

# Transport infrastructure boost for Thailand

May 4, 2006

Categories: Mass Transit

[Transport infrastructure  
boost for Thailand](#) – TAT,

May 4, 2006

*Over the next few years, Thailand is to benefit from major improvements in transport infrastructure that will facilitate movements of people to and through the kingdom. Here is a brief synopsis of some of these key projects...*

# I'm cool! I'm hot!

May 4, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

I'm cool! – May  
4, 2006



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

I'm hot! – May 20,  
2006

# Thailand ‘among top movie pirates’

May 4, 2006

Categories: Intellectual Property/Piracy

[Thailand ‘among top movie pirates’](#)

– *Bangkok Post*, May 4, 2006

*...China, Russia and Mexico accounted for the bulk of the theft, the report claimed.*

*Thailand was rated the seventh biggest pirate, costing Hollywood \$149 million, after the US (\$1.3 billion), Mexico (\$483 mln), Russia (\$266 mln), Spain (\$253 mln), China (\$244 mln), and Italy (\$161 mln)...*

# MUANGTHAI.COM for sale for US \$230,000

May 4, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[MUANGTHAI.COM](#)

[for sale for US \\$230,000.00](#) –

May 4, 2006

*I am very honoured and delighted to welcome you to have  
a GREAT CHANCE AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE.*

*Thai's domain in the name of MUANGTHAI.COM*

*This domain is ideal for use within any content such as  
Travel, Business, Information Center.*

*\* SHORT NAME*

*\* GENERIC NAME*

*\* MORE THAN 62 MILLION THAI PEOPLES ANF INTERNATIONAL KNOW*

*\* No content, Only domain*

*...For all country (International), Welcome you to fly to  
Thailand to meet me.*



# **China warns tourists against spitting overseas**

May 5, 2006

Categories: China

[China warns tourists against spitting overseas](#) – *Reuters*, May 5, 2006

# **www.fm9225.com gone?**

May 5, 2006

Categories: Censorship

www.fm9225.com gone?

– May 5, 2006

Anti-government radio website [www.fm9225.com](http://www.fm9225.com) seems to have let their domain expire and the site seems to be blocked again from within Thailand. More about this website here: [Blocked sites in Thailand](#)

# New Road in the Past

May 6, 2006

Categories: History, Old photos and films



(Source: Updated postcard)

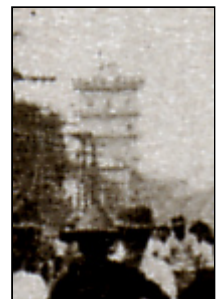
"New Road, Bangkok"

– May 6, 2006

Another New Road photo. Someone can pinpoint the location  
on the [2B](#)

[Google Earth forum](#). And what is structure in the distance?

At right is an enlargement. More vintage New Road images [here](#).





(Photo: John Ross)

New Road today – May 9, 2006

John Ross sent in these photos of the New Road location (above) and the Street Scene, 1902 (below).

John M. Baker writes: *For what it's worth, the picture of New Road at must date from no earlier than 1933, since the car is almost certainly a Ford Phaeton model that first appeared in 1933. Note the distinctive [grille and bumper](#).*

More vintage New Road images [here](#).



(Photo: John Ross)





(Source: Updated postcard)

Street scene, 1902

# Thais detained for gambling in Myanmar

May 6, 2006

Categories: Border Issues, Crime, Myanmar/Burma



Thais detained for gambling in Myanmar – *Daily News*, May 6, 2006

A screaming headline for an issue playing very big in the Thai-language press: “Myanmar court date to prosecute 9 Thai people! Who opened the illegal lottery/gambling”

# Craving for 'porcelain skin' leaves Thai women injured by flesh whiteners

May 7, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Craving for 'porcelain skin' leaves Thai women injured by flesh whiteners](#)

– Independent, May 7, 2006

*... "These girls are desperate. They believed the claims of some movie star and then overused shoddy products, ending up with very dark patches that are almost impossible to reverse," said Dr Wichai Hongcharu, a dermatologist at Bangkok's St Louis hospital. "When they learn it will stay like that for ever, many get depressed or even suicidal."*

*The quickest results come from either mercury-chloride or hydroquinone, which was banned for cosmetic use by the European Union five years ago, but is sold across Asia...*

# Unusual smoke

May 8, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Unusual smoke

– May 8, 2006

Monday morning black smoke from a fire in the southeast rose up into white fluffy cloud-like formation (above).



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The smoke seemed to reach out (above) and engulf an actual cloud (detail below).





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

# Chatree Sophonbunnarak: Master of Chatuchak

May 8, 2006

Categories: Business

[Master of flea markets](#) – Bangkok Post,

May 8, 2006

*While Chatree Sophonbunnarak may not be very well known, his alias "Meng Chatuchak" is guaranteed to ring a bell among those in the flea-market business as the man behind the legendary success of Chatuchak, Bangkok's most famous weekend market...*

*The Pattaya Market in South Pattaya, owned by the Telan family, is the first project he managed.*

*"Everybody thought I was out of my mind since nobody was investing in the resort city in 2002. Even worse, people believed the land was cursed because nobody had ever succeeded in developing it before—the plot had been left vacant for seven years," says Mr Chatree.*

*To restore morale, Mr Chatree asked Visit Techakasem, a master in feng shui, the old Chinese science of nature and harmony, to apply a remedy...*

