

Spring 1997

## Notes From Asia

Alfred C. Aman Jr.  
*Indiana University School of Law*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/aman>

 Part of the [International Law Commons](#), [Legal Biography Commons](#), [Legal Education Commons](#), and the [Legal Profession Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Aman, Alfred C. Jr., "Notes From Asia" (1997). *Alfred Aman Jr. (1991-2002)*. Paper 9.  
<http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/aman/9>

This Writing by Dean Alfred Aman Jr. is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School Deans at Digital Repository @ Maurer Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alfred Aman Jr. (1991-2002) by an authorized administrator of Digital Repository @ Maurer Law. For more information, please contact [wattn@indiana.edu](mailto:wattn@indiana.edu).



**JEROME HALL LAW LIBRARY**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
Maurer School of Law  
Bloomington

# NOTES FROM ASIA

ALFRED C. AMAN, JR.

I left Kuala Lumpur for home on Friday, November 22 at 12:50 p.m., about one hour and twenty minutes later than scheduled, but aside from the difficulties of catching planes and busses and occasionally traveling just before or after a typhoon, my trip had been a resounding success. I had visited alumni and friends of Indiana University and the School of Law in Tokyo, Taipei, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur, and I had met many interesting people, all of whom made me feel welcome and expressed genuine interest in fostering relationships with our Law School.

I had three basic goals in mind for this trip:

(1) to meet and encourage the law faculty of leading Asian law schools to send their best students to our Law School's graduate law program, (2) to get a better understanding of some of the legal issues in Asia, especially those involving trade, the environment, and intellectual property, as we have a great strength in these areas at our Law School, and (3) to meet alumni from the University and the Law School.

I always enjoy visiting alumni, and I often feel when I meet alumni in Indiana, the U.S., or throughout the world, that I am the recipient of years and years of good will that has been built up by professors and administrators from other generations who have interacted with these same alums. This trip was no exception. The goodwill I was shown in Asia left me with a fresh appreciation for the lines of communication and respect established by my predecessors, and I worked hard to pass on that same goodwill to keep the reservoir full, as it were, for those who come after me.



Dean Aman with the members of the IU Alumni Club of Japan. Pictured from left to right, beginning with the first row are Dr. Kaoru Ando, founder of the IU Alumni Club of Japan; Dean Aman; Hiroshi Watanabe, President of the IU Alumni Club of Japan; and Mrs. Suzuki. In the second row from left to right are Takaya Mogaki, Hajime Suzuki, Hidetada Uruma, Shigeru Sano, Paul Frederick, and Yasuhiro Obata.

As I visited with alumni and faculty, I had the sense that I was taking part in a growing global community, and our conversations often centered on the new responsibilities that an increasingly interdependent world engenders. Frequently, these conversations involved the future of legal education in Asia and in the United States. In my view, globalization has created a necessity for more interdisciplinary study and learning in law school, and it has made joint degree programs, such as those at our Law School, more important than ever before. Moreover, certain courses now take on added significance and others change in important ways. Comparative law and international law, for example, are now very practical courses as well as courses of intrinsic intellectual merit. The processes of globalization also have begun to shape aspects of our domestic curriculum. I do not think it is possible fully to understand recent trends in regulation and administrative law without a deeper understanding of the global economy and the ways in which many firms now do business around the world. I discussed these changes in business, education, law and policy with faculty and students at all the universities I

visited. I learned a great deal from these conversations, and the dialogues we began will, I believe, provide the foundation necessary for regular opportunities for exchange among the faculties and students of these schools with ours.

During my travels, I gave ten presentations. Six of these talks were formal, scholarly papers—three in Japan and three in Taiwan. I also met with Alumni Clubs in each of the four cities and gave a short speech to each group, and I met privately with a number of people, including the deans of all of the major law schools in the cities I visited. In addition, I met with representatives of the government in Taiwan and in Bangkok, including judges and lawyers in their respective Departments of Justice. In Kuala Lumpur, I also had a very interesting meeting with the General Counsel of one of the most important energy corporations doing business in the Pacific Rim, Petronas.

This trip has created the possibility for our Law School to create future ties and connections with a very important part of the world. We look forward to developing further our new friendships and potential partnerships in Asia and to raising proudly the IU flag throughout the world.