

Maori claims world's longest place name

September 2, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Maori claims world's longest place name](#) – Bangkok Post, September 2, 2006

...

Actually, the Maori name, with 87 letters, is a mere pretender.

The Guinness Book of Records says Bangkok has the longest place name in the world, with about 190 letters, depending on the transliteration:

Krung Thep Mahanakhon Amon Rattanakosin Mahinthara Ayuthaya Mahadilok Phop Noppharat Ratchathani Burirom Udomratchaniwet Mahasathan Amon Piman Awatan Sathit Sakkathattiya Witsanukam Prasit

Business Day – English paper closes doors

September 3, 2006

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines

[English paper closes doors](#) – *Bangkok Post*,

September 3, 2006

In less than a week, [Business Day](#) becomes second English-language newspaper to suspend publication.

...Mr Chartchai said he decided to "suspend" Business Day because he was tied up with other businesses...

Earlier: [End of ThaiDay](#)

CosPlay at MBK

September 3, 2006
Categories: 2Bangkok News

[CosPlay at MBK](#) –
September 3, 2006

Elephant Polo

September 4, 2006

Categories: Culture and Society



(Photo: Achara Entz)

Elephant polo report –
September 4, 2006

Don Entz reports on the recent elephant polo tournament in the north: *There was an American team fielded for elephant polo this year, the Capitol Pachyderms, from Washington, DC, the first American team. I never did meet up with them, but one member was reported to be working in the Defense Department, so I wonder if this was a group of young Republican professionals and hence the name. They really got trounced but were not lacking in spirit. They finally scored a goal in their third or fourth game, but the thing is, the opposing team clearly held back and just sat there and watched, letting this one girl on the Capitol Pachyderms team keep tapping the ball until it went over the goal line. It was hilarious! I mean their opponents clearly just decided to let them have one goal to keep from being discouraged; the opponents all stopped where they were and watched and let the girl get the goal.*



(Photo: Don Entz)

And then she didn't even make it herself! It seems her elephant, in stepping forward, just happened to kick the ball over the goal line. They had to get a ruling as to whether it was legal for the elephant to make the goal. The guy who invented elephant polo 25 years ago was there — Jim Edwards. He runs a resort in Nepal, a real last-of-the-British-Raj-type guy — and his word is law. He decided yes, the elephant can score the goal.



(Photo: Don Entz)

Above: The second of the two chakas, and thus the match itself, is over, and here the girl who had run along the field with the flag now runs it out to one of the players to wave as the teams leave the field.

At the end of each half, when everyone clears the field to go change elephants, a team member would run out onto the field with the same giant American flag and hand it to one of the players, who would then wave it proudly as he/she was riding off the field on his/her elephant. I couldn't decide if they were serious or playing it up for fun, but there was a lot of good-natured American jokes — such as the announcer announcing over the loudspeaker that the elephant who made the goal for the Americans would certainly get a visa, a green card and a free trip to the Homeland Security Department — and the girl who made the goal — or rather whose elephant made the goal — got a big hug from the game's originator after the match (which they naturally lost).

And later: We won!! The Thai Media team, consisting of two of us from "The Nation", one from the "Bangkok Post", and one from the Thai-language sister publication of the "Post", called "Post Today", roundly defeated the International Media team 1-0, thanks to a last-minute goal by Kittipong of "Post Today". I almost scored a goal in the first half myself, but it went wide of the mark.

However, we completely dominated the International team. The first half ended up being largely a one-on-one contest between me and our opponents' goalie, the second half between Kittipong and the goalie. We maintained the attack the whole time.



(Photo: Don Entz)

Initially I was to play as defense, but in a last-minute strategy change, I was placed on Attack (wimpy games like football and rugby use phrases like "Offense", but in elephant polo, it's called "Attack"), and attack is what I did as I hammered away at the defense. Unlike last year, I got to charge across the field on my elephant, not just sit there waiting, and Man! charging full speed on elephantback while swinging a big mallet and screaming "ATTACK!!" is quite a rush, let me tell you.

In the second half, I was the striker, which meant I and an opponent went for the ball as it was tossed into the middle of the field. I commandeered it right away and knocked it down the field to Kittipong, who was the Attacker in the second half, and he kept the defense occupied until our goal in the final seconds. (Another factor: we were all veteran elephant-polo players on my team, and not one of the visitors had ever played; only one had even been on an elephant before.)

Also: [Kittipong leads Thai to victory](#) – *The Nation*, September 5, 2006

Tickle and the Ivories is one of the elephant-polo teams playing in the tournament this week. they have a website: <http://tickle-and-the-ivories.com/>

More elephant polo links: <http://elepolo.com/links.htm>

“Sena Hoi is Too Dark”

September 4, 2006

Categories: Music



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

"Sena Hoi is Too Dark" –

September 4, 2006

This is an advertisement for an album of songs by Sena Hoi. Sena Hoi is a comedian and singer with a popular TV show. The style of song he sings are romantic longing love songs. His first album was very successful. This poster is for his second album *Dumjung Sena Hoi* which means "Sena Hoi is Too Dark" (Sena Hoi is known for having dark skin). One of the main songs on the album is *Dumjung* or "Too Dark."

Blackface depictions are not uncommon in Thai pop culture and despite the stereotypical motifs they show, most Thais do not have any particular feeling that they are inappropriate.

Many Thai soap operas have used characters in blackface including *Khao Nok Nah* from the early-1990s.

Ua Athorn Housing Project – Problems Plague dream homes

September 4, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[UA ATHORN HOUSING PROJECT –](#)

[Problems Plague dream homes](#) – *The Nation*, September 4, 2006

...Many who moved in found the estates were too far from their workplaces and so moved out again. Others were unable to keep up with the payments and their units were repossessed by the banks. Complaints have also arisen about the poor quality of workmanship in the buildings and of property speculators bothering residents with offers to take over their units due to soaring land prices..."

Thai restaurants overseas likely to expand to 20,000 in 2008

September 4, 2006

Categories: Food and Drink

[Thai restaurants overseas likely to expand to 20,000 in 2008](#) – TNA, Mon, September 4, 2006

The number of Thai restaurants overseas is believed to increase to 20,000 as targeted by the Ministry of Commerce by 2008, Vice Minister for Commerce Pimol Srivikorn said on Monday...

Rising number of Finns contract AIDS in Thailand

September 4, 2006

Categories: HIV-AIDS

[Rising number of Finns contract AIDS in Thailand](#) – AFP, September 4, 2006

Finland is set to see a two-fold increase in AIDS cases in 2006, due in part to men contracting the disease while on holiday in Thailand, the Finnish government said...

Amusing items from southern newspapers

September 4, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Amusing items from southern newspapers

Right: *Samila Times*, September 4, 2006

Bitchy Freshy Column: Woman In trend. The result of City Freshy Girl 2006 contest, the girl who won is "Bitchy Siriporn Boonyapranitr from Hadyai University."



“The Artist and his Model”

September 5, 2006

["The
Artist and his
Model"](#) –

September 5, 2006

Interesting portraits...

Siam Square land the most expensive

September 5, 2006
Categories: Buildings

[Siam Square land the most expensive](#) – *The Nation*, September 5, 2006

...The firm said land prices in the Siam Square area had jumped 16 per cent to Bt640,000 per square wah (four square metres) this year, which tops the Bt630,000 per square wah being asked for land in the Yaowarat area. The third most expansive area in Bangkok is Silom, with land selling at Bt560,000 per square wah.

Thailand's Full Moon Party comes to Malta

September 5, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Full Moon Party comes to Malta](#) – di-ve, September 5, 2006

Paradise Bay will be the venue for the FULL MOON PARTY 2 on September 10. The party will be a fusion of live performances, DJs, and other attractions that will blend in with the breezy decor of the venue to recreate the same vibe of the famous Koh Phangan full moon parties in Thailand...

End of contract at Suam Lum – Landlord luring tenants out with free rent

September 6, 2006

Categories: Property and Development

[End of contract at Suam Lum – Landlord luring tenants out with free rent](#) – Bangkok Post, September 6, 2006

...The Crown Property Bureau wants to get the space back from its current tenant so a new client—who has plans for residential condominiums, a hotel, commercial plaza, entertainment and an art and cultural centre—can move in.

Although it has not been yet announced, Central Pattana Plc has said it wanted to get the concession to develop the 127-rai plot bordered by Wireless and Rama IV roads in the middle of the central business district...

Bangkok City of Life

September 6, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok City of Life –

September 6, 2006

Remnants of the "Bangkok City of Life" campaign at the Chitlom Skytrain Station. The campaign is being withdrawn because Hong Kong is already using the slogan.

Vintage postcard of a Siamese bearded lady

September 6, 2006

Categories: Old photos and films



[Thailand's one-in-10-billion girl](#) – *Brunei Times*, September 6, 2006

Above: Vintage postcard of a Siamese bearded lady

Woman who sought Thai ‘ozone therapy’ dies

September 7, 2006

Categories: Health

[Woman who sought Thai ‘ozone therapy’ dies](#) – *NZHerald*, September 7, 2006

A waterspout touches down in Cambodia

September 7, 2006

Categories: Cambodia

[A waterspout touches down in Cambodia](#) – *Daily Mail*, September 7, 2006

Can a python bite off more than it can chew? Ewe bet

September 8, 2006

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Can a python bite off more than it can chew? Ewe bet](#) – *Daily Telegraph*, September 8, 2006

Rut and Lek Seafood Restaurant

September 8, 2006

Categories: Food and Drink

Rut & Lek Seafood Restaurant –
September 8, 2006

[Bangkok's Best Crabs](#) – September 4, 2006

[Google Earth placemark for the Soi Texas](#)

Brave Nat, the wolf girl

September 8, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Brave Nat, the wolf girl](#) – *The Mail*, September 8, 2006

Storm clouds

September 8, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Storm clouds –
September 8, 2006

Historian voices concern over ceremony at ancient stupa

September 8, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

[PUSHING LUCK – Historian voices concern over ceremony at ancient stupa](#) – *The Nation*, September 8, 2006

A historian has voiced grave concern over a planned ceremony where heavy wooden poles are to be used to prop up an ancient stupa, in a symbolic gesture of shoring up one's luck. The ceremony is scheduled to take place today at the 700-year-old Wat Maheyong in Ayutthaya's Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya district...

Trend of making up girls to look like ‘little women’ raises some disturbing questions

September 8, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Trend of making up girls to look like ‘little women’ raises some disturbing questions](#) – *The Nation*, September 8, 2006

...Cultural events, such as the opening temple fair sequence, provide fertile ground for such performances, which blur the line between the adult and child worlds. "I often see it in shopping malls. Events parade the kids while moms apply makeup to their upturned faces," says Chotirawee. The demarcation between adult and child has been breached by popular culture and it is this blending of once separate and distinct spheres that has lead to the sexualisation of children in Thai culture according to the professor.

"In the past there was not the same emphasis on glamorising children. We took part in cultural events but it was pretty innocuous." The shift began about 20 to 25 years ago when people started to identify more with what they saw on television and then tried to replicate it in their children.

In many instances the presence of "little women" is seen not only as harmless but as a propagation of Thai culture itself— teaching girls the finer points of Thai dance, feminine mystique and behaviour. While this may indeed be an expression of Thai culture, it's just one version. Culture is continuously evolving, and these days Thai culture is so adulterated, you can't say what is truly Thai, admits Chotirawee...

Bangkok Rainbow

September 9, 2006

Categories: Weather



(Photo: Andrea)

Bangkok rainbow –

September 9, 2006

Andrea writes: *As seen on Saturday the 9th of September from our 11th floor balcony. Interesting to note that the end of the rainbow is clearly at the night bazaar!*

Cabbies up in arms over bank's ads

September 9, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Cabbies up in arms over bank's ads](#) – The Nation, September 9, 2006

...They claim that SME Bank advertising lured each of them into buying three pieces of equipment – a TV monitor; a credit-card machine and a GPRS receiver – from the company via a loan of Bt60,300, including interest.

...He said the drivers were told they would earn Bt500-Bt850 a month as fees for ads shown on the monitors. They were also told that they would earn Bt5 each time a passenger charged a fare to their credit card. The receivers were said to help them find passengers.

After installing the equipment, they found the items were of no benefit to them. "We never earned any extra fees from the equipment," Sompong said...

Obese police

September 9, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Obese police –

September 9, 2006

Left: It reads: *Let's go on a diet for the nation – Operation to curb fat*

A celebrity among ungulates may soon be dismissed as a poseur

September 11, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[A celebrity among ungulates may soon be dismissed as a poseur](#) – *NYT*, September 11, 2006

Some biologists are proposing that the kouprey is a domestic hybrid that became feral, not a valid species...

Top Chiang Mai pagoda may collapse

September 11, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Top Chiang Mai pagoda may collapse](#) – Bangkok Post, September 11, 2006

The pagoda of Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep, one of Chiang Mai's landmark sites, is at risk of collapse amid heavy rains, experts say...

Mr Sahawat said the study indicated that the temple stood on soft soil and part of the area where the pagoda is situated was developed from a landfill. More importantly, the level of underground water was very low, measuring at 20 metres. Such a low water level increased the risk of landslides when it rained heavily...

“We have no secret cell to hold terrorists” FM

September 11, 2006

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[“We have no secret cell to hold terrorists” FM](#) – *The Nation*, September 11, 2006

Foreign Ministry denied on Monday a New York Times article which said Thai government had allowed the US Central Intelligence Agency to detain a henchman of Osama bin Laden, who died in the cell from serious wounds.

[The New York Times on Sunday published a front page article](#) that claimed Abu Zubaydah, an Osama bin Laden henchman, was interrogated and tortured in a “safe house” in Thailand in the spring of 2002...

Thai monkey business over as orangutans head home

September 13, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thai monkey business over as orangutans head home](#) – Reuters, September 13, 2006

... "It's a huge scandal and it's cost a lot of time and effort, so I'm really happy to see it coming to an end after more than three years," said Edwin Wiek of Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand...

Thai fighter sent to Cuba to quit party lifestyle

September 13, 2006

Categories: Sports

[Thai fighter sent to Cuba to quit party lifestyle](#) –

ESPN, September 13, 2006

... "If he stays here, he will have problems, so I sent him to Cuba to straighten himself out," Chantaroj said. "Manus goes out partying too much. He got rich after the Olympics and he spent most of his money on gambling, drinking and girlfriends." ...

Scam report from Blue Dragon – September 14, 2006

September 14, 2006
Categories: Gem Scam



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

A reader reports: *And yes! We keep on falling into the trap !*

It doesn't matter if you are an experienced traveler; or not. You can not help but trust

the people that are part of this scam...How couldn't you?! The first one we encountered was the pseudo guide at Wat Pho who recommends this wonderful temple where there is a Lucky Buddha. The temple not only opens until late but the entrance is also free! He also mentions something about a great sale at Thai Expo where they have a huge discount for foreigners... a sale that happens once a year and that you can not possibly miss, plus "today is the last day" he says... Who needs the Lucky Buddha, we are already so fortunate! So privileged! Even though at the moment you don't feel like following the recommendation of a stranger on the street of going into a jewelry store, it stays in the back of your mind...Finally the guide offers to give instructions to the tuk-tuk driver to take us to the temple and we drive away with this warm fuzzy feeling of having met a great human being who's only goal is to help travelers "in need".

Then we arrived at the so called Lucky Buddha, we walked around and to be honest, we didn't feel that lucky to be there, there was not much to see, but hey, you can't complain, is free! Plus there are some friendly tourists there too! An American and a French man. And they are really talkative too. Well spoken, educated...the Lucky Buddha turns out not to be bad at all... Plus these tourists have been to Thailand in several opportunities so a couple of recommendations would hurt, would they? "The American is a Chef living in the USA". He tells us about the story of the temple, the meaning of some of the colors, etc... Then he starts asking where do we come from, what do we do...And after having an lovely conversation with this great and interesting character, he says that Thailand is known for its gems and good priced jewelry (which we already knew)... and that we should take advantage of the last day of the Thai Expo! What a coincidence! ...BOOM, the words from the guide resound and then we say...Hmmm probably is a good sale, everybody is talking about it!!! Plus we were considering buying some pieces from the land of the blue sapphires, so why not go check this sale out... Plus the American reassures us by saying that he comes in every year for this special sale to buy jewelry of great quality and price. He gives his suggestions, but he is never pushy... these guys know it all!

We say goodbye to our new American "friend" and we go away on the tuk-tuk to our final destination. We arrived at the store and everything looked very normal.

All the sales people were in uniforms, the display of the pieces was impeccable, there were other customers, how can anything go wrong? Well, everybody knows the rest of the story. We bought some over priced jewelry that was worth nothing.... But our story, fortunately, has a happy ending.

Luckily for us, we never kept the jewelry from the store. We paid 15% down and they put them in a safe until we were done with our traveling. We were supposed to pay the balance once we picked up the pieces....But before we went looking for the jewels, we read on La guide du Routard and on Lonely Planet, something about a gem scam... We started to get chills down our spine and a bit of a stomach ache to tell you the truth, when we started reading the exact same scenario ... We quickly went on the internet and "googled" the Blue Dragon and boom! All the stories unfolded on the screen! The friendly American, the French...the Lucky Buddha!!!

AHHH... (By the way THANKS for having this space! You saved us lots of hard earned money!)

We quickly printed the stories from your website and gave it to the Blue Dragon staff and told them to give us our money back and to STOP robbing people. They agreed to give us a refund. That same day we called the credit card company and cancelled it to avoid the transactions from going through. I also had to report these transactions as fraud and attached copies of the stories published on your website as back up. Since we never received the pieces we were able to stop this entire nightmare before it was too late.

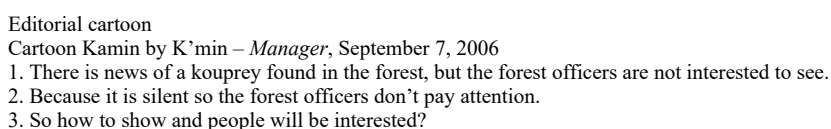
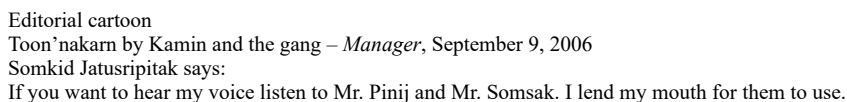
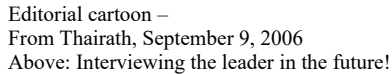
But this story doesn't stop here! The day before leaving Bangkok we wanted to

go for our last tour. We took the subway and then a taxi. We asked the driver to take us to one of the temples and he started to say "let's go to a jewelry store, you don't; have to buy anything but I get a free coupon for gas". We politely said "no, please take us to the temple", but he kept on arguing with us until he stopped the cab and told us to descend! In shock we said ok enough of the cab drivers for today...let's take a tuk-tuk...big mistake! We spotted one not far away. The tuk-tuk driver seemed very friendly until he said: "Today is a national holiday here in Thailand, the temples are closed, but I can take you to the Lucky Buddha.... LUCKY BUDDHA!!!! We jumped out of the tuk-tuk and we manage to tell the tourists that were standing there not to take that tuk-tuk because the driver was part of a scam... We "saved" a couple of travelers, including one from India who shared the 2nd taxi of the day with us ...but as we drove away and looked behind, a couple of travelers took the tuk-tuk and drove away...maybe they were heading to the Lucky Buddha, who knows....we just shook our heads.