*But one of his campaigns to promote the market brought him controversial publicity. It involved having models dressed scantily as mermaids on a pickup truck driven around the small town. Mr Chatree was arrested for promoting lewd public behaviour as a result...*

*Last November, he moved on to help JJ Land Development transform Laksi Plaza into IT Square...*

# Myanmar: Paranoia In The Air

May 9, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Paranoia In The Air](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, May 9, 2006

*As the Burmese military government continues an expansion of its air defense network along the Thai-Burmese border and near the Andaman Sea, Thai officials seem keen to calm Rangoon's apparent paranoia, according to the latest newsletter from Thailand-based Network for Democracy and Development...*

# **Budhia: the boy they ran into the ground**

May 9, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Budhia: the boy they ran into the ground](#) – *Independent*, May 9, 2006

*A four-year-old who ran record-breaking marathons was hailed as a sporting hero in India. Then doctors began to question the long-term effects on his health...*

# Ukrainian man sentenced in S.J. for selling pirated software

May 9, 2006

Categories: Crime

[Ukrainian man sentenced in S.J. for selling pirated software](#)

– Bay City News Service, May 9, 2006

*... Vysochanskyy, also known as Maksam Kovalchuk, was arrested in Thailand in 2003 and extradited to the United States in 2004.*

*... Vysochanskyy was arrested in an ice cream parlor in Bangkok on May 20, 2004, after U.S. agents monitoring his e-mail traffic observed him make plans to travel from Ukraine to Thailand. The arrest was carried out by Thai police with the assistance of U.S. Secret Service and Postal Inspection Service agents...*

# Univ admission website turns dead

May 9, 2006

Categories: Humor

[Univ admission website turns dead](#) – *The Nation*, May 9, 2006

*A flood of Internet users has caused havoc on the website for the central university admission system, making the site – [www.cuas.or.th](http://www.cuas.or.th) – inaccessible at times on Tuesday...*

# Plan to set up Muslim party in Thailand

May 9, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Plan to set up Muslim party in Thailand](#) – Bernama, May 9, 2006

*A group of Muslim leaders and academicians are planning to set up a Muslim Party in Thailand to represent over four million Muslims in the country, especially in the restive southern provinces...*

# Buy Low, Pad Thai: Thailand's Arbitrage GT

May 9, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Arbitrage GT](#) – jalopnik.com, May 9, 2006



# **Sultan's Elephant grand finale video**

May 9, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Sultan's](#)

[Elephant grand finale video](#) –

BoingBoing, May 9, 2006

# UN elects new human rights body

May 9, 2006

Categories: Human Rights

[UN elects new human rights body](#) – BBC, May 9, 2006

*China, Cuba, Pakistan, Russia and Saudi Arabia were among 44 states confirmed on the 47-strong council, elected by the UN General Assembly....*

**Also:** [HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL ELECTIONS](#)

# Thai embassy to ask Australian firm to stop selling controversial shoes

May 10, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thai embassy to ask Australian firm to stop selling controversial shoes](#) – *The Nation*, May 10, 2006



(Photo: astoriaviii.com)



(Photo: astoriaviii.com)

# William L. Monson vs Thaksin

May 11, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

Here is a legal filing from 1996 [82 Wn. App. 699, CTVC v. SHINAWATRA](#)

*...First, plaintiffs cite Dr. Shinawatra's admission that he used Video Link employees to bring large quantities of cash from Thailand to purchase equipment and pay operating expenses for the Enumclaw studio. Of the two transactions that plaintiffs cite, only one has -anything to do with Washington. That is a description of the transport of \$80,000 to help fund Video Link operations in Enumclaw. Arguably, this is a purposeful contact by Dr. Shinawatra. He directly sent money to fund the joint venture activities conducted in Washington...*

[American businessman files criminal charges against embattled Thai leader](#) – AP, May 3, 2006

*...The legal wrangling goes back to 1989, when he claims Thaksin—then starting to build his telecoms empire—violated an agreement to jointly operate a cable television enterprise, seized transmission equipment and levied criminal charges against Monson, his company and his staff.*

*Both parties filed several lawsuits against each other in Thailand and the United States.*

*Monson's successful, Seattle-based Clearview TV Cable company moved into Thailand in the early 1980s and forged a joint venture, Video Link, with Thaksin's Shinawatra Computer and International Broadcasting in 1985.*

*Thaksin was initially able to facilitate the required official approvals of the deal, but then the government halted it. Thaksin and Monson negotiated another agreement, hoping to restart operations.*

*Monson says Thaksin abruptly violated the agreement, and announced that he, Thaksin, would operate the cable system alone.*

*Thai police, Monson says, then broke into his offices to remove transmission equipment while his manager was taken to jail and warrants were issued for Monson and criminal charges levied against him, his company and staff. A Thai court later dismissed the charges...*

# Nitiphum Sues Website Forums

May 11, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Nitiphum sues website forums](#) – *The Nation*, May 11, 2006

*Bangkok Senator Nitiphum Nawarat yesterday filed a defamation complaint with police against those who posted messages on websites, including pantip.com and sanook.com, about an alleged Bt20 million debt...*

**Earlier:** [NITIPHOOM IRATE – Audio tape ‘a plot to ruin me’](#) – *The Nation*, May 6, 2006

*Senator-elect says enemies leaked recording of woman’s demand to repay Bt20m...*

*Neither Nitiphoom nor the statement made any reference to an alleged Bt20-million debt: the hour-long dialogue is dominated by the screaming woman, who in every other sentence curses the well-known political commentator as she demands her Bt20 million back...*

