



SWL - Prajadhipok King of Siam (Thailand) 1893-1941 Educated in UK at Eton - Abdicated to England in 1935. Ruled Siam for only 10 years from 1925 until 1935. There is a museum devoted to him in its entirety in Thailand opened in 2001.

King Prajadhipok was a seasoned SWL from his homeland and the following article found in a 1931 Radio Design magazine devoted to Pilot Radio and Tube Corp. Lawrence, Mass.

An unusual honor was conferred recently on the makers of the well known Pilot "All-Wave" receiver when King Prajadhipok of Siam ordered one of these sets for his personal use after witnessing a two-hour demonstration staged at his special request. The event took place on Sunday 26 July 1931, two days before the King and his party left the United States after a four months visit.

The demonstration was held at Ophir Hall, Purchase, NY., where the King made his temporary residence. It was staged by the editor of Radio Design, who made the trip from Lawrence, Mass., to White Plains, L.I. N.Y - for the purpose.

It seems that His Majesty is an ardent radio fan and has experimented with many radio receivers of both European and American manufacture. Just before he appeared for the demonstration, his secretary revealed the fact that the King has done considerable listening on both short and long waves in his famous palace in Bangkok and is familiar with short-wave stations on the air.

He found radio a most interesting diversion when his eyesight was impaired and he developed into a real DX fan. The operation on his eyes was highly successful, but his Majesty has not lost his interest in radio. Judging from the King's numerous questions and remarks, he has considerable knowledge of the technical side of the science. Like all true radio fans, he dropped all formalities during the demonstration and personally examined and operated the "All-Wave" set for half an hour. He showed great interest in the Cam switches and asked for an explanation of the mechanism.

His Majesty was greatly impressed by the sets ease of operation and the absence of plug-in coils with which he has had some experience. After satisfying himself that the receiver was just the set he wanted, he ordered one and specified certain special changes to meet reception conditions in Siam. His Majesty is particularly interested in picking up the American short-wave stations and bought the Pilot receiver because of the company's reputation in the short-wave field.