More on the
[Gem Scam](#) & [maps to the scam stores](#)

September 14, 2006
Categories: Editorial Cartoons

Editorial cartoon – *Krungtep Turakit*, September 14, 2006
 Left: (Thaksin on the Shin Tower building) Wakk (makes an alarm sound with his voice) Assassination, assassination!
 Bottom: Bad return with jet



4. shout “Thaksin Get out!”

Editorial cartoon

Krungthep Turakit, September 7, 2006

Two Pulo members speak:

1. Ha, ha! Finally they turn to negotiate with us. This time they will be in our hand.
2. – Leader, are you sure to dialogue with the government? You will never succeed.
– Why?
3. The PM of this country never keeps his word.



Golden Triangle

September 14, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: Don Entz)

Golden Triangle –

September 14, 2006

Don reports: *This is the Golden Triangle. I'm standing on a hill in Thailand, Burma's on the left, Laos on the right.*

The buildings with the red roofs in Burma is a huge hotel and casino complex called Paradise Resort's Golden Triangle, a Thai-Japanese joint venture. Only baht and U.S. dollars are accepted, no kyat or other currencies. You cannot cross to it by the river, but rather have to cross at Mae Sai and continue overland.

...They're cracking down harder on illegal North Koreans coming in over the border in Chiang Rai. ...on the bus from Chiang Saen to Chiang Rai town, we stopped at a police checkpoint, and a cop went through the bus checking people out. There was a group of five ladies who did not look or speak Thai, and they were unable to produce any ID. One seemed to be saying she was from Hong Kong....

but a couple of them did not look Chinese. They looked Korean. The cop pulled all five off the bus and sent us on the way. I'm used to that from Mae Hong Son, where there were always checks for illegal Burmese and a few getting yanked off. It seems to be a problem specifically right around where we were, in the Golden Triangle area.

Red banner

September 14, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Red banner –
September 14, 2006

The red banner reads: *13 things/items – 100 million*

We assume this is a teaser for Academy Fantasia 3 (?)

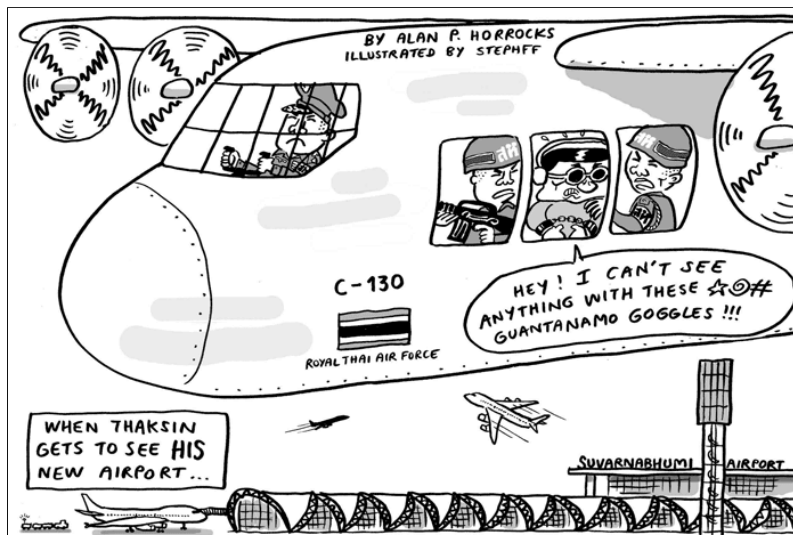
Cartoons from Stephff – Reader's Take by Stephff

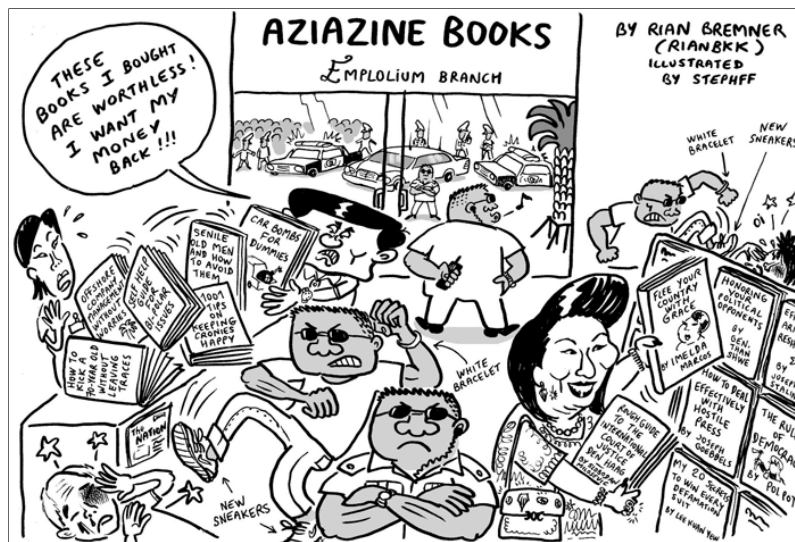
September 15, 2006

Categories: Stephff's Cartoons

Stephff writes: *If you have noticed but we have a new column in The Nation called "Reader's take by Stephff."*

The concept is simple: the reader [send an idea](#) of cartoon about current events in Thailand (can be a social life topic as well) with a very detailed description of what he/she wants me to draw (I don't want only an idea – I want the whole story-board) and I'll do the rest...





Rian Bremner + Stephff – September 7, 2006



Cartoon by Olivier Nilsson + Stephff – September 2, 2006



Arnaud Dubus + Stephff – September 2, 2006

Hurt finger

September 15, 2006

Categories: Labor, Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Hurt finger –

September 15, 2006

The sign reads: *Injured, died, disabled from work – The Workmen's Fund protects and helps – Know rights, use rights, call 1506 – Thai workers gather to decrease accidents and sickness related to work.*

ADB Returns to Thai Bond Markets

September 15, 2006
Categories: Economy

[ADB Returns to Thai Bond Markets](#) –
ADB, September 15, 2006

Thailand's Nok Air brings new meaning to 'check-in girls'

September 15, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Thailand's Nok Air brings new meaning to 'check-in girls'](#) – *FlightGlobal*, September 15, 2006

British man charged sexual harassment

September 15, 2006

Categories: Pattaya

[British man charged sexual harassment](#) – Pattaya Daily News, September 15, 2006

Finally, his evil doings was stopped. Most likely this type of crimes is usually done by foreigners who are still living in Thailand and will continue doing that evil thing if not been caught by the police...

Poetry day at The Nation

September 15, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Poetry day at *The Nation* –

September 15, 2006

[Stars say PM better off bemoaning his lot in a far-off land](#) (includes a poem at the end) and halfway down the page a [poem in the Letters section](#)

2Bangkok exclusive: Conversation with a southern “bandit”

September 16, 2006

Categories: The Thai Deep South

New 2Bangkok.com exclusive: Conversation with a southern separatist – September 16, 2006

[Troubles in the South index page](#)

Exclusive report from one of our sources in the deep south: A series of threats from a southern separatist.

September 13, 2006

At 10:22am on September 13, 2006 the separatist called my mobile phone. The conversation was in Yawi . Here is the conversation:

Separatist: Are you the director of school?

E: Yes, I am.

Separatist: Are you ?

E: Yes.

Separatist: Tell the Thai Buddhist teachers.

E: What?

Separatist: Watch themselves. If we are arrested or surrounded, we will shoot all of them. Let me talk to a Thai Buddhist teacher.

E: The Thai teachers are busy. They are practicing sports with students.

Separatist: Tell the Thai teachers... You must tell them. If you don't tell, you will be harmed.

E: If you want me to tell, what's your name?

Separatist: You don't have to know. I am the one who shot the officer at Bannangkuwae Bannangkuwae Mu 4, Thambon Bannangsatar, Amphur Bannangstar, Yala.

E: I was a teacher there.

Separatist: I am not Bannangkuwae resident. I come from the north. I am Yuwae. You have to tell them because I know your house. You stay in , drive a car, resister no. . I know you and know teacher and teacher .

E: O.k. I'll tell them. But may I ask... are you Muslim?

Separatist: Yes, I am.

E: If you are Muslim. Does Muslim do like this? And why here?

Separatist: Muslim don't kill Muslim. I kill Thai Buddhists... who corporate with officers.

E: O.k. I 'll tell them. So, that's it?

Separatist: You must tell Thai Buddhists teachers.

While I was talking with the separatist., the protecting teacher volunteer was there also. After the conversation, the volunteer called to the Deputy Sheriff of who responsible all volunteers and I discussed with the rest of the volunteers in order to analyze the situation. Then I walked to the house of the education committee chairperson. His wife said he went to a meeting so I told her the story and went back to the school.

At 10:45 I called to the Sheriff of , he said he knew already and told me to check the original place of phone number. I checked . The officer said it was the number of a canteen in a vocational education school in Yala.

At 11:20 The sheriff of and police came to the school asking about the incident and have a meeting to make a new plan with more protecting teacher volunteers.

At 12:30 After teachers finished lunch, I asked them to have meeting and tell them my conversation with Separatist to the teachers and tell about the procedures of safety.

Mostly the teacher cannot accept with the incident. Some got sweaty , some were shivering. So I told them to be calm. For traveling from home to school, not to worry because the safety volunteers are a good safety system. But I am worried when people stay at home because if the Separatists target us it is dangerous for us. But it can happen to anyone, not us only. But we must not forget that in three southernmost provinces all areas are red. No matter if we move or not, it is not different... but I will not move, I will be here.

September 14, 2006

Today at 12:20 the same separatist called to the religious lecturer of about what he talked to the "E" yesterday.

The separatist repeated what he talked about on the 13th and said this must be told to Thai teachers. He also asked if Thai Buddhists were there. The religious lecturer replied that the Thai teachers did not come today.

At 14:20 the separatist called the school again.

Separatist: Tell all Thai Buddhists teachers to resign and move from the area. At present we are pressured. We will kill all teachers from .

Religious lecturer: Umm...

Separatist: You say "yes." You must tell them. If you don't, I will not guarantee of your safety. I will shoot you all.

Religious lecturer: I don't have power to decide. I will tell the director.

Separatist: Umm... Ok.

The separatist used phone number .

At 16:00 pm I was informed from the director of that the separatist called and said "Watch yourself, I will shoot you to death." The separatist called to teachers at .

September 15, 2006

Today the school is closed while authorities to decide how to handle this situation.

[Troubles
in the South index page](#)

Editorial Cartoons – September 2006

September 16, 2006

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



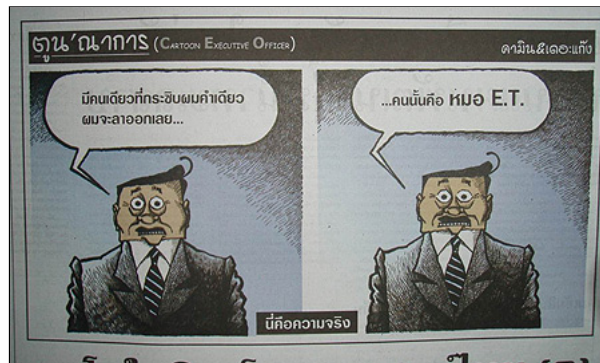
More ET jokes –
September 16, 2006

Thairath on September 16 – Cartoon by Chai Ratchawat

Left: This government is an e-government–the era of e-commerce business.

Middle: Financial management by E-banking–Bid by E-auction

Right: Plan for the future of the nation by relying on the fortune teller E.T.



Today's Poojadkuan – Manager, September 15, 2006

Left: There is only one person who could whisper one word to me and I would quit immediately...

Right: That person is the fortuneteller E.T.

Caption at bottom: This is the truth.



Left: Fortuneteller E.T. sends the signal to PAD, "Next month...you will win for sure."

Earlier [Poojadkuan columns](#)



Editorial cartoon – Krungtep Turakit, September 14, 2006

On the headband: Ja Yak

At the bottom: Playing: "Crazy Car bomb"

Pattaya billboard

September 16, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Pattaya billboard –
September 16, 2006

TAT billboard near the Ratacha massage parlor district promoting Pattaya. It reads: Let's go to Pattaya!!!

Thailand's Prime Minister, a 'Caretaker' on a Roll

September 16, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Prime Minister, a 'Caretaker' on a Roll](#) – Washington Post, September 16, 2006

...In the trunk of the now infamous gray Daewoo found near Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's urban mansion late last month was a bomb with a bit of everything. Weighing more than 10 pounds and packed with C4 explosives, military detonators and two sticks of dynamite with short fuses, it was hardly inconspicuous.

Little wonder that Thaksin's detractors immediately labeled him a fraud, charging his camp with orchestrating a fake assassination attempt to curry sympathy with voters ahead of elections. Bangkok newspapers ran endless satires on the episode involving the man they have come to call "Thug Sin."

... "If the opposition thinks he is corrupt, then take him to court and prove it," said Samak Sundaravej, a Thaksin supporter and former Bangkok governor. "Democracy means the choice of the people, and if Thaksin is again elected, then who can say they know better than the people?"

Hat Yai Blasts

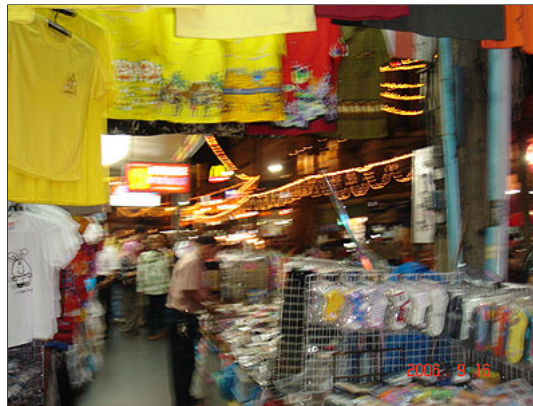
September 17, 2006

Categories: The Thai Deep South



(Photo: Tanasinsakul)

Above: Sanchanusorn Road a half hour before the bomb at the Odean detonated.



(Photo: Tanasinsakul)

Above: Another view on Sanchanusorn Road showing yellow "King" shirts for sale

Almost like being there: Hat Yai blasts – September 17, 2006

[Troubles
in the South index page](#)

A personal account by 2B editor Ron Morris: *On the night of September 16, 2006, I met our southern bureau chief at a restaurant in the heart of Hat Yai in southern Thailand. The restaurant was about 30 meters from one of the Hat Yai bomb sites at the Odean entertainment complex. We left the area about 30 minutes before the bomb went off.*

While we were not there when the bomb went off, I can give some indication of the area. Sanchanusorn Street is one of the most lively, even chaotic, areas of Hat Yai at night. It has a Chinese ambience with people walking in every direction and talking loudly, outdoor seafood restaurants with exposed bulbs for lighting, and a brisk and vivid ambience.

I parked in Lee Gardens Hotel. Both cars and motorcycles were checked underneath with mirrors before entering the building.

At the lobby I overheard the receptionist say that Lee Gardens and other hotels in the area were at full occupancy. At the "Sky Buffet" on the 33rd floor, it was barely possible to exit the elevator as the restaurant was packed with a huge tour group waiting to eat. The four-floor mall at the base of the hotel was similarly packed and included a Panasonic event of some kind with speakers at full volume reverberating throughout the mall.

Outside, Sanchanusorn Road was packed with Malaysian Chinese tourists in town for a Malaysian holiday. Two outdoor Chinese restaurants and the adjacent shopping arcade were all doing brisk business while mini-songtaews (mini-busses created from pickup trucks) and motorcycles were crawling down the congested street. Every shop was selling yellow shirts celebrating the King 60th anniversary reign this year. Dozens of vendors plied the crowds selling Malaysian- and Chinese-language newspapers.

Striking this part of town is striking at the heart of Hat Yai and the remaining southern tourist trade.

Below are photos taken of the bomb damage on the morning of September 17, 2006.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Damage to the roof at Odean



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Traffic threads its way around the blast zone outside of Odean



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Another view of the blast area



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Locals view the scene from across the street



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: It is believed a motorcycle bomb was parked along the street and detonated by a mobile phone

[Troubles
in the South index page](#)

Front pages after the Hat Yai bombings

September 17, 2006

Categories: The Thai Deep South



Front pages –
September 17, 2006

Left: *Thai Rath* – Bomb-attack in Had Yai simultaneously in many spots



Right: *Matichon* – Bomb department store – hotel in Had Yai – 4 die, 30 injured



Left: *Krungtep Turakit* – Bomb Had Yai in 5 spots – Dead and injured about 50



Right: *Komchadluek* – Bomb Had Yai in the central of town – 5 spots – 5 died – many injuries – using a motorcycle bomb

Thai political crisis “may have increased bird flu”

September 17, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai political crisis “may have increased bird flu”](#) – *Financial Times*, September 17, 2006

Thailand's Witch Hunt

September 18, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Thailand's witch hunt](#) – *Financial Times*, September 18, 2006

For a country that has had no effective government since February, Thailand has shown remarkable economic resilience. Although weakened confidence has dampened domestic consumption and investment, growth is still set to exceed 4 per cent this year, thanks to buoyant exports...

Thailand slipping on World Bank score table

September 18, 2006

Categories: Economy

[Thailand slipping on World Bank score table](#) – Bangkok Post, September 18, 2006

...Political stability, long heralded as one of the strongest points of the Thaksin Shinawatra government, ranked just 29.2 points last year out of 100, compared with 54.2 in 2002 and 50.9 in 1998. The category measures the likelihood of violent threats to or changes in government, including terrorist events.

...In general, Thailand in 2005 performed worse than the average for East Asia in voice and accountability, at 49.3 against a regional average of 50.8, as well as in political stability, at 29.2 against 61.3.

But in terms of government effectiveness, Thailand's score of 66 bettered the regional average of 49.6. Regulatory quality, rule of law and control of corruption also were above the average...

The coup: September 19 news

September 19, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup

[September coup main page](#)

September 19 news

Overall

What has apparently happened: From New York, PM Thaksin declared a state of emergency recalling Commander-in-Chief Sonthi from the deep south—this was, in effect, firing him. At about the same time, the military under Gen. Sonthi staged a counter-coup and cancelled Thaksin's state of emergency taking control of key areas in Bangkok.

Update – 23:51, September 19, 2006

Sources report tanks are arriving at *The Nation* newspaper building.

BBC reports imminent clash between factions: BBC news: *"Thai media say that two army factions appear to be heading for a clash, with one side backing the prime minister and the other side backing a rebel army chief."*

Update – 23:33, September 19, 2006

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) The Thai military has launched a coup against Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, circling his offices with tanks and declaring a provisional authority.