# Gumball Rally

May 12, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Gumball Rally

– May 12, 2006

[This](#)  
[year's schedule:](#)

*May 2: Budapest to Belgrade to Phuket, Thailand*

*May 3: Phuket (party on the beach)*

*May 4: Phuket to Bangkok (Party hosted by the Thai royal family)*

**Also:** [German](#)

[police impound four Gumball rally cars](#)

# The world with adjustable sea level

May 12, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Source: flood.firetree.net)

**Above:** Bangkok coast after a 1 meter increase in sea level

[The world with adjustable sea level](#)

# “Laos is going to the World Cup”

May 13, 2006

Categories: Film and TV, Laos



**Above:** Poster for *Mak-te*

*Lok Talueng* (lok = world, talueng = be amazed).

The tag line of the film is “Laos is going to the World Cup”

[Officials in Laos yesterday warned that the Thai film “Mak Te” \(“Football”\) could jeopardise diplomatic ties](#) – *The Nation*, May 13, 2006

... “Mak Te” is a comedy about the Thai and Lao football teams, in which the Lao team makes it to the World Cup. Lao authorities say the movie mocks Laos and puts the team’s success down to its Thai coach. Several of the Lao players dye their hair to look like Western football stars and the team practices in a freezer container to get used to cold weather...

[Lao officials and film producer to find way to end conflicts over Mak Te](#) – *The Nation*, May 15, 2006

**Earlier this month:** [Cambodia fumes at ‘disrespectful’ Thai ghost movie](#)



# Amazing parking structure

May 13, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

Amazing parking structure – May 13, 2006

Thanks to Dave for pointing this out – Autostadt Wolfsburg

(Auto City Wolfsburg) – [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#) and

[here](#)

and [some examples of parking](#)

[structure layout](#)

**Update:** And [here it](#)

[is on BoingBoing](#)

# Thai Monopoly

May 13, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Monopoly versions](#) – May 13, 2006

Has anyone heard of the Thailand version?

**Update:** Thanks to Lung for pointing out these versions of [Thai Monopoly](#).

# Asbestos can cause cancer but ‘it’s cheap’

May 14, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Asbestos can cause cancer but ‘it’s cheap’ – Official sees ‘no reason’  
for more expensive substitutes](#) – *The*

*Nation*, May 14, 2006

# Notice signs

May 15, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards

Notice signs – May 15, 2006



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

Nils send in these amusing signs and noted about the one on the right: *In Thai it says, “The water supply is limited. If we don’t save, it will be finished.”*

# State of the World's Mothers 2006

May 15, 2006

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[State of the World's Mothers 2006](#) – May 15, 2006

Ranks the nations of the world in terms of where it is best to be a mother... Thailand is 39.

# Weird Jelly Blobs

May 16, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘Earth  
is under attack – wet gel has landed’](#) – *The Nation*,  
May 15, 2006  
[Not alien droppings  
after all, just cooling.gel](#) – *Bangkok Post*, May  
16, 2006  
[It’s  
still out there](#) – *The Nation*, May 16, 2006

# Burmese comedian Zargana gagged

May 16, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burmese comedian Zargana gagged](#) – *The Irrawaddy*,

May 16, 2006

*Burma's best-known comedian, Zargana, has again been banned from giving public performances or promoting his latest film. The ban, issued by the Motion Picture and Video Censor Board, follows an interview Zargana did with the BBC during the recent water festival in which he criticized the military regime's arch-conservative rules on culture...*

# **Spanish architects win tsunami memorial design in Thailand**

May 17, 2006

Categories: 2004 Tsunami

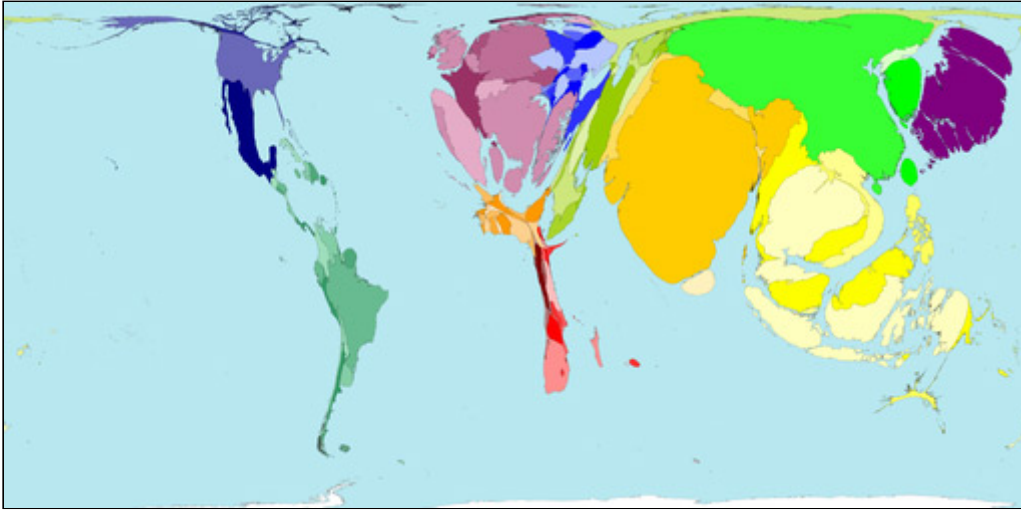
[Spanish architects win tsunami memorial design in Thailand](#) – VOA, May 17, 2006



