political situation in China and Thailand at the time.

The Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Foundation hopes that this book will be academically beneficial in accordance with the royal wish of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Foundation
January 2016

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Secondly, I am also indebted to Dr. Tej Bunnag for bringing this text to my attention and giving me the honour of rendering into English what is essentially his grandfather's account of the important events in Nanking. I am also grateful for his thorough reading of the translated text and the new introduction, as well as for his helpful suggestions on how to improve the text. Naturally, what errors that remain are my own.

Thirdly, I would like to thank my dear wife, Ms. Cecilia Foo, and my parents-in-law for holding the fort with Casimir. Thanks must also go to my parents, who have always supported me in my academic and other endeavours. Without their assistance on the home front, I would have been unable to complete this work so efficiently and thoroughly.

My final thanks go to the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy that has furnished me with an academic home, an opportunity to teach the future officers of the Royal Thai Army in the intricacies of the histories of various countries and regions, not to mention the support of esteemed colleagues at the Department of History.

Captain Apisake Monthienvichienchai, PhD.

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Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri (Tom Bunnag)

7 March 1884-31 May 1961

in full diplomatic uniform of Minister, Legation of Siam, Rome



Khunying Abhibalrajamaitri (Ruen Bunnag)

5 March 1904-3 July 1975

Photograph by Bachrach 1940



Phraya Abhibalrajamaitri (Tom Bunnag)
Ambassador at Nanking