Right: Spokesman reading the government announcement on TV. (We are told this is army spokesman Maj. Gen. Praphat Sakuntanak)



Update – 23:30, September 19, 2006

The early reading of this event on Thai news sites is that this was a preemptive strike to stop a coup by the Commander-in-Chief Sonthi.

Update – 23:27, September 19, 2006

Sources have informed us that negotiations between the government and Prem broke down this morning over Thaksin's ouster.

Update – 23:26, September 19, 2006

So far mobile phones, land lines and the internet are still working (but slow at times).

Notice on TV – 23:13, September 19, 2006

All Thai TV stations are showing a notice. A rough translation is:

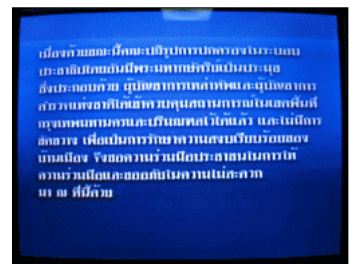
At present the government reforms the democratic regime with the King as chief.

The army commander and national police commander have controlled the situation in Bangkok and boundary areas already.

There is no opposition.

To maintain the peace of the nation we ask people's cooperation and forgive the inconvenience.

(The notice did not state a curfew was in effect.)



Update – 23:05, September 19, 2006

The Nation Channel reports that troops from Lopburi are now in the Bangkok taking up positions.

Update – 23:00, September 19, 2006

Agence France-Presse (AFP) is reporting that army officers loyal to the sacked army C-in-C have seized control of Government House, but this is unconfirmed.

The internet is becoming very slow... – 22:55, September 19, 2006

We will try to keep posting as long as we are able.

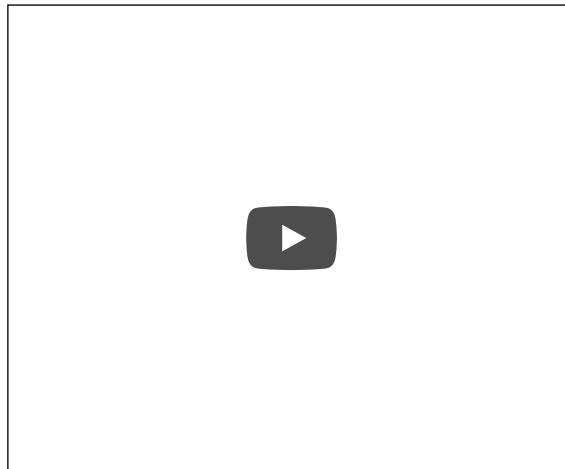
BBC just flashed on screen that the "president" of Thailand had called a state of emergency – 22:49, September 19, 2006

Latest eyewitness reports – 22:49, September 19, 2006

Tanks on the streets... at Nangloeng intersection, in front of Prem's house, at government house and at the Rama V statue

All TV channels showing films of The King – 22:33, September 19, 2006

Thaksin declares [state of emergency](#) – 22:23, September 19, 2006



Thaksin's final address –
September 19, 2006

This is former Thai PM Thaksin Shinawatra's declaration of a state of emergency made on September 19, 2006. The announcement was made from New York and only appeared on one TV station in Thailand—the other stations already had been seized by the military (or was under orders not to change their broadcast schedule for the PM). Thaksin's announcement starts in mid-sentence and is eventually cut off when troops seized the station.

Latest eyewitness reports – 22:19, September 19, 2006

Police are closing the streets...

Tanks on the streets...

[Coup speculation updated](#) – *The Nation*, September 19, 2006

Channel 9 and 5 have been ordered to stand by for special announcement as coup speculation reached the highest pitch.

Coup was widely speculated after many army units were moved out of their barracks on pretext of personnel rotation.

Sources said Channel 5 would broadcast an announcement by the military at 10 pm while Channel 9 may broadcast announcement of caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra from New York.

Channel 5 is playing songs in praising of His Majesty the King in an indication that an announcement may be made soon.

Earlier, the day an army source said Army Commander-in-Chief has instructed all army units in Bangkok to standby for an important event.

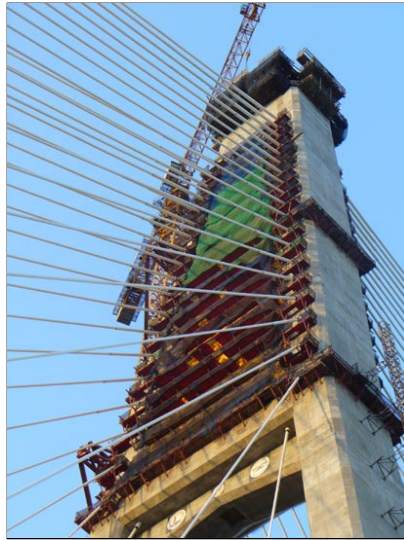
[Army units in Bangkok ordered to stand by in case of emergency: source](#) – *The Nation*, September 19, 2006

[Coup rumours widely spread](#) – *The Nation*, September 19, 2006

Outer Ring Road Bridge Photos

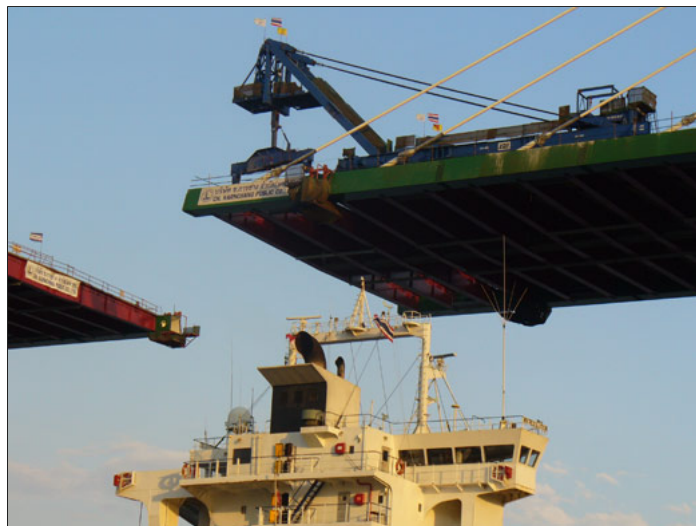
September 19, 2006

Categories: Bridges



(Photo: Jerry)

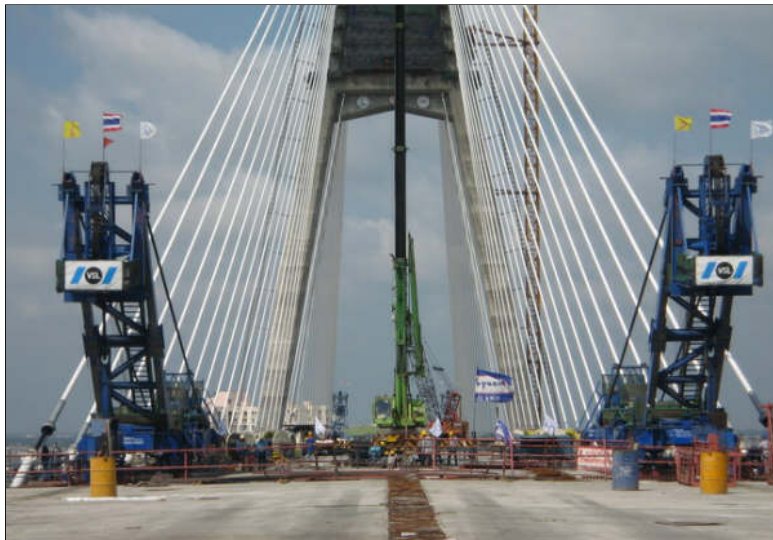
Outer Ring Road Bridge photos –
April 6, 2007



(Photo: Jerry)

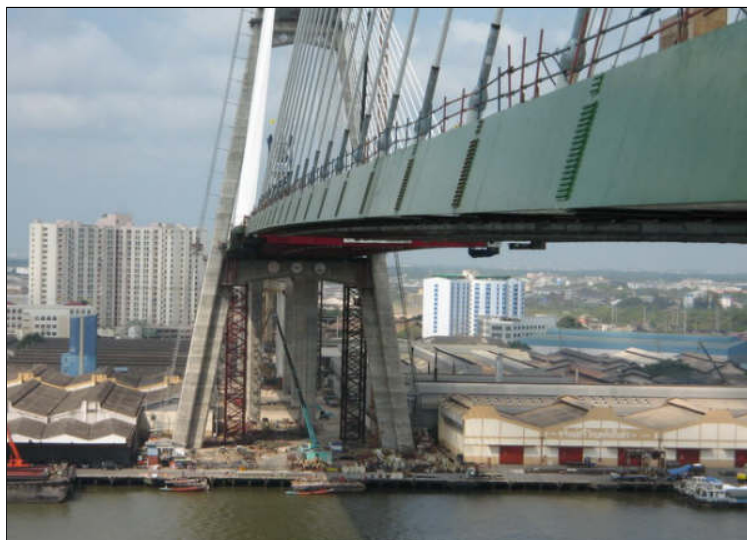


(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: bluey)

Outer Ring Road Bridge photos – April 4, 2007



(Photo: bluey)

Outer Ring Road Bridge – April 2, 2007

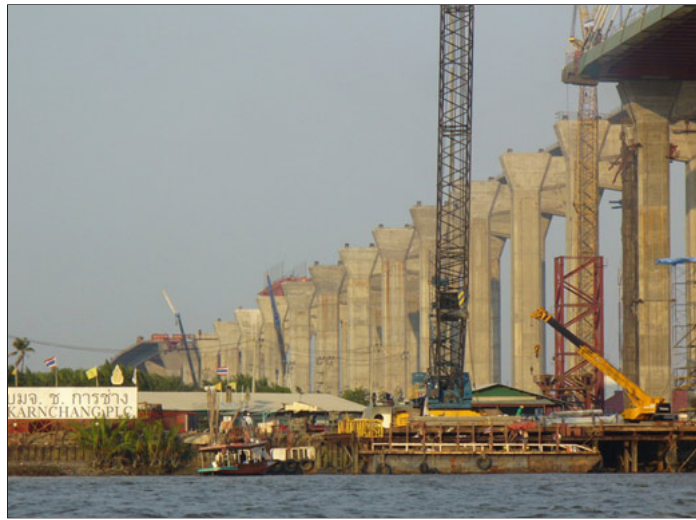
Jerry reports: ...*The east tower now has all the sections/cables assembled (21 each side). The western tower has 17 sections. As they have already removed the blue erection devices from the eastern tower, it seems they will not have a center/keystone section that is erected using all four blue machines as they did with the Mega Bridge. The approach road from the east seems complete now that allows vehicle access to the suspended section. I think it will be joined in the next week or so.*



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Barth)

New bridges –

September 19, 2006

Barth reports: *First of all I would like to thank you for your unique website, i've been an almost daily visitor for the last 4 years.*

You may find the attached picture interesting. I took it yesterday, and it shows the construction progress on the southern ring road bridge.

I went up to the 26th floor of the apartment building opposite the Queen

Sirikit exhibition center. If you look carefully, you can see the second "pillard" between 2 unfinished building.

Outer Ring Road Bridge –

March 2, 2006

This is [not the mega-bridge](#),

but another large bridge one kilometer further down the river. It will connect the almost deserted Southern Outer Ring Road to the other side of the river. The straight and smooth Southern Ring Road that now deadends at the river is notorious as a place for teenagers to race motorcycles.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)

Outer ring road bridge –
August 17, 2006

Jerry reports: *On the outer ring road bridge site, they have removed the tower crane from the eastern tower for some reason. But already some cables have been installed to support the newly erected access roadway on the land side of the tower.*

Not to be confused with the nearby [mega-bridge](#)

Youth upset by whisky ad

September 19, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Youth upset by whisky ad](#) – *The Nation*, September 19, 2006

...Despite the “Drink Don’t Drive” warning that accompanies the poster, the advertising was aimed at luring new drinkers, said the activist, who thought the visual impact of the Johnnie Walker sign was more powerful than the warning...

Uncyclopedia: Thaksin

September 19, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

Uncyclopedia: [Thaksin](#) –

September 19, 2006

Don reports: *Yes, the [Uncyclopedia article](#) is hilarious.*

After the coup: September 20 front pages

September 20, 2006

Categories: 2006 Coup

High tension in Thailand

[Latest coup news](#)

[2Bangkok.com main page](#)



Left: *Komchadluek*, September 20, 2006 – Revolution! Tank attack Ratchadamnoen Road – Thaksin tried to broadcast to declare a state of emergency



Right: *Matichon*, September 20, 2006 – 4 armies reform group overthrows ‘Thaksin’ – REVOLUTION – ‘Maew’ broadcasts on Channel 9 raising a state of emergency to back – The military attack to cut the signal off the air



Left: *Thairath*, September 20, 2006 – Reform group leads militaries to revolt

Right: *Manager*, September 20, 2006 – Revolt to save the national crisis



Left: Krungtepturakt, September 20, 2006 – Coup! Seize Thaksin's assets



Right: Matichon (extra edition) , September 20, 2006 – Have an audience with His Majesty the King. The reform group reports they are doing this for a peaceful nation – Cancel the constitution – Throws away the senate – Maew to settle down in the U.S.



Left: Thansettakit, September 20-23, 2006 – Revolution overthrows Thaksin

Right: Thai Post, September 20, 2006 – 3rd army group seizes absolute power



[Latest coup news](#)

Troops at The Nation building

September 20, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup

High tension in Thailand
[Latest coup news](#)
Back to the [High tension in Thailand page](#)
Back to the [2Bangkok.com main page](#)



(Photo: Don Entz)

Troops at *The Nation* building – September 20, 2006



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)



(Photo: Don Entz)

[Latest coup news](#)
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Tanks downtown

September 20, 2006

Categories: 2006 Coup

High tension in Thailand

[Latest coup news](#)

Back to the [High tension in Thailand page](#)

Back to the [2Bangkok.com main page](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Tank at the Royal Plaza

Almost like being there: Photos from downtown – 09:13, September 20, 2006



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Strange person near a checkpoint at Chitlada Palace



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Soldier cautions a motorcyclist to slow down



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The press swarms Sondhi's motorcade as it enters army headquarters. Locals gather around and cheer and clap for the soldiers.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Locals mill around the soldiers near the United Nations building



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

More tanks at the Royal Plaza



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Be careful of the car on left side. There are more accidents at this interjection. Be careful.

[Latest coup news](#)

Back to the [High
tension in Thailand page](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[Almost like being there: Photos from downtown](#) – 09:13, September 20, 2006

What a coup is like in Thailand – 05:41, September 20, 2006

A coup in Thailand does not mean that everything comes to a stop for an extended period. During Thai coups and even outright paralysis of top Thai governments organs in past decades, the Thai bureaucracy remained in place providing all basic government services through days and weeks of crisis. During this present incident mobile phone and internet connections were never offline (except for when some sites were overwhelmed by heavy traffic). International broadcast media was cut—most likely for fears that the tenacious Thaksin would attempt a speech that would then find its way back to his rural supporters on television.

Patriotic images of the King were used in conjunction with announcements from the new regime to show that its activities were not being made at the expense of royalty. Even the junta's name, "Committee for Democratic Reform under the Monarchy as Head of State," emphasizes this. Using royal imagery and the prompt audience with the King at midnight Tuesday is intended to pacify die-hard rural Thaksin supporters who might otherwise oppose the new order.

Bangkok covers a large area and most of the overt military activity is only happening in a small area that houses government offices far downtown near the old part of the city. In addition to this there is a military presence at broadcast media outlets around town and at key intersections in the city. Business and tourism areas such as Silom, Sathorn, and Sukhumvit should not see much disruption. While traffic last night was lighter than normal from our vantage point in northwestern Bangkok, there was a continuous flow of vehicles along Ratchadapeisek Road and the elevated expressway at Weepahwahdeerangsit Road as usual.

Much of the military's security activities now are aimed at making sure military units loyal to Thaksin do not try to cause trouble or create a provocative incident, as well as maintaining general law and order in a time of uncertain authority. In the past Thaksin has proved himself to be decisive and cunning in his political dealings far beyond what is expected for a traditional Thai politician. There will be concern that Thaksin will not give up easily if there is any way to strike back. As Thaksin allies are accounted for throughout the country, fears for confrontation should be diminished.

The Thai military has had a dismal record of governing after coups and this must certainly be making generals think twice before every move they make.

* There will be fears for the Thai economy if the Shin Corp buyout deal is halted or reversed and this could have severe consequences for the Thai baht valuation. How hard the military decides to go after Thaksin and his assets will be key.

* TRT contains the brightest and most ambitious of Thailand ruling classes including local strongmen and business tycoons. These people will be anxious to see how deeply the military sword will cut into TRT ranks in terms of arrests and investigations for profiteering. Who, if anyone, might be barred from future political life will also be watched closely.

The nature of the junta's plans should be known by midday Bangkok time as there is a meeting at 9:00am with university presidents, permanent secretaries of ministries, and other key government bureaucrats for an expected explanation of the military government's plans.

Holiday – 03:14, September 20, 2006

Government worker and bank holiday declared for today (September 20). The stock market will also be closed for a day.

Arrests? – 02:59, September 20, 2006

The [coup thread on the 2Bangkok forum](#) has many unsubstantiated reports from the Thai-language internet about progress on arresting figures "close to Thaksin."



TNA goes quiet – 02:56, September 20, 2006

While the rest of the internet was buzzing with news and rumors about the coup, the Thai News Agency (TNA), probably understandably, had nothing to say. Their top story in English remains "Thai PM sees need to conclude FTA with US."

[Thai govt spokesman says coup cannot succeed](#) – Reuters, September 20, 2006

... "Now we're in control," he said, adding it had not been decided when the prime minister would return home after addressing the U.N. body later on Tuesday...

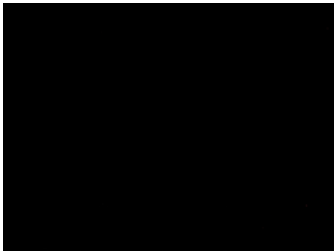
More on Thaksin's aborted state of emergency announcement

A series of screen grabs showing the end of Thaksin's attempt to declare a state

of emergency in Bangkok and recall the commander-in-chief of the army at about 22:20 on September 19, 2006.



Thaksin's state of emergency announcement...



was apparently cut off...



and after about 30 seconds replaced by an official announcement graphic.



Then a short return to commercials...



before the army spokesperson came on.

Troops arrive at CAT – 01:35, September 20, 2006

Sources say troops are at the Communications Authority of Thailand (CAT). This means the military can turn off mobile phones and the internet if necessary.

No PM: Fourth decree from the military being read on TV – 01:26, September 20, 2006

The fourth decree by the military has been read (right). It seems to say there will be no new PM. Power will be in the "leader of the reform" (Commander-in-Chief Sonthi). There will be no ministers. Their power will be in the deputy chief of each ministry (we believe this means the permanent minister). They stress it will still be a democracy under the King.