# Worldmapper

May 17, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Source: Worldmapper)

**Above:** Mopeds And Motorcycles

[Worldmapper](#) – May 17, 2006

*Worldmapper is a collection of world maps, where territories are re-sized on each map according to the subject of interest.*

# **“The Da Vinci Code” can be shown uncut**

May 17, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

[“The Da Vinci Code” can be shown uncut](#) – *The Nation*, May 17, 2006

*... “A portion of the Thai subtitles deemed inappropriate would also be re-edited and there will be an explanation in Thai put on screen before the film begins telling viewers that the film is based on fiction,” said Chawana, an academic in the mass journalism field...*

[Ten last minutes of Da Vinci Code screening in Thailand to be censored](#)

– *The Nation*, May 17, 2006

*Censorship Committee have decided to cut the final 10 minutes of “The Da Vinci Code” as the parts effect the faith and belief of Christianity.*

*“The committee also agree that the movie should have a message before opening credit that the movie was produced from a fiction, not a real story,” said Chavana Mahitchartkul, a mass communication expert, who is a committee member...*

[“Da Vinci Code” allowed to be screened, with climax removed](#) – *TNA*, May 16, 2006

*...After viewing the film, the committee agreed that it can be released as planned on the condition that the last 10 minutes of the film, which is its climax, be removed since the content of that part presents an interpretation made by the film makers themselves which can create misunderstanding among people about the Christian faith, according to the report. Christian committee members met with the media Tuesday afternoon included the ecumenical Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT), the Evangelical Fellowship of Thailand (EFT), the Thailand Baptist Convention, the Seventh Day Adventist church and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Bangkok.*

*In addition, the committee suggested the Christian churches should have a role in polishing words and expressions in the Thai subtitles, some of which were found inappropriate. The committee also suggested some excerpts from the Bible should be added at the beginning and the end of the film...*

[Thai censorship breeds piracy, critics say](#) – *M & C*, May 16, 2006

# Linguists fret over the perils of ‘phasathan’

May 18, 2006

Categories: Language

[Linguists](#)

[fret over the perils of ‘phasathan’](#) – May 18, 2006

# Japanese pre-war Mikados in a former rice mill in Lam Lukka

May 18, 2006

Categories: Thai Railroads

More old steam engines –

May 18, 2006

Nils points out a [Japanese pre-war Mikados in a former rice mill in Lam Lukka](#) and a [thread about the subject](#).

# Koryo Tours

May 18, 2006

Categories: North Korea

[Koryo Tours](#) – May 18, 2006

Nils reports: *Koryo Tours* –

[Nice photo gallery of Pyongyang](#)  
and [interesting insights into the DPRK](#) in the *FAQ*.

# Thailand's 'tough but fair' lesson for the US

May 18, 2006

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Thailand's 'tough but fair' lesson for the US](#) – *Bangkok Post*, May 18, 2006

*...Essentially, the USA is facing a similar situation to what Thailand has recently been through – the presence of a large number of illegal migrants that cannot simply be deported, despite the demands of certain political groups, because it is practically impossible. What's to be done instead is an exceptionally provocative political issue domestically. What is initially necessary for a saner, more realistic debate on "immigration" issues in the USA is to be clearer about the terms and parameters of the political debate. At present, it is a rather convoluted one, with everything lumped into the "immigration" category which makes the issues unnecessarily emotive. It is necessary to be clear about distinguishing between 1) relatively short-term migrant work and 2) permanent immigration, i.e. that directly leading to citizenship...*

# President Ho's birthday celebrated in Thailand

May 19, 2006

Categories: Vietnam

[President](#)