Update: from *The Nation*: [Months of rumours come true](#)

...But logistics did not go his way. Thaksin planned to have his message sent via satellite signal to Channel 9. But he was told that it could not be done technically. It would work out better if he spoke over the phone directly to the TV channel.

Thaksin decided to switch to Channel 11 to air his state of emergency declaration. But before he could do so, the military took over Channel 11. The editors and reporters were taken to another room.

All the other state-controlled TV stations, owned by the military, were ordered to stand by to air an important message.

But somehow Thaksin did not face a total blackout. He was allowed to air his state of emergency declaration on Channel 9, with a still photo of him accompanied by his live telephone speech.

Sources said the military confrontation could last until tomorrow while all the combat military personnel were summoned to station in their bases.

At the time of going to the press, nobody would dare predict the final outcome...

New Prime Minister? – 00:42, September 20, 2006

Some sources claim that Akkrathorn Juranat has been named Prime Minister. He is "chairperson of the Administrative Court."

Update – 00:41, September 20, 2006

The 1997 constitution has been cancelled by the military.

Update – 00:40, September 20, 2006

Cable operator UBC has cut their news channels, but other channels are still broadcasting.

Update – 00:40, September 20, 2006

From [The Nation](#):

Statement from the military reformist

The following is the statement from the military reformist.

There has been social division like never before. Each side has been trying to conquer another with all possible means and the situation tends to intensify with growing doubts on the administration amid widespread reported corruption.

State units and independent organisations have been politically meddled, not able to deliver their services as specified in the Constitution.

The administration is also usually bordering on "lest majest" actions against the revered King. Despite attempts from social units for compromises, there is no way to end the conflicts.

The revolution body thus needs to seize power. We have no intention to rule but to return the power to the people as soon as possible, to preserve peace and honour the King who is the most revered to all Thais.

Thaksin's state of emergency cancelled by the military – 00:24, September 20, 2006

New orders read in part: *The military is forbidden to move by order of Commander-in-Chief Sonthi, the leader of the reform.*

Links from the [forum](#) – 00:21, September 20, 2006
M60 tank at Government House

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790903.JPEG>

Tanks at Equestrian Plaza

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790904.JPEG>

Cavalry with yellow bands

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790905.JPEG>

Tank on Rajdamnoen Avenue

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790906.JPEG>

Another tank at Government House

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790907.JPEG>

RTA Men surrounding Government House

Image: <http://pics.manager.co.th/Images/549000013790908.JPEG>

Update – 00:14, September 20, 2006
Sources report that soldiers have taken control of the Nation Channel, but have left the newspaper alone.

Update – 00:07, September 20, 2006
We have more unconfirmed reports of media outlets being surrounded. No word on ISPs yet.

After the coup: September 21 front pages

September 21, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup

High tension in Thailand
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[2Bangkok.com main page](#)

September 21 front pages



Left:

Krungtepturakit, September 21, 2006 – 10 former minister to report to the authorities-
National bank predicts national economy will be strong after the coup



Right: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2006, page 2 – Historical pictures – Military overthrows Thaksin



Left: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2006 – Royalty is pleased for Sonthi as the leader of the Reform Council – Aim to seize the assets – Hands a sword Jaruvan to thrust at ministers – Orders Newin-Yongyuth to report

Right: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2006, page 2 – BMW painted with "Gen. Sonthi – A hero of Thai people."

The ruling CDRM today specifically referred to this photo as one the local press should not print because it encourages division in society.



Left: *Manager*, September 21, 2006, evening edition, page 2 – Thai history during the revolution

Right: *Manager*, September 21, 2006, evening edition – Royalty is pleased for Sonthi as the leader of the Reform Council – Speed to draft constitution and choose a P.M.

Bottom left: No tension – Seizing power this time is bloodless making the children have a chance to climb a Humvie and they do not have to wait for children's day



Left: *Matichon*, September 21, 2006 – Royalty is pleased for Sonthi as the leader of the Reform Council – 1 year for draft a constitution – 2 weeks to have a PM

Right: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2006 – Monk and soldier



Left: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2006 – Tank on the road to Suwannaphumi Airport



Right: *Thairath*, September 21, 2006 – Gen. Sonthi repeats cheating lead to the coup

[Latest coup news](#)

After the coup: September 21 news

September 21, 2006

Categories: 2006 Coup

High tension in Thailand: Thaksin government overthrown in coup

[2Bangkok.com main page](#)

[September coup main page](#)

September 21 news

[September 21 newspaper front pages](#)



(Photo: Don Entz)

[Troops at The Nation building](#) – September 20, 2006

Strange articles about the coup

[Thailand's king reverts to the bad old days](#) – *Telegraph*, September 21, 2006

...That is a reversion to a bad old pattern in Thai history, and one that shamefully makes the country, along with Burma, an odd-man-out among the Association of South-East Asian Nations...

[Thailand: All the king's men](#) – *Asia Times*, September 21, 2006

...The mainstream media have widely misinterpreted the potent but peaceful protests as being galvanized by the Thaksin family's controversial US\$1.9 billion tax-free sale of its 49% holdings in the Shin Corporation to Singapore's Temasek Holdings. To the contrary, the protests, which were later co-opted by various special-interest groups aligned against the government, were first galvanized and primarily sustained by the explosive claims first made by firebrand media mogul Sondhi Limthongkul that Thaksin was on particular occasions disloyal to the throne...

[Thailand: Coup Threatens Human Rights](#) – *Human Rights Review*, September 19, 2006

[Uganda: VP Still Trapped in Thailand](#) – *The Monitor (Kampala)*, September 21, 2006

...The coup plotters captured a palace where Bukenya had been hosted to dinner by the captured Thai deputy Premier General Chidchai Vanasatidya on Monday. The Director of the Media Centre, Mr Robert Kabushenga said, "The Vice President and Energy State Minister Simon D'ujanga were secured by the military and there is no reason to worry about them..."

More coup articles from the international press

[Thai-Singapore axis set to unravel](#) – *FT*, September 20, 2006

Singapore could suffer the most among countries in the region from the military coup against Thaksin Shinawatra, the Thai prime minister, who forged close ties with the city-state and sold his telecommunications group to Singapore's state-investment company...

[Thai coup uproots a thin democracy](#) – *Christian Science Monitor*, September 20, 2006

A bloodless coup in Thailand has upended the country's fragile democracy, to the delight of many middle-class activists who had campaigned for months for the removal of Thaksin Shinawatra, the populist prime minister. But the manner of his removal by Army officers loyal to the Thai monarch exposes the shallow roots of the democratic institutions that grew in the shadow of past

military regimes...

[Thai Kids Climb on Tanks Following Military's Bloodless Coup](#) – Bloomberg, September 20, 2006

Thai troops adorned machine guns and tanks with yellow ribbons. In Bangkok, crowds turned out to thank their soldiers for completing an overnight coup without bloodshed...

Notable articles from the *Bangkok Post*, September 21, 2006

[Police, bomb plot file vanish](#)

... At least 30 plainclothes police loyal to deputy police chief Pol Gen Priewphan Damapong _ brother of ousted prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's wife Khunying Potjaman _ were seen loading assault weapons from the CSD onto nearly 10 vehicles, which then sped off to an undisclosed destination.

Also, 10 investigation files on the alleged car bomb plot against Mr Thaksin were packed into deputy superintendent Pol Lt-Col Panya Pinsuk's vehicle, which left the CSD around 9.30pm...

[King endorses CDR](#)

Statement seen as evidence situation is under control / Gen Sonthi pledges speedy return of a civilian govt / Central bank chief tipped strongly to be interim PM

[Southerners welcome coup](#)

The majority of people and religious leaders in the lower South are confident that the coup will ease the political pressure valve and ease the insurgency. Abdulrosak Ali, chairman of the Islamic committee in Narathiwat, said yesterday that efforts to restore peace in the southern border provinces should be more united. Previously, anti-insurgent policies were ineffective because security forces, especially soldiers, were reluctant to carry them out as there had been too many orders from different agencies...

[Newin and Yongyuth top the 'wanted list'](#)

... Mr Newin, who is in Singapore with former public health minister Phinij Jarusombat and former deputy agriculture minister Adisorn Piengkes, is wanted for his role in creating the pro-government media to counter the moves of pro-democracy demonstrators, as well as directing criticism at those with different political stances.

He was believed to have ordered TV Channel 9 to air Mr Thaksin's announcement of a state of emergency on Tuesday night, shortly before military forces under coup leader Gen Sonthi Boonyaratkalin took control of the television station.

Mr Yongyuth is accused of mobilising forest rangers to confront pro-democracy demonstrators who were to rally yesterday with the People's Alliance for Democracy at the Royal Plaza...

[Council wants clamps on information, media](#)

...However, a source at the ICT Ministry said that so far it had not blocked any website known to support the former regime, adding that some had already shut themselves down temporarily.

[Airport's opening still on for next Thursday](#)

[Thaksin's out, so will peace come to South?](#)

... If we don't want bomb blasts to reach Bangkok, we must seriously think not only of political decentralisation, but also what it takes for peace to be possible in a pluralistic nation. It takes mutual respect and willingness to learn about other beliefs and histories. It takes a new definition of nationhood that is not tied to ethnicity and religion. It takes the courage to apologise, make amends and start anew. It takes an ability to forgive.

All this does not require a talk with separatist movements. It requires a serious talk with ourselves.

We are now free of Mr Thaksin, but peace in the deep South won't come about unless we free ourselves of Mr Thaksin's mindset that fosters violence.

[Troops block Shin I, III towers](#)

Hundreds of troops have surrounded companies once related to the Shinawatra family following Tuesday's coup...

[2Bangkok.com main page](#)

After the coup: September 22 Front Pages

September 22, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup



Left:
Kruntepturakit, September 22, 2006

Akkarton-P.M – Pridiyathon-Finance

Order to move the four big khaki network of Thaksin

Left middle: Jaravan checks CTX for the first issue

Right: *Krungtep Turakit*, September 22, 2006

Give Thailand back



Left: *Toonakarn, Manager*, September 22, 2006

Jaravan says "Go to Revenue Department!"

At the bottom: Khunying with a new power

Right: Cartoon Karmin by K'min – *Manager*, September 22, 2006

- Panel 1: C-I-C declared there will be no revolution?
Panel 2: Who said it is a revolution?
Panel 3: And what is this?
Panel 4: Oh... It is called reform!



Left: *Manager*, September 22, 2006

Revealed: "General" to obstruct Maew's assets

Jaruwan cleans the corruption – "Glass rose" seems down on it's luck



Right: Komchadluek, September 22, 2006



Sonthi "washes" – Move four police close to Thaksin



Left: Matichon, September 22, 2006

Setting up a dream team for the National Counter Corruption Commission to contend against corruption of 17 politicians

Right: Manager, September 22, 2006

Lively newspaper selling: sales rise during the reform – People read news of the overthrow of Thaksin – SMM will launch a pictures collection (of the event)



Left: Thairath, September 22, 2006

Akkaron comes to be a favorite for PM – One more week to set up the cabinet

Thaksin resigned to his fate – Declare to have a long rest



Thaksin Government Overthrown in Coup – September 22, 2006

September 22, 2006

Categories: 2006 Coup



[19sep.org shut down](#) – *The Nation*, September 22, 2006

Earlier: [Anti-coup website](#) – September 22, 2006

[Thaksins' wife, children stay at Chansonglah](#) – *The Nation*, September 22, 2006

[They didn't need another coup](#) – *International Herald Tribune*, September 21, 2006

...But now Thailand, until this week a beacon, has thrown it all away – it, too, is now just a military regime with no more moral authority than the rest of them. The Burmese generals must be laughing up their sleeves...

[Business as usual in Bangkok's red light district](#) – *Khaleej Times*, September 21, 2006

...“I was up to 3:00 am looking for lots of fornication with women and I didn't see any soldiers,” said English tourist Barney Humble, recalling that images of the coup had flashed up on television screens in the bars.

“It was exaggerated on the telly,” he added, sipping a beer under the watchful eye of two scantily-clad bar girls the following evening...

[Democracy is dead, but Bangkok's 24-hour party people still live](#) – *Independent*, September 22, 2006

...British tourists burnt red by the Thai sun wandered happily down the street. A Thai woman erupting out of a tight leopardskin minidress swayed into their path. The neon signs were so bright it was almost day. A stand was selling “Legalise cannabis” T-shirts, and it wouldn't have been difficult to get the real thing.

...Several Thai websites have shut down temporarily to avoid any repercussions. In effect, it is now illegal to report the truth...

[Chinese travel agencies suspend routes to Thailand, but remain](#) – *People's Daily Online*, September 22, 2006

Chinese travel agencies have suspended travel to Thailand following the military coup, but are optimistic that there will be no long-term negative impact...

[People in the News: 'Bangkok Dangerous' goes live](#) – *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, September 22, 2006

...Thailand's military coup this week interrupted filming of Nicolas Cage's new movie, a gangster thriller being shot in Bangkok...

['Bangkok Dangerous' isn't](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 21, 2006

The military coup has interrupted filming of Nicolas Cage's new movie, Bangkok Dangerous, the gangster thriller being shot in Bangkok, according to a foreign...

[Nicolas Cage to leave Thailand after coup](#) – *CTV.ca*, September 21, 2006

This week's military coup in Thailand has interrupted filming of Nicolas Cage's latest movie. A Chinese news...

[Bangkok is not dangerous for Cage](#) – *The Nation*, September 22, 2006

Oscar winner Nicolas Cage is still filming his new movie in Bangkok despite the military coup in Thailand, a film crew said on Friday...



(Photo: Don)

More photos of troops at *The Nation* building – September 21, 2006



(Photo: Don)



(Photo: Don)



(Photo: Don)



(Photo: Don)

www.bumrungraddeath.com

September 22, 2006
Categories: Health

www.bumrungraddeath.com –
September 22, 2006
www.bumrungraddeath.com and a [press release](#)

Saturday morning at the Royal Plaza: Tanks, families, and Scientologists

September 23, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Saturday morning at the Royal Plaza: Tanks, families, and Scientologists – September 23, 2006

Military vehicles on the street are gone now. Soldiers are now wearing berets instead of helmets. Eight tanks are lined up at the Royal Plaza to give locals and tourists a chance to get their photos taken. There is a carnival atmosphere with entire families arriving in yellow shirts (yellow is the color of The King) to greet the soldiers and take photos. Foreign photographers are swarming the area as well taking photos of this fascinating tableau. About a dozen Scientologists in red shirts are distributing Scientology brochures to the crowd (below).



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The Coup – September 23 news

September 23, 2006
Categories: 2006 Coup

[September coup main page](#)

How many anti-coup protesters?

[Rally draws 20 anti-coup protesters](#) – Bangkok Post, September 23, 2006

[Ten academic protest against coup](#) – The Nation, September 22, 2006

[Protesters gather to denounce Thai coup](#) – AP, September 22, 2006

More than 100 protesters Friday defied a ban on public gatherings and denounced the military overthrow of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra...

[Call us in full – CDRM](#) – The Nation, September 21, 2006

...Members of the public are invited to visit and verify information at the CDRM's website, which can be accessed through WWW.Ict.go.th, run by the Information and Communication Technology Ministry, he said.



Above: Thai Rath, September 23, 2006
Caption reads: This atmosphere is only at one place in the world.

Right: Daily News, September 24, 2006

9 (new) NCC members to quell corruption – Cancel the police commission – Target to demolish 25 "big" persons



Left: Krungtep Turakit, September 22-28

Ending the network of Thaksin



Above: Toon'akarn by Karmin, *Manager*, September 23, 2006

Left panel: If Thailand has an election that is run by the U.N., I believe that Thai Rak Thai will be back in government again.

Right panel: Thaksin is not my son!



Above: Cartoon by Chai Ratchawat, *Thairath*, September 23, 2006

Left panel: Thaksinnnnnn...

Right panel: Get out!

The end of "Thaksinocrazy" – translated and summarized from *Phujatkan*, September 21, 2006

A military coup d'état was successfully staged by the Council for Democratic Reform under a Constitutional Monarchy (CDRM) on September 19, under the leadership of General Sonthi Boonyaratkalin (the Royal Thai Army Commander-in-Chief). We, at the *Phujatkan*, are delighted by the swift termination of the Thaksin government after its long reign of corruption and cronyism.

Actually, at this stage, we consider it reward enough to be rid of Thaksin's "Evil Network."

However, the CDRM should be aware that this network could easily return and extract its revenge any time. But for the time being, we are glad to know that the CDRM has seen through the intrigues of both "Mr. Fridge" (AKA Yongyuth Tiypairat) and "Mr. Flabby" (AKA Newin Chidchob) who have jointly gathered secret militias over one million strong to fight the CDRM. These two individuals are currently in CDRM custody.

Here are some important post-coup missions that need to be urgently addressed by the CDRM:

(1) To repay a favor to His Majesty the King by undertaking all the projects that the former government failed to complete under his royal stewardship.

(1.1) To restore peace to the Nation with especial emphasis on solving the southern insurgency.

(1.2) To ensure the fairness of any upcoming election and to clean out corruption and vote buying from the roots of the electoral system.

(2) To repay a favor to the Nation, the CDRM must conduct a serious investigation into corruption cases linked to the former government in order to fully redeem the balance of the National Treasury as soon as possible.

(3) To repay a favor to the general public after letting it suffer alone for so long under "Thaksinocrazy," the CDRM must strictly ensure that Thailand's public never again witnesses the return of any form of "Thaksinocrazy." This is entirely necessary for the long-term security of the Nation, the Religion, and the Monarchy.

[Extremely patronizing advice from a farang](#) –

YouTube, September 25, 2006

"...democracy isn't easy but you should give it a chance..."

He advises people peacefully protest instead.

[Texas start for ousted Thai leader](#) – *Houston Chronicle*, September 22, 2006

...While going to school, he worked at a Burger King and got up every morning at 3 a.m. for a *Houston Chronicle* route...

[Coups puts Thailand's dream of world role on ice](#) – *Reuters*, September 24, 2006

Thailand's military coup puts paid, for the time being at least, to the country's ambitions under Thaksin Shinawatra to play a more assertive role on the regional and international stage.

Surfing the wave of confidence that came with swift economic recovery from the 1997 Asian crisis, Thaksin never missed a chance to fly the flag, from sending troops to Iraq, to hosting world leaders' summits, to pushing for a Thai to succeed Kofi Annan at the United Nations...

"In the past, Thailand took a very low profile, wanted to be in the middle of the pack. But in Thaksin, you had an energetic, ambitious guy who had an energetic, ambitious vision for Thailand on the southeast Asian and world stage," said one Bangkok-based diplomat...

The coup: September 24-October 9 news

September 24, 2006

Categories: 2006 Coup

Understanding foreigners' ignorance – translated and summarized from *Phujatkan*, October 2, 2006

This columnist wishes to explain why foreigners do not understand Thailand's situation in the aftermath of the Council of Democratic Reform (CDR) seizing power from the Thaksin government. Many foreigners currently have a negative image of Thailand.

To help people understand foreigners' point of view, this columnist has provided excerpts from statements included in the Interim Constitution that was recently endorsed by H.M The King.

These statements explained why the CDR was forced to seize power from the caretaker government. Most Thai people probably understand the reason for the CDR action, but it is obvious that most Western people do not.

Foreigners will usually consider any situation with a "check list" approach. This usually leads them to create a list to prove whether a situation is right or wrong. It is now clear that this is exactly the approach that many foreigners have used to consider Thailand's current situation. The factors in such a list might be as follows:

1. Has the government been mandated by an election?
2. Is there a constitution?
3. Is the media openly discussing the issue?
4. Is Thailand being controlled by the rule of law? OR
5. Is it currently a state with a firm legal basis?

From this point of view, foreigners believe that the Thaksin government constituted a more democratic government than the current junta and that its financial clout was preferable to the strength of the junta's weaponry.

If foreigners knew more about Thailand, they would see that the Thaksin government had completely taken over the country and destroyed its legal processes. In comparison, the military coup is seen by many here as nothing more than an attempt to seize power back from the Thaksin government.

Prime Minister Gen. Surayud Chulanont's interim government should try to prove to the world that the country's situation is better than when it was ruled by the Thaksin government.



[Surayud Cabinet appointed by royal command](#) – *The Nation*, October 9, 2006

Editorial cartoons

Cartoon: 'Son', *Matichon*, October 9, 2006

Oorr... presents himself to help quell corruption and then help on conciliation, uncle P.M.



Krungtep Turakit, October 9, 2006

P.S. The new cabinet should please help follow the policy...

The new PM says to the lady... Check bill this table also, Khun Ying.

At the bottom it says, "war with corruption"

Yet another junta header – October 9, 2006

Yet another header for the junta website. Apparently when the new government was appointed the job of "Democratic Reform" moves to the government and the military reverts to "National Security." And what other [coup website](#) has embedded music?



Above: October 8 – Newest header from the [new website](#)



Above: September 28 – New header from the [new website](#)



Above: September 24 – Header from the [original junta website](#)



Editorial cartoon

From *Matichon*, Kaolao Chamlek, October 6, 2006

30th anniversary of October 6

On the grave it reads "Born – Died October 6, 1976"

First panel: Dead body says "What is going on the human world?"

Second panel: The dead body on the right says "People admire the military."

The dead body on the left says: Because they are professional and they are acting properly?

Third panel: No, they come out to make a revolution they have become so popular!



From *Poojadkuan*, October 6, 2006

Titanic, Junsongla version

The headline reads "Jack left Rose to die lonely on the boat."

Earlier [Poojadkuan columns](#)



From *Krungtepturakit*, October 6, 2006

On the sword it reads "Power from the seizing of power."

At the bottom it reads "Must use with adequate way."

[Smiles Give Way to Doubts in Coupland](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 6, 2006

[Regional ripples from coup in Thailand](#) – *Asia Security Monitor*, October 5, 2006

September 20: The sudden, bloodless coup that deposed Thailand's popularly elected Prime Minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, is reverberating throughout the region. Indonesia, South Korea and Taiwan have each issued mild travel warnings, Indonesia's Kompas Cyber Media, South Korea's Yonhap news agency and Taiwan's Central News Agency report. Corporations, meanwhile, have taken a stronger stance; the Kyodo news service reports that Japanese carmakers Nissan, Toyota and

Honda temporarily suspended production in Thailand, and Japanese companies such as Hitachi, Sony and NEC have similarly temporarily suspended their output or sales operations.

[Why does Thailand have all the Luck? – The Smirking Chimp](#), October 4, 2006

Thanks to Lara for pointing this out.

[Maoist rebels warn of Thai-like military coup – Press Trust of India](#), October 5, 2006

The Maoists have warned of a Thai-like military coup in Nepal if the government kept up its insistence on managing the arms of the rebels before taking into account the weapons of the army...

[OCTOBER 6, 1976 – ‘Hard to remember, yet difficult to forget’ – The Nation](#), October 6, 2006

[Thai coup leaders exposed of their political duplicity – Asian Tribune](#), October 4, 2006

Asian Human Rights Commission based in Hong Kong has come up with a scathing attack on the Thai coup leader General Sonthi Boonyaratglin for his deceptive statement about the political role of the "Plot's Ring Leaders..."

[Former executives seem resigned to the inevitable – The Nation](#), October 5, 2006

...He said what Thaksin was currently experiencing was an example of the law of Karma.

"I'm a Buddhist and I believe in the rule of Karma. You will receive the same as you have done," he said...

[Thailand has its ‘Hitlers’ – The Nation](#), October 5, 2006

Privy Council president General Prem Tinsulanonda yesterday said Thailand has people like Hitler who were greedy and made people fight but the guardian spirit always protected the country.

"The country is sacred. Whoever thinks only to take the country's interests into their own possession or for their own groups – will end in their own downfall. Phra Sayam Thewathirat always protects the country and curses those who are evil to suffer for the rest of their lives," he said...

[Fanatical followers lament party's likely fate – The Nation](#), October 5, 2006

... "Thai Rak Thai and Thaksin made me interested in politics but now they are disappearing," she said, adding no party would ever be in her heart again.

...She applied to become a member of a political party for the first time, and signed up with Thai Rak Thai with its convincing new initiatives. "If the party is dissolved, I will keep my Thai Rak Thai membership card to remind me that this party gave me hope in Thai politics," she added.

... "Now we have to restart, but Thailand will never get as close to challenging the world again as Thaksin and Thai Rak Thai did during five years in power," he said.

[‘Coup chic’ hits Bangkok – The Age](#),

October 5, 2006

Thanks to Danny for pointing this out.



Editorial cartoon

From *Manager*, October 2, 2006 by Kamin

Panel 1: CDRM has to clear when they will remove the military forces.

Panel 2: You are saying CDRM will lie and hold on to power?

Panel 3: No.

Panel 4: People who have not taken a photo with the tanks will plan to take a photo the last day before the military moves the tanks (they know when).



Editorial cartoon

From *Thairath*, October 2, 2006 by Chai Ratchawat: The motor show has not ended.

[Apology to Rama V – The Nation](#), October 3, 2006

...Sonthi offered an apology to the late monarch, who founded Chula-chomklao Royal Military Academy from which Sonthi graduated, if the coup had "irritated" him, and asked for his protection.

TRT melting away – October 3, 2006

[Sonthaya leads 20 members out of Thai Rak Thai](#)

[Somsak leads 100 members to resign from Thai Rak Thai](#)

[Suranand leaves Thai Rak Thai](#)

[Surakiart resigns from Thai Rak Thai Party](#)

[The persistent myth of the 'good' coup](#) – *The Nation*, October 2, 2006
Latest from Chang Noi...

[Gen Surayud Chulanont: Loved and Hated in Burma](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 2, 2006

...The hawkish Watanachai was by no means popular with the Burmese generals, particularly when he and other Thais talked openly about the regime's failure to stem the flow of drugs into Thailand. Once, Watanachai was on record as saying that "everyone knows who's involved in Burma's burgeoning narcotics industry..."

[A Siamese tragedy: the collapse of democracy in Thailand](#) – INQ7, September 30, 2006

Lt. Gen. Saprang discloses coup d'état had been in preparation for eight months – Staged for the sake of the nation – translated and summarized from *Komchadluek*, September 23, 2006

On September 22 at 9:00 am at the Somdej Phra Naresuan Maharat Army Camp in Phitsanulok Province's City District, Lieutenant-General Saprang Kalayanamitr (the Third Army Region Commander) met with representatives of the province's various public relations departments and members of the press corps from all over the seven provinces of Northern Thailand. The conference was called to announce the policies of the coup-leading Council for Democratic Reform under Constitutional Monarchy (CDRM) and to discuss the impact of those policies on the northern provinces.

Lieutenant General Saprang announced that the CDRM had taken administrative control of the nation in order to reestablish the harmony of its people. He called on all media-based agencies and companies to cooperate with the CDRM in presenting the truth behind the coup to people in a constructive manner. He also called on all local radio stations to temporarily cease broadcasting programs as it was known that some radio programs were providing distorted news to their audiences. Saprang also informed conference participants that he personally had been trying to send a message to some government officials and politicians for some months that their actions were threatening the nation's stability. He regretted the fact that none of the people he had warned had shown any intention of reforming themselves.

Saprang admitted that the coup d'état had been in preparation for seven to eight months since the point at which current CDRM members had first realized that the nation was in crisis as a result of its being led by tyrants.

[SONTHI: SURAYUD TO BE PM](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 1, 2006

Former army commander and Privy Council member Gen Surayud Chulanont has agreed to be Thailand's interim, post-coup prime minister as expected. Coup leader and current army commander Gen Sonthi Boonyaratkalin confirmed the appointment this afternoon.

Gen Sonthi told reporters that he approached Gen Surayud personally.

"On the 28th (of September) I went to his house and spent half an hour convincing him to take the job while the country is in crisis. He has agreed to take it."

A ceremony to swear in Surayud was scheduled for 4.45 pm Thailand time, 0945 GMT.

PM to be officially announced

We have enjoyed *The Nation's* daily headlines each time declaring a different PM candidate...

Earlier: [Retired general picked as Thai new PM as US cuts off military aid](#) – AFP, September 29, 2006

... "General Surayud is the most suitable for the job, given his qualification and his seniority," she said, according to Radio Thailand, which is run by the government's public relations department...

Earlier: [Supachai 'to discuss terms' for PM's post](#) – *The Nation*, September 26, 2006

Earlier: [Charnchai ahead in race to be interim premier](#) – *The Nation*, September 24, 2006

Earlier: [Supachai approached for interim PM's post](#) – *The Nation*, September 22, 2006

Earlier: [Sonthi: Civilian govt in 2 weeks](#) – *The Nation*, September 21, 2006
Pridiyathorn, Administrative Court chief Ackaratorn tipped as candidates for PM...

And a couple from the *Post*:

[Chatumongol tipped as PM](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 23, 2006

[Surayud leads nominees for PM](#) – *Bangkok Post*, September 27, 2006



Above: Header from the [original junta website](#)



Above: New header from the [new website](#)

Junta changes its name in English – September 28, 2006

[CDRM now calls itself as CDR](#) – *The Nation*, September 27, 2006

...The Council for Democratic Reform under Constitutional Monarchy will now be known as the Council for Democratic Reform, or CDR, the military junta said in a clarification on its website.

It said the previous English title "had led to misunderstanding and false interpretation in some countries and for some foreign media on the role of the monarchy"...

[Car-bomb suspects get bail](#) – *The Nation*, September 29, 2006

[When a coup is not exactly a coup](#) – AsiaMedia, September 27, 2006



[The auspicious number nine versus ET](#) – *The Nation*, September 27, 2006

General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, the Army chief, led a successful coup to topple the Thaksin government. His destiny hinged heavily on the auspicious number nine. The coup occurred on September (the ninth month of the year) 19, in the year 2549. It was the number nine all the way...

Earlier mentions of ET are [here](#).



More coup comedy

Left: *Poojadkuan*, September 27, 2006

Or takes Oak and Ung-ing to take pictures with tanks before flying to London.

Earlier [Poojadkuan columns](#)

Right: *Krungtep Turakit*, September 27, 2006

Auditor's office – Corruption case cleaned by Khunying Jaruvan



Right: *Daily News*, September 24, 2006

Looking back on Thaksin's fortune – "Power is seized" is his first crisis – Wondering if the next crisis will be next year or the year after?

[TRT and Dhammakaya Temple – perfect match](#) – *The Nation*, September 27, 2006

...The former abbot of Phra Dhammakaya Temple was the first one to initiate contact with members of Thai Rak Thai. It was decided that the Thai Rak Thai Party would have Dhammakaya's backing. Thai Rak Thai representatives were given the opportunity to speak to the temple's followers, who were urged to cast their votes for the party, as it would naturally be beneficial for their master and temple.

According to the law of karma as promoted by the temple, Thaksin Shinawatra was hailed as the ideal lay Buddhist, who had been blessed by the merit of his past lives and was endowed with a great many virtues. The temple played a song praising Thaksin composed by the Phra Dhammajayo himself on its Dow Tham satellite television channel – broadcasting 24 hours a day. However, the gathering clouds of controversies and criminal investigations surrounding him prevented Thaksin from visiting the temple. Nevertheless, senior Thai Rak Thai leaders, such as Sudarat Keyuraphan and Suriya Jungrungreangkit, began regularly attending the monastery...

[Clown Eckie](#) – September 27, 2006

Introducing the Only British Professional Clown in Thailand!

Front Page News...Thai Rath Newspaper 24th September 2006 – Clown Eckie Entertains the Troops during the September Coup in Bangkok!

[Credit FAQ sheds light on CreditWatch action on Bangkok Bank](#) – Moneycontrol.com, September 26, 2006

... "Because of extraordinary government support being incorporated into Bangkok Bank's ratings, they are at the same level as the foreign currency sovereign rating ('BBB+/A-2'). Consequently, any possible negative impact on the ratings of the sovereign, will naturally affect the ratings on Bangkok Bank" ...

[Royalty and revolution: The absolute monarch](#) – The Independent, September 25, 2006



Editorial cartoons

Manager, September 26, 2006

Panel 1: People demand the military to continue to stay. They do not want them to leave.

Panel 2: They may not be confident the situation and afraid of Thaksin coming back.

Panel 3: No.

Panel 4: Many people have not had their photo taken with the tanks yet.



Krungtepturakit, September 26, 2006

The man says:

Khunying, pull them out. I will cut it.

At the bottom it says: War with corruption.

[Madame Ho's Temasek still in the firing line after Thai coup](#) – SMH, September 25, 2006

...At 54, Ho is no Singapore Girl. Dour and grim, with a penchant for unflattering grey business suits, she's been Temasek's unsmiling CEO since 2001, presenting as an untouchable corporate dominatrix protected by the formidable Lee family edifice.

The Lees, as compliant Singaporeans famously know, don't make mistakes. Any questioning of their methods – as bankrupted opposition politicians and the foreign press have frequently discovered – hazard libel suits heard in Singapore's courts, where the Lees' history of success is unparalleled...



[Superheroes too much for Thai army](#) – Reuters, September 28, 2006

Police in the Thai capital detained four actors dressed as Japanese superheroes on Thursday for defying a decree from Thailand's new military rulers banning commercial promotions in front of tanks...

Clockwise from top left: *Kom Chad Leuk*, September 30, *Khao Sod*, September 29, *Daily News*, September 29

More coup craziness

From *The Nation*, September 28, 2006: A police officer tries to stop [a group of men dressed in Japanese superhero costume](#) from performing a public relation stunt in front of tanks and soldiers guarding the Royal Plaza on Thursday. Soldiers and tanks become tourist attraction but the military tried not to let the trend go overboard.



Today's Poojadkuan – Poojadkuan, September 28, 2006
 After the mission of restoring the Nation, CDR will aim to go into the wedding business.
 Earlier [Poojadkuan columns](#)

[Tanks for the memories...](#) – Reuters, September 27, 2006
 ... "People should differentiate between entertainment and seriousness. A coup is not entertaining," Acra said, although the tanks sent in to lead Thailand's first coup in 15 years had turned Bangkok into a carnival-type attraction...

[Thaksin's image removed](#) – The Nation, September 28, 2006
 The Council for Democratic Reform (CDR) is expected to erase the name of ousted prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra from Thai politics – even from his mailbox at his official residence at Baan Phitsanulok...

Editorial cartoon
 Name of column: Dog watches house – Daily News, September 24, 2006
 Abbreviation: Very fine. Don't worry.

Tank: It is the first time that those who seize power do not want to administer the country. People are pleased with military – Gun and rose



- Thaksin's face and swastika: Overconfident power regime
- Man holding down a wailing man: The reasons that power is seized is because Thaksin thinks that he can possess people.
- Two men with a money bag: Because the government is widely corrupt.
- Giant hand holding a man: Because the government sanctions the independence organizations and made them so they cannot be independent.
- Last one: Mr. Chuan says, "Be careful that you will have no land to stay in, Maew."
- And the dog says, "The end of Mr. square face."

[BBC criticised for cutting Thai broadcasts](#) – Daily Telegraph, September 24, 2006
 The BBC came under fire yesterday for closing the Thai language arm of the World Service months before the military seized control of Thailand, in the belief that the country's democracy was thriving and its media were more free than most in the region...

[Opinions: U.S. should take democracy lessons from Thailand](#) – asuwebdevil.com, September 25, 2006

[Coups offers best hope for Thai democracy](#) – Times, September 25, 2006

A Banned Book Challenges Saintly Image of Thai King

September 25, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[A Banned Book Challenges Saintly Image of Thai King](#) – *NYT*, September 25, 2006

Dara Daily – Big Ass

September 26, 2006

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



Dara Daily –

September 26, 2006

John writes: I was shopping at 7/11 when I noticed my wife perusing the cover of Thai showbiz mag (left). I just about fell on the floor when I saw the English-language caption on superimposed on an unflattering photo of Tata Young. The Thai captions are almost as amusing.

TrafficBKK.com

September 26, 2006

Categories: Security

TrafficBKK.com –

September 26, 2006

[Map](#) and [cameras](#) (but the cameras do not seem to be online).

“Two songs heard on FM 107 during peak hours”

September 26, 2006

Categories: Music

Gigabyte reports: *Don't know if you listen to the radio or if you're even aware, but FM 107 which used to play almost decent music (mostly yucky 80's but also good old 70's, 60's and even 50's classics) went through a major change lately... They are now the 'New FM 107 by MCOT'.*

As a result they got rid of all the DJ's (which most of them sucked anyway) and they're playing contemporary International hits.

*That's the music that I listen to when I drive my daughter to school in the morning and back home in the afternoon; their contemporary hits are uncensored at all and include (but certainly not limited to) some hits such as ["Shake that" by Eminem](#) and ["F**k It \(I Don't Want You Back\)" by Eamon](#).*

It's quite surprising that this can be played uncensored on public airwaves here! A movie recently almost got its 10-minute finale cut by something much less than that...

Airport ready to open

September 27, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines

Airport ready to open – September 27, 2006
Bangkok Airport news > BangkokAirport.info



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)



(Photo: Jerry)

Bangkok Airport news >
BangkokAirport.info

“Labia Lift”

September 27, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

LABIA LIFT
ตัดแต่งจุดซ่อนเร้น

จุดซ่อนเร้นของคุณกำลังมีปัญหา หรือไม่ควรซ่อนอีกต่อไป !