[Ho's birthday celebrated in Thailand](#) –

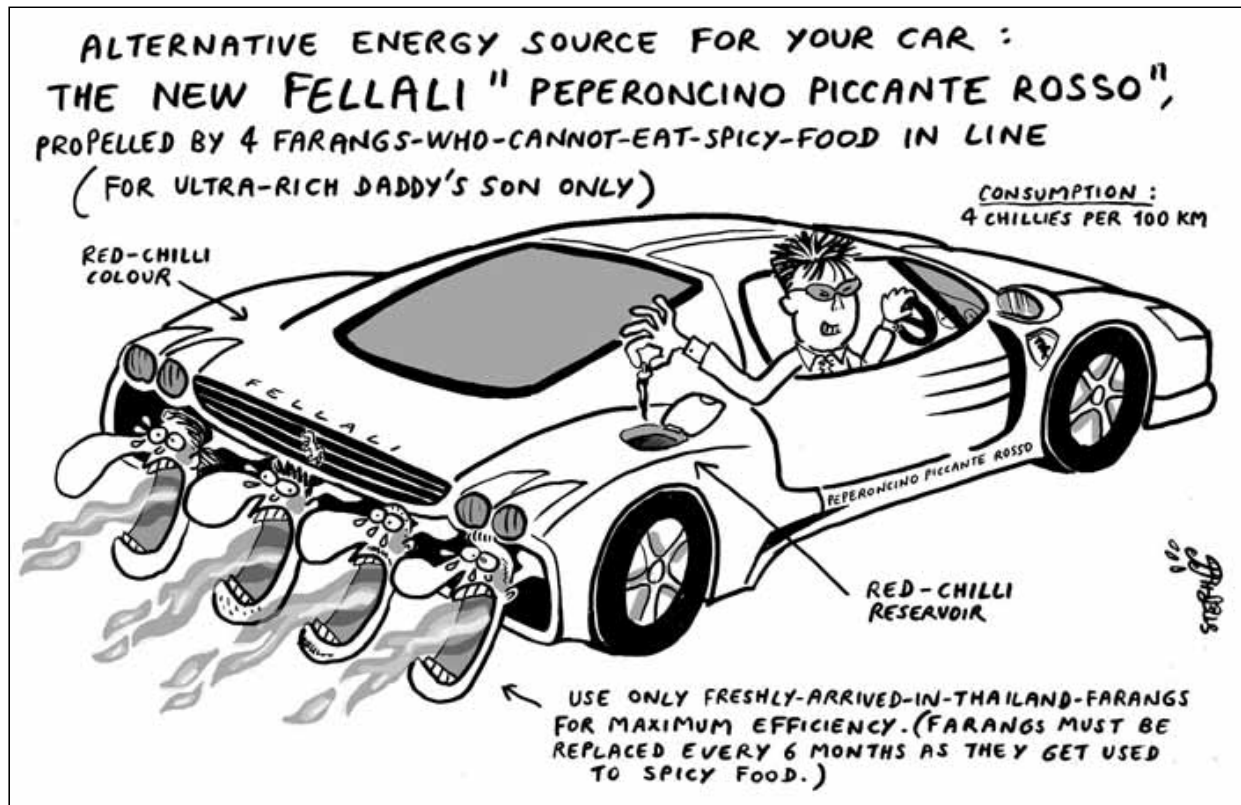
VNA, May 19, 2006

*...Addressing the ceremony, Vice Governor of Nakhon Phanom province Thiladej Vonglan praised President Ho's life and revolutionary career, which are considered good examples of morality and loyalty, strengthening bilateral cooperation between Viet Nam and Thailand in particular and cooperation among regional countries in general...*

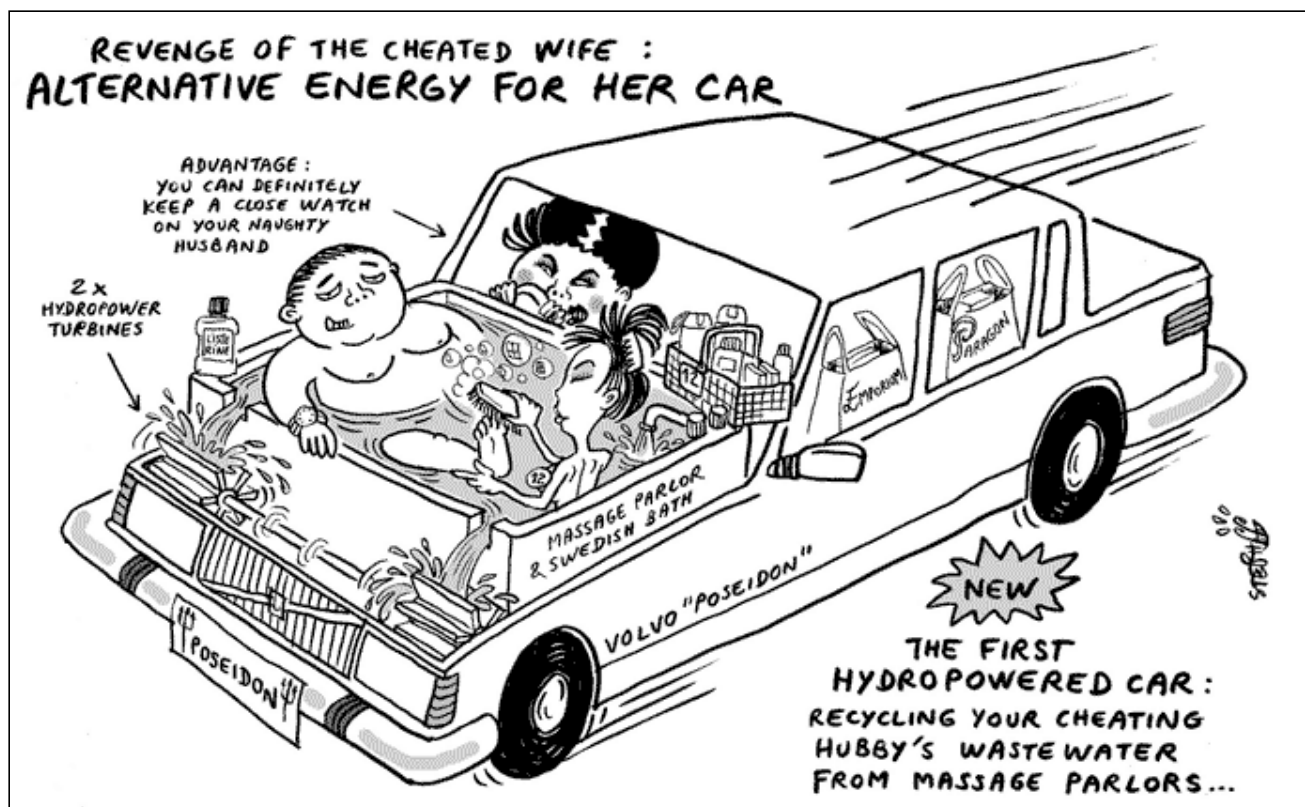
## Cartoons from Stephff – Alternative Energy series