- ปัญหาความอึดอัด
- จุดซ่อนเร้นของคุณมีกลิ่นไม่พึงประสงค์
- ปัญหาการติดเชื้อ

คุณยุยสุติ-บรีเวธ S.W. ยีนฮัส

การปรึกษา	6,000 บาท
ตัดแต่งเนื้อเยื่อ	6,000 บาท
ตัดแต่งเนื้อเยื่อแบบ Laser	8,000 บาท
การเย็บ	6,000 บาท
การเย็บแบบพิเศษ	22,000 บาท
การเย็บแบบพิเศษ (สำหรับ 4 คน)	27,000 บาท

คุณยุยสุติ-บรีเวธ S.W. ยีนฮัส
โรงพยาบาลเพื่อสุขภาพและความงาม
สีลมวอย สีลมวอย สีลมวอย

โทร. 0-2879-0300
www.yoythas.co.th
e-mail: info@yoythas.co.th

"Labia Lift" – September 27, 2006

Odd ad... Thanks to Greg for sending it in.

First day at the new airport

September 28, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines

First day at the new airport – September 28, 2006

Bangkok Airport news > BangkokAirport.info



(Photo: Jerry)

Jerry reports:

Just some comments and pictures of 28th. Overall, it's great and the problems can be fixed. Delaying the opening would have been a pointless waste of time in my opinion. Most problems would have arisen at any time it was opened.

The departure area and operation is world-class (before immigration). The space is fine and area for drop-off vehicles terrific (will be even better when not congested by TV vehicles). I was with a departing passenger leaving on Singapore Air flight leaving at 2:35 pm. The checking-in was very fast and uncongested and signs adequate. The flight left 20 minutes late but arrived in Singapore on time. Many people to assist first-time (almost everyone!) visitors.

After immigration, the area seems to be designed by King Power...or at least for their benefit. Long walks (past King Power outlets) and few signs (except for King Power) and few moving walkways.

Very few eating places open and very crowded. The original Magic food court that had been open during the late construction process was bursting at the seams.



(Photo: Jerry)

The domestic arrival door A area was open and relatively clear allowing emerging passengers opportunity to easily find people meeting them.

The big problem that will be difficult to solve in the short-term, is the emerging international passenger door area B. It was chaos with passengers unable to get past the jam of meeters and transport touts. The area is hopelessly narrow and very unsatisfactory (pictures attached). International emerging passenger area door C is a little wider and less congested, but still not as easy/clear as the old airport's terminal 1 and 2.

A further problem is meeters/greeters not knowing from which door (B or C) arriving passengers would emerge from. Despite having hundreds of "Airport Help" staff on the departure level where there were few problems, almost no one was available to guide/assist arriving passengers. I was near the domestic arrival information desk when an arriving passenger was asking where to find a taxi. They were told to go downstairs, but the staff did not know how to get there...the jam of people was obscuring the moving walkways to the lower floors.

Getting to public transport was a further problem and passengers could only spill out onto the forecourt and try and figure out how to find a taxi (on the floor below). The area downstairs was jammed with passengers waiting in long "S" lines for taxis. A lot of them hopped on the very frequent shuttle buses to the bus terminal and took taxis from there.

The old AB 1, 2, 3 and 4 airport buses to downtown at Don Muang have been repainted cream color and are now doing a similar service at Suvarnaphum for the same price (150 baht).

The taxi surcharge is 50 baht, but the meter gets up to almost 300 baht to the CBD, as opposed to less than 200 baht from Don Muang. But the public buses are very frequent to downtown (35 baht) if you don't have big bags.



(Photo: Jerry)

Bangkok Airport news >
BangkokAirport.info

U.S. to back Thai Muslim as UN chief: paper

September 28, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

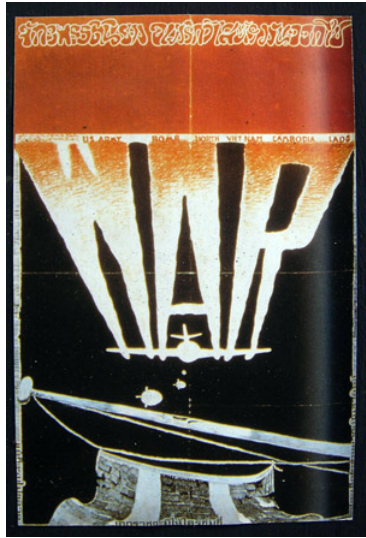
[U.S. to back Thai Muslim as UN chief: paper](#) – Reuters, September 28, 2006

Former Thai Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan, a Muslim with wide international respect, emerged on Thursday as a possible last-minute candidate to replace Kofi Annan as United Nations Secretary-General...

Anti-war posters from the Vietnam era

September 30, 2006
Categories: 2Bangkok

Anti-war posters from the Vietnam era –
September 30, 2006



Mr. John reports: *These are posters that resist the Indochina war... The target was to stop expansion of communism in the region by U.S. setting up military bases in the northeast of Thailand. This created resistance from many people and students. They thought that U.S. military bases destroy sovereignty of Thailand...*

Water Bar

September 30, 2006
Categories: 2Bangkok News



Left: *Kieatisak newspaper*, September, 2006
Advertisement for Water Bar, open 19.00-01.00, music starts 20.00 – Meet Rang Rockettra every Friday and Saturdays and girlfriend from Penthouse magazine calendar.

Pibul cuts down trees

September 30, 2006

Categories: History



Pibul cuts down trees –

October 4, 2006

We have heard this story before, but never seen it in print until now: Pibul ordered roadside trees cut down after his son was killed in an auto accident.

Is it true? When did it happen?

From [Nui's rants about Thai history](#): ...Two periods of dictators seems to stand out markedly, that of Field Marshall P. Phibulsongkram, who had two terms of non-elected rule, nearly 16 years in total.

I remember my mother telling me a few stories about how he organized society back then. Two stood out, there was one about the ancient trees on Wireless Road that were razed down because his son was killed when his car rammed into one tree. The other story was about how he imposed a dress code so that the people can look modern...

Earlier: [Nation-building & the Pursuit of Nationalism under FM Phibunsongkhram](#) – September 30, 2006

High tension in Thailand – October-December, 2006

October 1, 2006

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

[B100bn in 'vested interest' projects axed](#) – Bangkok Post, December 14, 2006

...They were planned separately over the past two years in each province instead of being integrated for effectiveness, he said. It was found that 20% of the budget for each project had already been spent although many projects had not undergone any feasibility studies.

Among the projects to be scrapped is a 1.9-billion-baht conference-cum-exhibition centre in Chiang Mai, the home province of deposed prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

...Another project facing the axe is the 4.1-billion-baht water diversion plan from Lam Takhong reservoir to feed Nakhon Ratchasima municipality.

Mr Praphan said the project's costs were larger than the whole budget of the Provincial Waterworks Authority and questioned whether it could have been designed to benefit a particular contractor in Nakhon Ratchasima province.

There was no acute shortage of water in the municipality to justify the project, he said...

[Thai cabinet scraps Thaksin's chickens-for-jets barter plan](#) – Bloomberg, December 12, 2006

[Spurned Thailand shows brave face to rest of world](#) – Business Day, December 13, 2006

Thailand has been stunned by the worldwide condemnation of the September 19 coup d'etat and the small kingdom's new junta remains unapologetic and determined to continue to punch above its weight.

SA's decision to cut all official visits with Thailand and the US decision to halt military co-operation with the kingdom were regarded by the new government—which took over after the military seized control from former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra—as the most severe diplomatic sanctions to date...

[Three months after coup, Thailand's future uncertain](#) – World Politics Watch, December 12, 2006

It was Constitution Day in Thailand on Dec.... There's just one problem: Thailand hasn't got a constitution any more...

Chang Noi: [A coup against the 1997 constitution](#) – The Nation, December 11, 2006

...Their ideal would be a return to something like the "semi-democracy" of the Prem era in the 1980s. Power restored to the senior ranks of the bureaucracy. A discreet oversight role for the military. Politicians allowed to go through all the democratic motions without much real power. Popular participation through representational bodies under strict bureaucratic management. And a massive propaganda campaign to persuade everyone that this is "democracy". But this ideal form is almost certainly unattainable. The massive 1986-96 economic boom has changed Thai society in extraordinary ways. There are many more interests to protect and promote. There are much sharper conflicts raging. The country needs a more complex political system to balance competing interests and resolve cross-cutting conflicts. In recent weeks, the Surayud government has been pole-axed by its growing realisation that this society is no longer manageable through bureaucratic paternalism alone...

[Gleam is off Thailand's quiet coup](#) – Chicago Tribune, December 10, 2006

The women reassure each other that they are not fat, the men talk loudly on cell phones and the caterers dole out caviar with cucumbers. At the launch of a new credit card in a fancy downtown mall, the loudest noise is a speaker blown out by smooth jazz.

More than two months into martial law after a military coup in this Southeast Asian tourist mecca, the worries about Thailand's uncertain future are barely noticeable.

...Sawong Jitto, 48, a street-sweeper who lives in one of the larger slums in Bangkok, says she misses Thaksin. She credited his no-tolerance drug policies with getting her son off methamphetamine, which he started using when he was 12. He is now 21 and in the army.

"I'm very angry, very unhappy with the coup," Sawong said. "Now I don't know what will happen. I'm afraid methamphetamines will spread again. Because of Thaksin, I got my son back. I really don't care about the other things he did."

Sunday rally notes

[North-eastern protesters opt out of Bangkok rally](#) – The Nation, December 7, 2006

[Anti-coup activists argue over who loves democracy the most](#) – The Nation, December 7, 2006

[Thai Rak Thai linked to most key anti-coup groups](#) – The Nation, December 7, 2006

Deep South Diary for November – December 9, 2006

Usually our info on incidents in the deep south is compiled for research purposes, but last month the pace of incidents was unusually brisk and we thought 2B readers might be interested to see the [report](#) (pdf, 58kb) from the [2braa.com](#) site. The report is edited, just for a part of the month, and mainly from Yala, but it gives an idea of the pace and nature of the events of November. Many of these incidents never show up in the press.

[Giving up on democracy for Thailand](#) – The Nation, November 27, 2006

The latest from [Chang Noi](#): ...Over the past few days, Sondhi Limthongkul has made a mini-tour of the US, talking to audiences of Thais and interested observers. His message was stark. The experience of Thaksin has shown that electoral democracy cannot work in Thailand. The mass of rural people who constitute the largest element in the electorate do not have the knowledge to participate properly. They sell their votes, either retail to the local canvasser, or wholesale to the populist who promises them goodies. This commercialism breeds a style of politician who is greedy and corrupt. The last few years have shown that a constitution, however well crafted, cannot impose any semblance of good governance.

What Sondhi says is important because he served as the lightning rod for the Bangkok middle class's emotional rejection of Thaksin. In many ways, he was a surprising candidate for this role. He had been one of Thaksin's most fervent supporters for five years. The two men are so similar that if you set out to clone Thaksin and made a tiny mistake you might finish up creating Sondhi. He became a key leader of the anti-Thaksin movement for two reasons: he had rare access to media outlets, and he changed his own tune to brilliantly articulate Bangkok middle-class opinion. We have to pay attention to him because he is undoubtedly still trying to channel this middle-class voice.

What he is saying is not new, but as old as Thailand's first fragile experiments with democracy. Underlying his views is the city's fear of the countryside, the middle class's fear of the peasant...

[Ousted Thai leader just won't go away](#) – International Herald Tribune, November 21, 2006

Thailand's deposed prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, seems to be having a much better time than the generals who ousted him...

[Massive loss from Thaksin projects – Rice pledging and populist policies cost Bt200 billion](#) – The Nation, November 15, 2006

Chang Noi: [Bringing the Thaksin regime to account](#) – The Nation, November 13, 2006

...The mechanics of the government campaign were lethally simple. Provincial governors and police chiefs were told to eliminate drug trading. Blacklists of names were compiled and success was measured against numerical targets. Thaksin's speech launching the campaign on January 14, 2003 gave strong hints of what was expected:

...Wan Muhammed Nor Matha, who was directly responsible for implementation as Interior minister, made sure the instructions were clear: "Tell them to stop selling drugs and leave the communities for good or they will be put behind bars or even 'vanish without a trace' ... Who cares?" He added: "I think human rights activists should not worry too much about these traffickers' lives..."

Pro-Thaksin/anti-coup websites –

November 13, 2006

[Thailand Loves Thais – 19 September.org](#) – [Prachatai](#) (and [here](#)) – [AntiCoup](#)

[Saluting Thailand's military-run economy](#) – *Asia Times*, November 10, 2006

For those looking for chinks in Thailand's new government's armor, they'll be hard-pressed to find any vulnerability in the military-appointed interim administration's economic stewardship...

[Rich kids hit for millions in Thai tax scandal](#) – *The Age*, November 9, 2006

[Thai Rak Thai asks supporters to criticise Govt on website](#) – *The Nation*, November 7, 2006

...Party leader Chaturon Chaisang told caretaker executive member Ekaporn Rakkwamsuk and the Thai Rak Thai publicity team to create a blog on www.thairakthai.or.th.

The team will ask questions to entice a response on current government policies.

"This is a way for the public to release their frustration over government action such as its move to scrap the Bt30 medical scheme," Ekaporn said.

[Squabbling erupts among Thailand's coup plotters](#) – *The Scoop*, November 2, 2006

[New Thai rulers still on guard, one month after coup](#) – *ZeeNews*, October 19, 2006



"Chaba in LA" is mad, launching leaflets against CNS and its supporters – translated and summarized from *Phujatkan*, October 17, 2006

The Thai Love Thailand in USA movement, which gives continuous support for ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, has launched its eighth leaflet to attack the Council for National Security (CNS) and its supporters. The seventh leaflet directly attacks Chairman of the Privy Council Prem Tinsulanonda. Rumor has it that the movement, led by Chaba Tangtamnu, receives financial support from the Thai Rak Thai party.

Pamphlet 1

It is doubted whether the Council for Democratic Reform really fights for democracy. The movement wants the CDR out of power.

Pamphlet 2

According to the pamphlet, it is obvious that the coup d'état is destroying democracy. The coup bans people from expressing their attitudes and calls democracy-minded people who have different attitudes from it people with bad intentions. Now, the Council for National Security is in power. The current Prime Minister has close connection to the coup, so he got the post. The coup once said it would step down within two weeks, but it did not. The movement, highlighting the fact that they are Thai, cannot stand the coup as it violates people's basic rights.

Pamphlet 3

Candles glow and will keep glowing. The Thai Love Thailand in USA movement reported. October 14 – To mark the thirty-third anniversary of the October 14, 1973 event, a group of more than five people (who care) gathered at Thammasat University. They criticized the Council for Democratic Reform under Constitutional Monarchy (CDRM). (His Majesty the King disagreed with the coup d'état. So, the name was cut to the Council for Democratic Reform.)

At 7:00 pm, more than two hundred gathered and marched to Democracy Monument. They lighted candles to mourn for democracy destroyed on September 19 by the coup d'état. Back in 1973, people also gathered to fight against the junta government.

People participating the demonstration gathered in front of Thammasat University's Dome Building. Walking past the Phramen Ground, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and the City Shrine, and on Ratchadamneon Road to Democracy Monument, the coup opposers, dressing in black, showed signs criticizing the coup and the junta government. They were chanting, "CDR, get out!"

The rally arrived Democracy Monument at 8:10 pm. They encircled the monument and delivered speeches to fight for democracy. The rally was in order. No police or military authorities (in uniform) were around.

Pamphlet 4

The media reported that all cabinet members have total age of more than 1,600 years. The cabinet consists of:

1. MR Pridiyathorn Devakul – Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister
2. Kosit Panpiemras – Deputy Prime Minister and Industry Minister
3. Dhipawadee Meksawan – Prime Minister's Office Minister
4. Thiraphat Serirangsan – Prime Minister's Office Minister
5. Aree Wongarya – Interior Minister
6. Banyat Chansena – Deputy Interior Minister
7. Boonrod Somtat – Defense Minister
8. Adm. Thira Haocharoen – Transport Minister
9. Sansern Wongcha-um – Deputy Transport Minister
10. Suwit Yodmanee – Tourism and Sports Minister
11. Khaisri Sri-aroon – Culture Minister
12. Paibun Watthanasiritham – Social Development and Human Security Minister
13. Nitaya Pibulsonggram – Foreign Minister
14. Saowanit Kongsiri – Deputy Foreign Minister
15. Charnchai Likhitjittha – Justice Minister
16. Thira Sutabut – Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister
17. Rungrueng Issarangura Na Ayutthaya – Deputy Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister
18. Mongkol Na Songkhla – Public Health Minister
19. Sithichai Phokai-udom – Information and Communications Technology Minister
20. Yongyuth Yuthawong – Science and Technology Minister
21. Krirkrai Jirapaet – Commerce Minister
22. Kasem Sanitwong Na Ayutthaya – Natural Resources and Environment Minister
23. Wichit Srisa-arn – Education Minister
24. Piyasawat Amaranand – Energy Minister
25. Apai Chanthanachunlaka – Labor Minister
26. Piyabut Chonwichan – Deputy Industry Minister

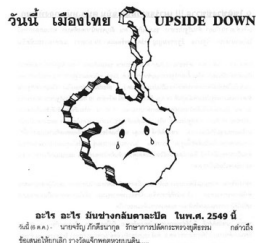


Pamphlet 5

The Thai population is nearing seventy million. So why we can't find younger cabinet members? This is a simple question. It is because the new generation does not like dictatorship.

Pamphlet 6

On the night of September 19, 2006, a group of people staged a coup d'etat and used the constitutional monarchy as its name without royal permission. His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen were not happy with this.



Pamphlet 7

Acting Justice Permanent Secretary Charan Pakdeetanakul proposed the cancellation of government's two- and three-digit lottery. The Thai Love Thailand in USA movement criticized that Charan did things that were not his responsibilities.

Pamphlet 8

On October 2, the anti-coup movement gathered on Ratchadamneon Nok Road and burned the interim constitution.

Pamphlet 9

The Thai Love Thailand movement tried to convince people that the interim government will not step down and that the premier cannot be trusted.

Cultures of corruption: Evidence from diplomatic parking tickets

October 2, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Cultures of corruption: Evidence from diplomatic parking tickets](#) – Nber, October 2, 2006

Average Unpaid Annual New York City Parking Violations per Diplomat, 11/1197 to 11/2002

Thailand

Corruption rank – 32

Violations per diplomats –

24.5

U.N. Mission diplomats in 1998 –

13

BMA signs

October 2, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



BMA signs –
October 2, 2006

These are signs erected by BMA to promote their accomplishments in the lead up to the now defunct October elections.

Left: 20,052 lights that are erected to create brightness for the safety of Bangkok people.

Right: Next station: Wongvienyai



Isaan Air?

October 2, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines



Isaan Air? – October 2, 2006

Nils points out [IsaanAir](#) and their [menu](#). Could this be real?

Whois information:

American Travelways Airlines, West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles International, LAX, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Thai-US woman in Congress race

October 3, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai-US woman in Congress race](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 3, 2006

Flavoured fags worry ministry

October 4, 2006

Categories: Health

[Flavoured fags worry ministry](#) – *The Nation*, October 4, 2006

Thanks to the dozens of readers who quickly pointed this out. This is a very odd-sounding headline to a person from the U.S.

Thailand among top 5 child abuse site hosts

October 4, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand among top 5 child abuse site hosts](#) – Bangkok Post, October 4, 2006

...Once alerted, Information and Communications Technology officials would shut down illicit sex sites, but without notifying police to hunt for offenders. The blocked servers would not be available for internet surfers and police in Thailand, but would remain accessible overseas.

...Many foreigners thus pick Thailand as a base for ill-intended websites.

...Since April 2002, police have received complaints about 11,681 Thai-language porn sites, 7,273 foreign-language porn sites, 1,592 paedophile sites, 4,551 sites selling sexual materials and 860 sites offering sex services.

Editorial cartoons – The Death of Thai Rak Thai

October 5, 2006

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Manager* by Buncha/Kamin, October 5, 2006

Left: Klannarong Chantik says "ja-ae!"

Right: Khunying Jaruvan and Kaewsun Athipothi say "tukkae!"

At the bottom is says: "The hell of former ministers."



From *Thairath*, October 5, 2006

The dog gets sick... the flea jumps...!

In the frame is Thaksin with a resignation letter.

On the dog is the Thai Rak Thai symbol and over the dog's head is the word "dissolution"



From *Krungtep Turakit*, October 5, 2006

The root of the tree says: "Thaksin regime"

A small figure at the surface says: When the tree falls, don't step past it before digging the root out first.

At the bottom right is says: The big tree has deep roots.



From *Komchadluek*, October 5, 2006

Left: Typhoon Xangsarn is not harmful. It just causes a flood.

Middle: See... whether it is harmful or not when it came the first day to Thailand...

Right: It blew out TRT and scattered it.



From *Krungtep Turakit*, October 4, 2006

Worms leave the dead body of Thaksin. The worms carry flags identifying the factions leaving TRT: Chonburi group, Black Wizard group, Wang Payanak. On the right is Wang Namyom faction saying "Hey, let's rush away."

At the bottom is says: The party ends, the parasites rush away!!



From *Manager*, October 4, 2006

Name of column: Leave a space by Buncha/Kamin

Thaksin's wife Pojaman says: Lucky for us, Jack, we left.

Thaksin says: Yes, Rose.

Caption at bottom: For this Titanic, Jack and Rose survive.

The first constitution and the first political movie

October 5, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

[The first constitution and the first political movie](#) –

October 5, 2006

Pa Prem billboard

October 5, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Pa Prem billboard –

October 5, 2006

A billboard at Mahavachiravut School in Songkhla:

Royal augustness, moral principles, and goodness protects Pa. –

Mahavachiravut members are proud. – Everybody must protect the Nation.

A Hole in the Net

October 6, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

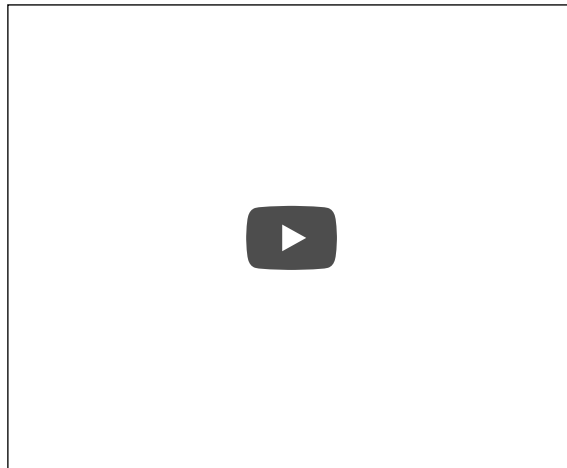
[A Hole in the Net](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 6, 2006

...Whereas access to Hotmail and Yahoo mail was limited to a handful of those competent enough to track down an unblocked proxy server two years ago, now both are readily available. The wall is beginning to come down. The question is: How motivated is the government to keep material blocked? ...

Chao Phraya rapids

October 6, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Chao Phraya rapids – October 6, 2006, 1:12pm

The normally smooth-flowing Chao Phraya River is swollen by flood waters becoming a rapids with waves and swells nearly a meter high. After 10 minutes the waves decreased, but the river continued to flow extremely quickly.

The flood inundates Wat Paiwan

October 6, 2006

Categories: Floods



From *Komchadluek*, October 6, 2006

A temple is in trouble: The flood inundates Wat Paiwan, Thambon Ban-it Amphure Muang, Angthong Province. The height of the flood is than 160 cms. The monk has to dive in the water to unlock the door. This disturbs the monk's activities.

Toting watermelons

October 6, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Toting watermelons –
October 6, 2006

It reads: Buy a pick-up, see Triton.
At the right : Award for the most gasoline saving pickup in the world.

October 6 banners at Thammasat University

October 7, 2006

Categories: October, 1976



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The banner reads: 30 years of October 6 rights, freedom, and democracy acquired by fighting

October 6 banners at Thammasat University –
October 7, 2006

These are banners on the Thammasat University athletic field to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the events of October 6. For some this year there is a sense of strange irony that students, as well as the public, are cheering the overthrow of an elected government by the military.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Association present-day problems in the south with the overall struggle for rights. The banner reads: No justice, no peace – Somchai Nilapaijit Kruse, Jaroen Wataksorn – Takbai, kidnap, killing



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The banner reads: 30 years after 6 October – People protect democracy, wipe out Thai politicians, overthrow the damned government, create the new society, justice, peace, freedom



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: One of the iconic images of October 6: Right-wing mobs beating the corpses of lynched protestors.

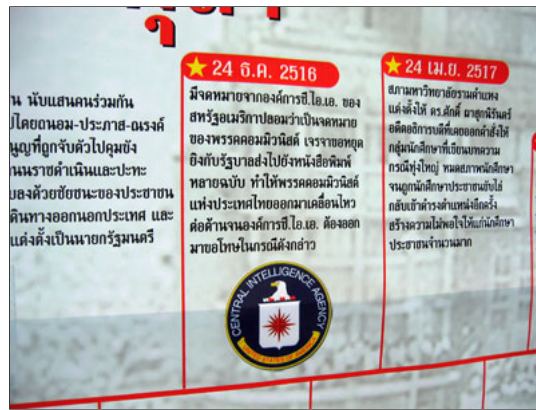


(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Revolutionary memorabilia for sale...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Part of one of the timelines of the events at the exhibition.

24 Dec 1973 – A letter from CIA. USA faked a letter claiming that the communist party wanted to negotiate to stop shooting and the letter was sent to many newspapers. This event made the communist party come to resist the CIA and finally the CIA had to apologize.

24 April 1974 –

The Council of Ramkamhaeng University restores Dr. Sak Phasuknirun back to his position. Earlier he blamed a student group who wrote an article on Tungyai case and made students force others out of school. Dr. Sak was chased out of his position by students. That he is back upsets many students and people.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The banner reads: The tanks never die if people are weak.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Melding imagery from the October 6 events with present day fears. The banner reads: Globalization, transfer assets to capital, FTA, populist policies, freedom capitalism world



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Thaksin says: I will establish organization and foundation for society. Believe me.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Another famous image from October 6–Forcing the shoe in the mouth of a lynched protester.

“The White House”

October 7, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards

"The White House" –
October 7, 2006
Banner from the Ratchapeisek massage parlor area.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

An Elephant Crackup?

October 8, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[An Elephant Crackup?](#) – NYT, October 8, 2006

...Still, it is not only the increasing number of these incidents that is causing alarm but also the singular perversity — for want of a less anthropocentric term — of recent elephant aggression...

NASA: Floods in Thailand

October 9, 2006
Categories: Floods

[Floods in Thailand](#) – NASA, October 9, 2006

Guru cover

October 9, 2006

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines

Guru cover – October 9, 2006

Another funny cover from Bangkok Post's Guru Magazine...



Hurt foreigner

October 10, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Hurt foreigner – *Kom Chad Luek*, October 10, 2006

This Denmark foreigner was bombed and burned by more than 30 toy balloons that he bought back to his room in the hotel. He was treated at Huachiew Hospital.

Siritara Ocean Queen

October 10, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: Jerry)

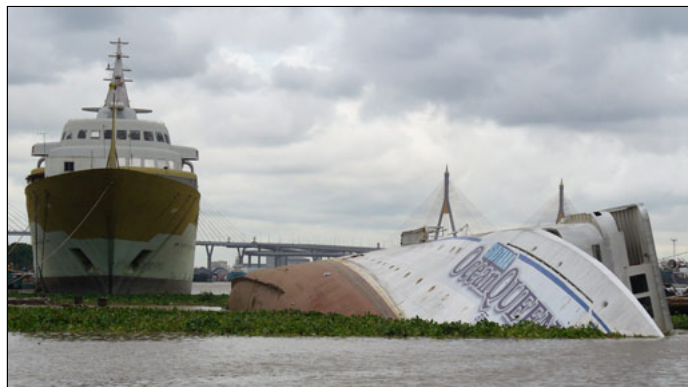


(Photo: Jerry)

Siritara Ocean Queen – October 10, 2006

Jerry photographs the Siritara Ocean Queen on its side in the Chao Phraya River. The ship is used on the Pattaya and Samui route.

A photo of the [ship in the past](#).



(Photo: Jerry)

More on the *Siritara* –
October 14, 2006

[Rene](#) reports: Sorry to see the [pictures of the cruiseship](#), just last week I received a flyer from the company , promising big discounts for the cruise.



Super Promotion - 10,000 Seats Only

จากราคาปกติ 1,900 บาท

จ่ายเพียง **999** บาท

สิริราชาไฮสปีดวัน
ออกเดินทางจากพัทยา (16.30น.) ทุกวันพฤหัสบดีและเสาร์
ออกจากสมุทร (17.30น.) ทุกวันศุกร์และอาทิตย์โดย
ลอบตามรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติมที่ **สิริราชา เรนเทอร์ไพรส์**
โทร. **02-3546233-4**

Worldrights Releases Details of Written Opinion From UN Working Group

October 10, 2006

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

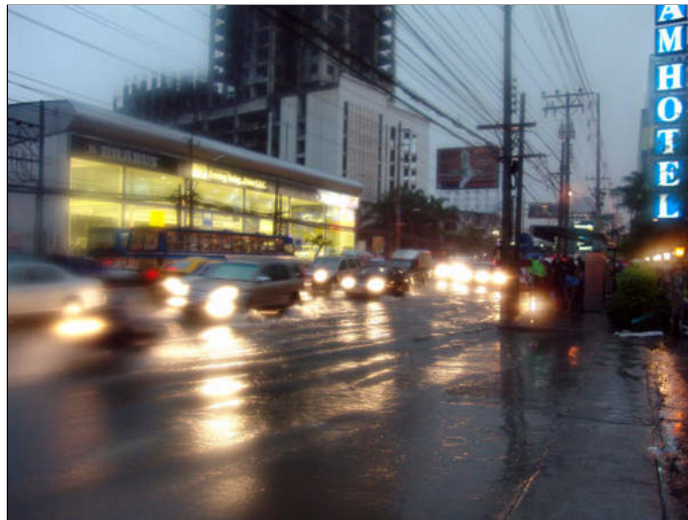
[Worldrights Releases Details of Written Opinion From UN Working Group](#) – Worldrights, October 10, 2006

...Abu Zubaydah, a suspected senior al-Qaida operational planner, and possibly the first “black site” detainee, who was reportedly arrested in Pakistan in March, 2002, and was alleged to have been flown from Pakistan to Thailand and secretly held on an “active airbase” where he was said to have been “slapped, grabbed, made to stand long hours in a cold cell and finally handcuffed and strapped feet up to a water board until after 31 seconds he begged for mercy and began to cooperate...”

Tuesday night flooding

October 10, 2006

Categories: Floods



(Photo: Owen)

Tuesday night flooding – October 10, 2006

[Traffic snarls hit Bangkok streets following heavy rains, floods](#) – *The Nation*, October 10, 2006

[Siam Square under water](#) – *The Nation*, October 10, 2006

[Thai King saves Bangkok from flooding](#) –
TNA, October 10, 2006



(Photo: Owen)



(Photo: Owen)



(Photo: Owen)

Sleeping security guard

October 11, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Sleeping security guard –
October 11, 2006



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Chao Phya flowing downstream at fastest rate in 60 years

October 11, 2006

Categories: Floods

[Chao Phya flowing downstream at fastest rate in 60 years](#) – *The Nation*, October 11, 2006

...Samart Chokkhanaipithak said water was gushing downstream to Bangkok past Nakhon Sawan at the rate of 5,145 cubic metres per second, higher than in 1995 when Bangkok suffered massive flooding...

สส. 9999

October 12, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

สส. 9999 –

October 12, 2006

Good number...Rich virtue สส. 9999 Bangkok

Peter comments: *I believe that the [advertisement on the bus](#) is actually an auction for number plates. I'm not sure though since I cannot read this advertisement, while passing once a similar bus, a Thai told me that.*

Visual clutter

October 12, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Visual clutter –
October 12, 2006

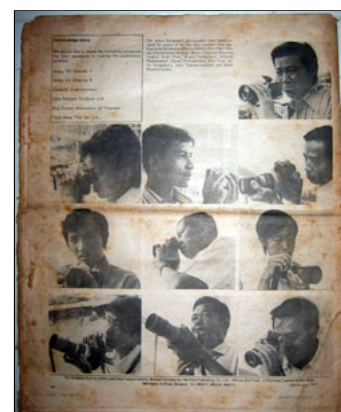
Old newspapers

October 14, 2006

Categories: October, 1973, Old newspapers

Newspaper from October, 1973

Bangkok Post, October 19, 1973 – The great grief day (The English says "The Ten Days")



Right: Back page tribute to the photographers who covered the event.

“No durian”

October 14, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

"No durian" –
October 14, 2006
"No durian" sign in Hat Yai.

Bras shed light on Thailand's economic challenge

October 16, 2006

Categories: Economy

[Bras shed light on Thailand's economic challenge](#) –
Bloomberg, October 16, 2006

Thailand: The boom is on hold

October 16, 2006

Categories: Economy

[Thailand: The boom is on hold](#) – Newsweek, October 16, 2006

Koh Kred

October 17, 2006
Categories: Floods

Koh Kred – *Manager*, October 17, 2006

The level of flood waters have still not decreased at Koh Kred, Nonthaburi.



Meechai Ruchuphan's website

October 17, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Meechai Ruchuphan's website](#) – October 17, 2006

Reviving a Thai art one stitch at a time

October 18, 2006

Categories: Art

[Reviving a Thai art one stitch at a time](#) – *IHT*, October 18, 2006

Thanks to Danny for pointing this out...

“Flood”

October 18, 2006

Categories: Floods

"Flood" – *Matichon*, October 18, 2006

The caption reads: Around 100 motorcycles that Amphur Samkok Pratum Thani police seized are parked and soaked in the flood because they could not be moved in time. Meanwhile the nearby area is under flood waters more than 100 centimeters high on October 17.



Fashion City Project faces axe

October 19, 2006
Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Fashion City Project faces axe](#) –
fibre2fashion, October 19, 2006

Crocodile

October 19, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature



Crocodile – *Komchadluek*, October 19, 2006

Move from water: The officers move the crocodile from Amorn Jittrapinitmat's farm where it is near Sakaekrung River in Thumbon Sakaekrung, Utaithani to Mr. Uten Yangprapakorn's farm in Thambon Nongpaiban and where it will not escape.

“Historical accident” victims try to march on Bangkok

October 19, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

["Historical accident" victims try to march on Bangkok](#) – *The Irrawaddy*,

October 19, 2006

About 500 villagers made stateless by a 19th century British colonial carve-up of a border region of Burma and Siam were intercepted by Thai police on Thursday as they were traveling to Bangkok to tackle the British Embassy about their plight...

Thaksin urban art

October 21, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years



(Photo: Greg)

Urban image –

October 21, 2006

Greg writes: *I saw it up near ABAC University on Ramkamhaeng. Not really sure what the hell it means, but it's kind of quirky.*

“Why people of Siam are never too rich”

October 23, 2006

Categories: History, Old photos and films



(Photo: "International Newsreel Photo: Why people of Siam are never too rich")

From 1928: "Why people of Siam are never too rich"

Does anyone know about this ceremony?

The caption for these photos reads: *Bangkok, Siam... It has always been a moot question in all minds as to why people of Siam are never over-burdened with riches. Now the answer comes in the form of a series of pictures which demonstrates in graphic way how surplus riches of the people are disposed of. When a man of Siam thinks he's too wealthy to go to heaven he promptly goes out and purchases as much food, clothing, fruit, etc. as will relieve him of his surplus money. He then mounts a high platform built for the express purpose and throws his gifts down to members of the poorer class below. Since all have a right to the food and clothing offered a merry battle goes on for possession of the offerings. Hooks are even made which might tend to give the seeker a better chance to make a good haul. However, before the foodstuffs and clothing are given away, prayers and praises to the king of the devil or "Phya Yomaraj" are sung. The prayers insure the donors of recognition when they dies and are led before the king of the devil for entrance to heaven. After the prayers are said and the food distributed, the huge image is burnt, and residents of Siam must wait until they pile up more coin of the realm before they can stage another similar celebration. October 23, 1928*



(Photo: "International Newsreel Photo: Why people of Siam are never too rich")

Globalization: Saving Thailand's other languages

October 23, 2006

Categories: Language

[Globalization: Saving Thailand's other languages](#) – *International Herald Tribune*, October 23, 2006

The Chong are a small ethnic minority group in southeastern Thailand. But as they bump up against the forces of modernity and the dominant, unifying Thai culture, their language may face a slow death and their unique world view, local wisdom and rich culture would also get buried...

Thai love affair with credit means big business for debt collectors

October 23, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai love affair with credit means big business for debt collectors](#) – AFP, October 23, 2006

Thai debt collectors used to go about their business with an iron bar and leave their victims in need of medical care...

Thai teens get high on cow dung, mosquito coil ash

October 23, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai teens get high on cow dung, mosquito coil ash](#) – *The Age*,
October 23, 2006

Thai police detain 83 North Koreans in raid

October 24, 2006

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Thai police detain 83 North Koreans in raid](#) – *Reuters*, October 24, 2006

McRice Burger

October 24, 2006



McRice Burger – October 24, 2006

The new McRice Burger from McDonalds—with chicken or pork...

Earlier: [The Pork Prosperity burger and McSomtom](#)

Comrade shoppers

October 24, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Comrade shoppers –
October 24, 2006

Left: Exhibition –

The power of the Chinese worker when the comrades become shopping persons – 6 October-12 November at the 6th floor at TCDC at the Emporium.

Editorial cartoons – October, 2006

October 25, 2006

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



Editorial cartoons

Manager, October 25, 2006, Leave the space by Buncha/Kamin

The dress of the tyrant for coming back to the country

Left: Monk Thanom

Right: Aung San Maew



Krungtepturakit, October 25, 2006,

At the top: The old sentence

Panel 1:

Subject

Panel 2: Verb

Panel 3: Object!!!