May 20, 2006

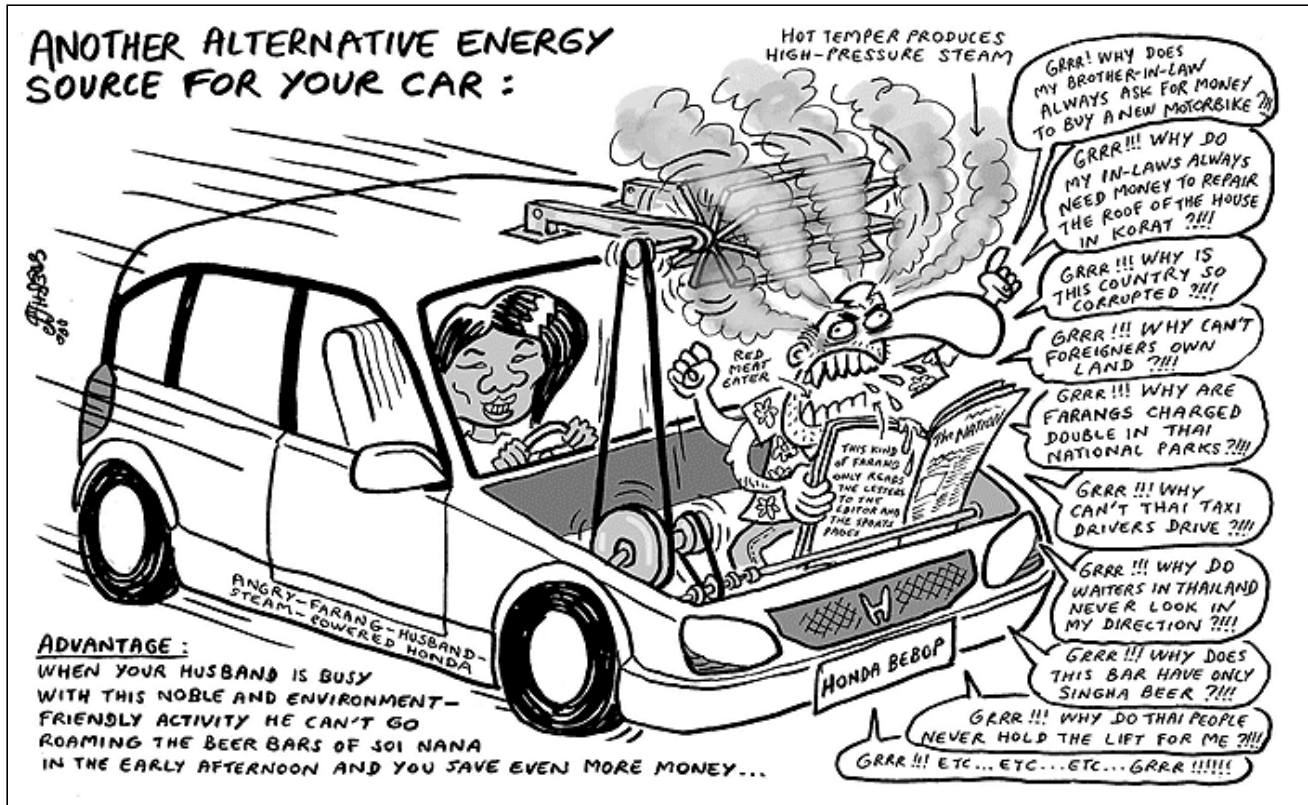
Categories: Stephff's Cartoons



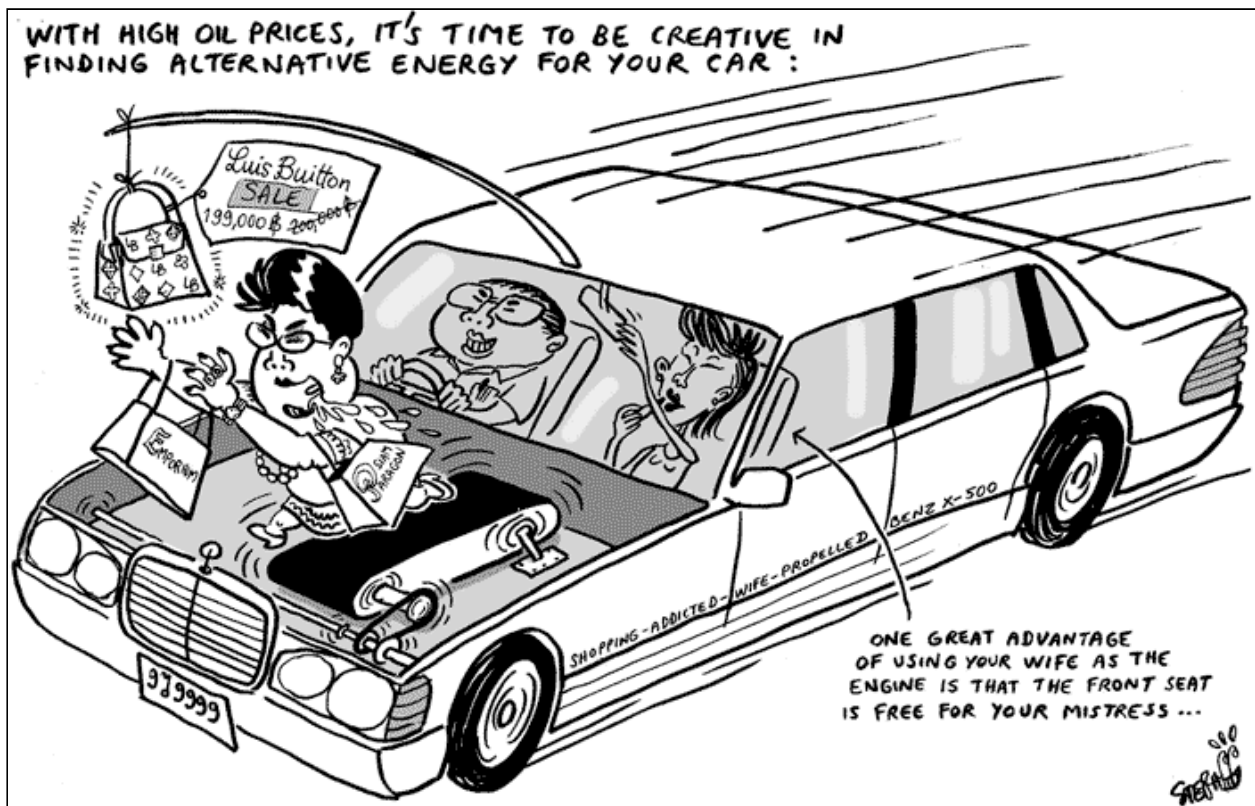
Cartoon from Stephff  
– June 3, 2006







Cartoon from Stephff - May 12, 2006



# Inside the new airport

May 20, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines

**Inside the new  
airport**

**Bangkok Airport news > [BangkokAirport.info](http://BangkokAirport.info)**



(Photo: Wes)

Inside the new airport –  
May 20, 2006



(Photo: Wes)



(Photo: Wes)





(Photo: Wes)



(Photo: Wes)



(Photo: Wes)



(Photo: Wes)





(Photo: Wes)

Bangkok Airport news >  
[BangkokAirport.info](http://BangkokAirport.info)

# Sing along with Kim Jong Il

May 20, 2006

Categories: North Korea

[Sing](#)

[along with Kim Jong Il](#) – May  
20, 2006

If you cannot access the link, try [here](#)  
and select kfahymn.swf.

### Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines

Arrested: Mr. Seksun Khumvong, the gatoey who is accused of killing Pol. Lt. Col. Chanin Bunnak, police inspector of Taladplu Police Station. He is brought to be questioned



after the Ratchaburana Police arrested him at Hotel 999  
in Lopburi Province.

The beauty queen photo at the bottom is  
from the Miss Tiffany's Universe pageant for transvestites  
in Pattaya.

# India loses out in Thai FTA

May 21, 2006

Categories: Business

[India](#)

[loses out in Thai FTA](#) – *Express*

*India*, May 21, 2006

*As the country debates the merits and de-merits of free trade agreements, an analysis of trade data shows India has been at the receiving end in both the Thai and the Sri Lanka FTAs...*

# Demographics of NYC's subway hour-by-hour

May 22, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Demographics  
of NYC's subway in the morning, hour-by-hour](#) –  
graphpaper.com, May 22, 2006