Editorial cartoons

Krungtepturakit, October 25, 2006

Soldier:

There! The big one... tie its mouth and tail so it will have no wave under water.

Bottom left reads: Oops! The crocodile got out.

Krungtepturakit, October 25, 2006

Mine field!

The mines are labeled: money, gold, acquisition, rank, position



Cartoon Son, *Matichon*, October 25, 2006

Panel 1: Ouak!
Uncle Son, are you sick? That make you retch?

Panel 2: No. Just seeing this news make me feel retch...
Me too... Ouak!!!

On the newspaper it says: Maew's plan to draw the world to see him like Aung San Suu Kyi



Krungtepturakit, October 20, 2006

On the ghost: Official lottery
The man says: Ohm... Down...

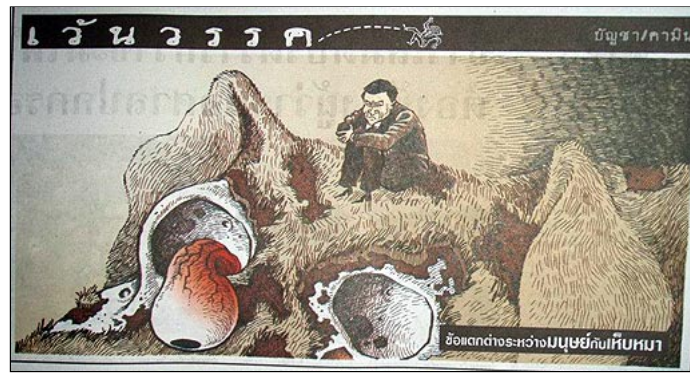


Thairath, October 20, 2006, by Chai Ratchwat

Panel 1: Thaksin made a direct call to the PM asking to back Thailand.

Panel 2: The PM said there is flood trouble--wait until it goes down. /
Why can't he come because of the flood?

Panel 3: He doesn't want to have a wave under the water.



Manager, October 18, 2006, Leave the space by Buncha/Kamin
The bottom right reads: The difference between a human's flea and a dog's flea



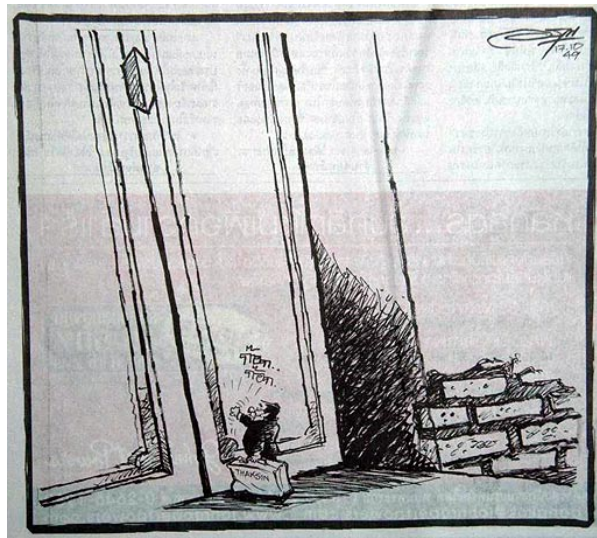
Above: *Thairath*, October 19, 2006, cartoon by Zeer Thairath
Bottom left: Happy to be home
On the Thaksin photo: To NSC government. Home sweet home.
On the boot of soldier: Revolution



Left: *Matichon*, October 19, 2006, by Son
Call from England!
How are you there?



Krungtepturakit, October 17, 2006 –
P.S. New cabinet please continue the policy
Khunying says: Which one is corrupt? Return all.
The note on the trunk reads: Seize assets!!
The bottom left reads: Transfer assets to be a capital



Krungtepturakit, October 17, 2006 – At the country door – Knock... knock...

Editorial cartoons

Thairath, October 16, 2006 by Chai Ratchawat
The traffic signs that should be adjusted and changed.



Manager, Poojadkuan, October 16, 2006
Poojadkuan team are chosen for the Legislative Assembly. Pa Bun (Buncha) is called to leave urgently...
Afraid that the Assembly may fall.

Stonecutter's Bridge under construction in Hong Kong

October 25, 2006

Categories: China

Stonecutter's Bridge under construction in Hong Kong – October 25, 2006

[Here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Thai Disneyland

October 25, 2006

Categories: Business

[Thai Disneyland](#) – *Shanghai Daily*, October 25, 2006

Thai billionaire Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi is in talks to develop a Walt Disney Co theme park on land along the Gulf of Thailand...

Teenagers 'lost in cyberspace'

October 25, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Teenagers 'lost in cyberspace'](#) – *The Nation*, October 25, 2006

Twenty-six teenagers and younger children have been reported missing following their addiction to hi-tech mobile phone and Internet services or online games.

According to the Information Centre on Missing Persons to Stop Human Trafficking, under the Krachoe Ngao (The Mirror) Foundation, the kids all share a similar behavioural problem: the inappropriate use of high technology equipment...

The centre can be contacted at www.backtohome.org

History of City Pillar

October 25, 2006
Categories: History

[History of City Pillar](#) – *The Nation*, October 25, 2006

Rambo to resurface in Kingdom

October 25, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

[Rambo to resurface in Kingdom](#) – *The Nation*, October 25, 2006

Sylvester Stallone has agreed to shoot his latest "Rambo" sequel here with Universal Pictures Studio Co considering Chiang Mai as the location, a Tourism and Sports Ministry official said yesterday...

Troubles in the South – October 2006

October 26, 2006

Categories: The Thai Deep South

Troubles in the South

– October 2006

[Troubles
in the South index page](#)



(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

End of Ramadan –

October 24, 2006

Dr. Has reports: *Yala Province – October 24 is the end day after 30 days of fasting so today it has an important activity is Hariraya Adilftri Lamad at the mosque. After this they will ask forgiveness from each other that they have done outside or in the mind. Then they go to visit cousins, relatives or parents in at their hometowns.*



Monks injured by a bomb in the deep south –

October 23, 2006

Krungtepturakit, October 23, 2006

Very cruel: The assailants bomb the team protecting monks near Jamroonnara, Amphur Muang, Narathiwat. This causes 4 soldiers injured, 1 dead. 5 monks and 3 people got injured.





(Photo: Dr. Has for 2Bangkok.com)

Ramadan –
October 19, 2006

Dr. Has reports: *On today (October 19), almost all mosques organized a fast activity, because it is an important night at Ramadan (month of fasting). The government gave warm support—especially mosques in cities.*



"Audacious" – *Krungtepturakit*, October 18, 2006

The caption reads: Audacious: The officers investigate the damage to the car where an assailant shot a security guard in front of SME bank of Thailand in Yala branch, Amphur Muang, Yala. This causes 1 death, 2 injured in the car and also makes 2 nearby people injured.

Tracing potential routes to revolution through a thousand days of the southern insurgency – translated and summarized from *Issara News Center*, October 3, 2006

It has been over 33 months or 1,000 days since the event which could be considered as the first significant step in the current wave of insurgency in the deep south. That event was the insurgent robbery of armaments from an army depot on January 4, 2004.

This event cast doubt on the future of the deep south as an integral part of the Thai state. General Thammarak Issarangkul Na Ayudhaya, the Minister of Defense at that time, informed the public that it was an objective of the separatists to liberate Narathiwat Province within 1,000 days.

To achieve this objective, the separatists were reported to be implementing a tentative strategy that they had labeled the "Seven Step Operational Plan." This plan seems to have been originally devised in 1992.

The plan was subdivided into individual plans for "preparations" and "operations." In the "preparation" phase, the insurgents planned to rebuild their local organizations with greater strength, and recruit further manpower. They planned to do this by deceiving innocent local youngsters into joining them through indoctrination with religious ideology. The plan then involved local insurgent leaders instilling a military team ethic into their recruits with the aim of expanding their networks in areas targeted for attacks on the authorities.

In the operational phase, steps would be taken to stage the beginnings of a revolution with the young recruits being pressed into committing crimes and intimidating local communities. These steps would clearly demonstrate the capability of the separatists to attack the authorities at will. The local leadership would then resort to any available tactic to equip their network of recruits with enough weapons to embark on the final step of the liberation process.

We have seen a constant torrent of acts of insurgent violence during the past two years. It could be said that the operational phase has already reached the Sixth Step. The insurgents now have great potential strength and the authorities seem unable to cope with the situation when bomb attacks occur simultaneously at more than one location. And little can be done to prevent insurgent attacks. There has been no let-up in the level of the violence committed against the security forces. Innocent civilians are also equally at risk from arson and bomb attacks on public places and private property. It is our great concern that there is a real possibility of the Seventh Step eventually occurring, in which an overwhelming revolution would be mounted

to bring the conflict in the deep south into the global limelight thus allowing the intervention of international organizations. It is not too far-fetched to believe—from recent intelligence reports—that the insurgents have postponed the Seventh Step for about two years as they do not seem adequately organized to take the final step as originally planned for this year.

Somehow, it almost seems as if the recent coup d'état has not brought about sufficient political change to ensure that the Seventh Step does not occur. There is, perhaps, an increasing possibility of the southern insurgency deepening still further. It is absolutely imperative that both the authorities and more moderate separatist factions are prepared to adopt very strong preventive strategies to stop an extremely violent revolution from taking place in the near future.

[Special Interview – Dr Mahathir Muhammad Former Prime Minister of Malaysia](#) – TJA news, October 15, 2006

Mahathir's son says he has discussed with 50 rebel leaders – translated and summarized from *Matichon*, October 11, 2006

Deputy Interior Minister Banyat Chansena said on October 10 that he has not discussed the revival of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center with Interior Minister. Mukhriz Mahathir, former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's son, reported that he had held a series of talks with more than fifty senior members of various separatist movements involved in Thailand's southern unrest in a bid to understand what they wanted from the Thai government. He said it was not secession they wanted, but really more attention by the Thai government for the deep South—in particular economic development and education. The movements include the Bersatu and the Pattani Islamic Mujahideen Movement.

Two southern insurgents want Thailand to take Thaksin to the World Court – translated and summarized from *Matichon*, October 7, 2006

Recently an email was received by the press from two leading insurgents in the southern Thai separatist movement—Wan Kadae Jaeman (the leader of BERSATU) and Lukman B. Lima (the leader of the Pattani United Liberation Organisation – PULO). The two insurgents made it clear that they were interested in negotiating with General Sondhi Boonyaratglin, the Chairman of the Council for National Security (CNS).

One section of the email said that members of BERSATU had been trying to contact the Thai Government in an attempt to hold negotiations that might lead to peace in Thailand's deep south. Lukman also called on the Thai Government to investigate former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who has been accused by some individuals of being "an enemy of mankind." Lukman was of the opinion that Thaksin should be arraigned by the Netherlands-based International Court of Justice (ICJ) at The Hague. He also added that the Thai government would never completely rid itself of its southern problem until Thaksin was forced to stand trial at the ICJ World Court.

[Special Interview – Dr Mahathir Muhammad Former Prime Minister of Malaysia](#) – TJA news, October 15, 2006

Mahathir's son says he has discussed with 50 rebel leaders – translated and summarized from *Matichon*, October 11, 2006

Deputy Interior Minister Banyat Chansena said on October 10 that he has not discussed the revival of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center with Interior Minister. Mukhriz Mahathir, former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's son, reported that he had held a series of talks with more than fifty senior members of various separatist movements involved in Thailand's southern unrest in a bid to understand what they wanted from the Thai government. He said it was not secession they wanted, but really more attention by the Thai government for the deep South—in particular economic development and education. The movements include the Bersatu and the Pattani Islamic Mujahideen Movement.

[Troubles
in the South index page](#)

Doubling the Rama 9 Bridge

October 26, 2006

Categories: Bridges



Doubling the Rama 9 Bridge –

October 26, 2006

Vin writes: *I have found this website, www.praram9bridge.com, it is the site prepared against the new bridge to be constructed parallel to Praram 9 bridge. It is the site made by a club named 'Praram 9 Bridge Lover Club' presenting the impact of the proposal to the existing bridge and community around the area. Although most of the information is provided in Thai, you can look at pictures on the eighth topic which many of them are very nice.*

More: Mainly, they don't want this new bridge to double the existing one. But if the expressway authority still insist to do it, they prepare several suggestions to modify the new bridge to reducing the impact such as replicating the design from the old bridge or redesigning the slope or reducing the levels that overlap each other.

However, actually they don't want it. If you look at the possible routes for the bridge, this is the fourth option, and the route doesn't make sense. But it is likely that they gonna choose this route due to much less land owners to negotiate.

“Stolen items”

October 27, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

"Stolen items" – October 27, 2006

Odd sign at the snack bar at the Grand Palace...

Piercing with a satellite dish

October 27, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Piercing with a satellite dish – *The Nation*, October 27, 2006

[Photo from *The Nation*](#): *A man has pierced his jaw with a metal bar as part of a parade to celebrate the Vegetarian Festival in Songkhla province on Friday.*

Oldest fossil bee discovered in Burma

October 27, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma, Wildlife and Nature

[Oldest fossil bee discovered in Burma](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 27, 2006

*The discovery of the oldest bee fossil in Burma supports the theory that bees evolved from wasps, scientists reported today. A 3mm specimen, *Melittosphex burmensis*, which was found in a mine in the Hukawng Valley of Burma and preserved in amber for the past hundred million years, is the oldest bee fossil ever discovered...*

Meet the prime minister

October 28, 2006

Meet the prime minister –

October 28, 2006

Interesting claim halfway down [this webpage](#): *GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL CONTACT AND INTRODUCTION SERVICE. Meet the official, department head or even government minister (up to and including the Prime Minister himself!) whom you need to know and work out details with regarding your ideas for doing business in and/or with Thailand!*

Webb on sex passage recital: ‘It’s smear after smear’

October 29, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Webb on sex passage recital: ‘It’s smear after smear’](#) – CNN, October 29, 2006

Another unflattering reference to Thailand: *Webb responded Friday morning on Washington Post radio. “Let me explain what that was,” he said. “I actually saw this happen in a slum of Bangkok and when I was there as a journalist. A man placing his lips on his son’s private parts. ... And the duty of a writer is to illuminate the surroundings...*

Editorial cartoons – October 2006

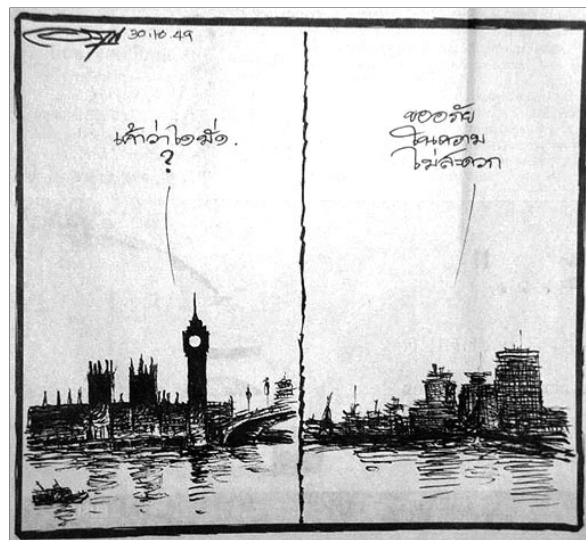
October 30, 2006

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



Krungtrpturakit, November 1, 2006

At the bottom it reads: Aftermath of Halloween!!!



Krungtepturakit, October 30, 2006

From London: What was said?

From Bangkok: Forgive the inconvenience .



Krungtepturakit, October 30, 2006 – Pojaman says: Bye bye.

At the bottom left: With high respect!!!

“...a higher pitch of strain”

October 30, 2006

Categories: North Korea

"...a higher pitch of strain" –

October 30, 2006

Don points out this from the always amazing [North Korean website](#): *Pyongyang, October 30 (KCNA) — The military moves shown by the U.S. imperialists jointly with the south Korean bellicose forces under the pretext of the DPRK's recent self-defensive nuclear test are, in fact, all-round preparations for a nuclear war against the DPRK. They are an unpardonable provocation pushing the situation of the Korean Peninsula to an uncontrollable worst phase by bringing it to a higher pitch of strain. So states Rodong Sinmun in a commentary Monday. Those who are fond of fire are bound to be burned to death. If the U.S. and south Korean war maniacs persist in nuclear war adventures, they can never evade the lot of destruction.*

...No sooner had the present authorities of Japan come to power than they kicked up a noisy racket against the DPRK and Chongryon under the pretext of the "abduction issue" which had already found a solution. This is nothing but a sinister and base move of pro-U.S. charlatans to fish in troubled waters for a political purpose...

“Doraemon Hitler”

October 30, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



"Doraemon Hitler" – *Way Magazine*, No. 1, October, 2006

Doraemon Hitler says “I come to help you to do good today. This is only one way to change your future.”

Bangkok Fashion City officially scrapped

October 31, 2006

[Bangkok Fashion City officially scrapped](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 31, 2006

Mouse bus driver

October 31, 2006

Mouse bus driver –
October 31, 2006

Mouse bus driver painted on a charter bus...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Militia kidnap Thailand citizen in northern Somalia

October 31, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Militia kidnap Thailand citizen in northern Somalia](#) – *Garowe Online*, October 31, 2006

World's tallest tower rising in Dubai

October 31, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[World's tallest tower rising in Dubai](#) – AFP, October 31, 2006

... *With two stories added every week, Burj Dubai is taking shape as the centerpiece of a 20-billion-dollar venture featuring the construction of a new district, "Downtown Burj Dubai," that will house 30,000 apartments and the world's largest shopping mall.*

... *"At the moment, we are not answering. We'll say it (will be) more than 700 meters (2,296 feet) and more than 160 stories ... The people who need to know, know," Sang, a 40-year-old New Zealander, told AFP...*

Video of Junta Chief's Bejeweled Daughter Hits Web

October 31, 2006

[Video of Junta Chief's Bejeweled Daughter Hits Web](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 31, 2006

[Popular Outrage Sparked by 'Wedding of the Year' Video](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 31, 2006

[Junta Training Counter-dissident Force](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 31, 2006

Gor in jail

October 31, 2006

Gor in jail – October 31, 2006

Richard writes: *I am not sure if you are interested, but I thought you might want to see www.ThaiPrisonLife.com as it shows a side of the Thai court system and Thai prison life not often experienced or read about. It is also an important chapter in the life of well-known Thai person.*

From www.ThaiPrisonLife.com: ...When he was only 16, Gor became the youngest columnist at the Bangkok Post. Over a period of two years he wrote honestly about the ups and downs of his life. He wrote about his teenage marriage, the birth of his daughter and his most darkest secret. He told them that when he was 15 he became addicted to drugs. Unknown to his readers, at that time he was still struggling to quit. Shortly after his 19th birthday, he was arrested by the police for drug possession. His parents put their house up for the bail and a year passed before he had to go to court. On the 7th August 2006, the criminal court in Samut Prakan sentenced Gor to three years in prison. At 4.45 p.m. that afternoon, a new chapter opened in the life of Gor...