# Researchers excited at discovery of new bats

May 23, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Researchers excited at discovery of new bats](#) –

*The Nation*, May 23, 2006

*...Three rare bat species have been found in Chadai Slope in Mukdahan National Park. They are Hipposiderous pomona ("Khangkhao Na Yak Lek" – a bat with a giant's face: small), Rhinolophus pusillus ("Khangkhao Mongkut Lek" – a bat wearing a crown: small), and the Rat-eared bat ("Khangkhao Hoo Noo").*

*...Dr Sara Bamrungsri, a head researcher from Prince of Songkhla University who specialises in bats, said a bat similar to a tube-nosed bat thought to be a new species had been found in NA Haew National Park in Loei province. Verification is underway to determine whether it has ever been seen before...*

# Pre-WWI color photographs

May 23, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

Pre-WWI color photographs

– May 23, 2006

Nils points out: [Sergei](#)

[Mikhailovich Prokudin-Gorskii](#) (many internal and external image/gallery links at the bottom) and the [train](#)

[station](#). Also [Prokudin-Gorskii's collection](#) is now at Library of Congress, which has an explanation of the techniques used to acquire and display the images. [Some comparisons](#) with recent photos. He also made [a portrait of Tolstoy!](#)

# Tsunami Memorial

May 24, 2006

Categories: 2004 Tsunami

Tsunami Memorial –

May 24, 2006

Drawings [here](#)

and the design competition site is [here](#)  
with an ominous giant wave on the entry page.

# Foreign heavy selling of stocks to proceed shortly, says finance minister

May 24, 2006

Categories: Humor



[Foreign heavy selling of stocks to proceed shortly, says finance minister](#) –

TNA, May 24, 2006

Amusing that the headline that says the opposite of what is intended... What they mean is that the selling of stocks will only go on for a short time.

# A Century of Spirituality

May 24, 2006

Categories: Buddhism

[A](#)

[century of spirituality](#) – *The Nation*, May 24, 2006

*Even 13 years after his death, Buddhadasa Bhikku's teachings continue to rattle the underpinnings of religion in Thai society...*

*In one of his most famous books, "Handbook for Humankind", Buddhadasa heavily criticised a major pillar of Thai Buddhism – the making of merit at temples in the hope of bettering one's present life, or improved standing in a perceived future life – as contradictory to the Buddha's teaching...*



# HIV prevention forgotten, 'now verging on crisis'

May 24, 2006

Categories: HIV-AIDS

## [HIV](#)

[prevention forgotten, 'now verging on crisis'](#)— *The Nation*, May 24, 2006

*... "Thailand's acclaimed achievements in HIV prevention are history. In the past three years people working in the field have realised the epidemic is back," said Mechai.*

*Condom use among young people has dropped to only 20 per cent from about 70 per cent.*

*The rate of other sexually transmitted diseases among young people is up 30 per cent, but official figures show Thailand has lower rates of new HIV infection, he said.*

*"How on earth could this be? I have the feeling the figures have been window-dressed to satisfy the government," said Mechai...*

# Double-decker bus in Thailand?

May 24, 2006

Categories: Buses

Double-decker bus in Thailand? –

May 24, 2006

Michael asks: *A week ago last Saturday I spotted a red Routemaster double decker bus on the Bangkok/Chonburi motorway. It had British number plates and was being escorted to presumably Bangkok by one police motorcyclist. The number plate ended with an E registration.*

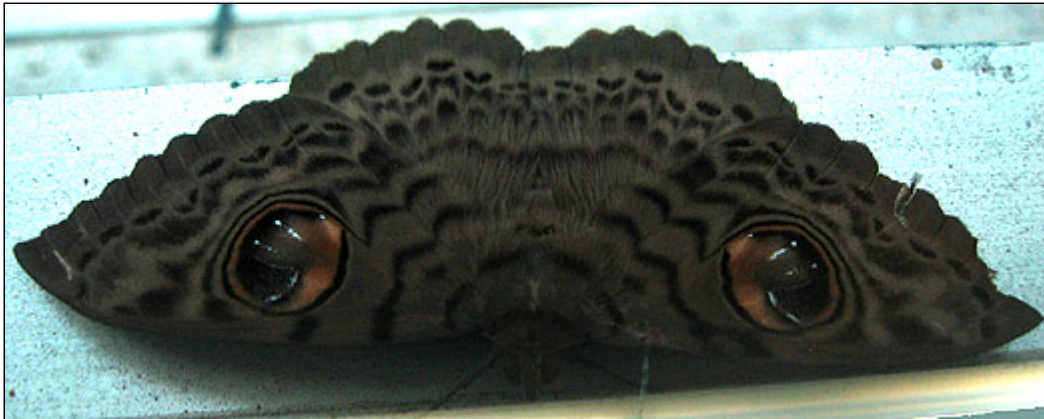
*K knowing your interest in transport, I thought there might be mention of the bus which presumably is a visitor to Thailand on 2Bangkok.com, but maybe its not a visitor as I have seen no mention. I don't think I was dreaming. Was it lost or is it a permanent fixture in Bangkok? Maybe one of the visitors to your site knows?*

Readers can [comment on the forum](#).

## Moth – *Erebus macrops* (Catocalinae)

May 24, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Moth –

May 24, 2006

Moth (above) photographed on Convent Road in downtown Bangkok. Anyone know the species?

Morten writes: *It's Erebus macrops (Catocalinae) (right) for sure.*



(Photo: ThaiBugs.com)

# Thailand backs peaceful use of nuclear power

May 25, 2006

Categories: Energy

[Thailand](#)

[backs peaceful use of nuclear power](#)

– *Bangkok Post*, May 25,  
2006

*Thailand has made clear to Iran its support for the country's use of nuclear power, provided its intentions are peaceful. Foreign Minister Kantathi Suphamongkhon conveyed the message during bilateral talks with Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Mahdi Mustafawi on the sidelines of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) meeting...*

## More vintage Korat images

May 25, 2006

Categories: Old photos and films

More vintage Korat images –

May 25, 2006

Tom writes: *There is a short [8mm movie](#) of Korat, the streets, and the bars a few years later (1971). It starts out a little bumpy, but gets better in town and off the dirt road.*

*If you go to [here](#) there is a whole site on Korat Air Base back then. There are sections on the planes, the pilots, the buildings, the base mascot Roscoe, etc. There is a large photo section with even a subsection on the waitresses at KABOOM (the Officers' Club at Korat Air Base) at the end of the photo directory. It is an interesting site for a feel of the times and the place.*

# Floods in Thailand

May 25, 2006

Categories: Floods

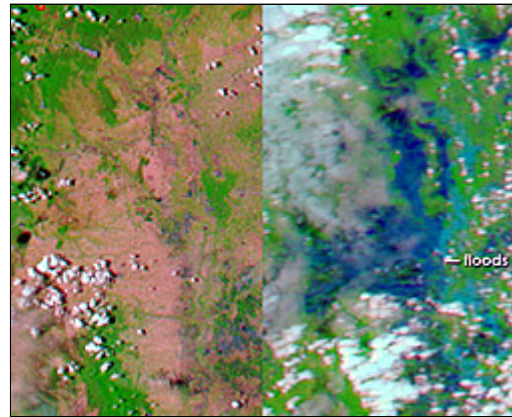
[Floods](#)

[in Thailand](#) – May

25, 2006

Thanks to Jack for point this out...

**Right:** The inundated  
area on May 5 and May 26.



(Source: NASA)

# Uncle Sam takes a bite out of expatriate incomes

May 26, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Uncle](#)

[Sam takes a bite out of expatriate incomes](#)

– *International Herald Tribune*,

May 26, 2006

# Building the Arches

May 27, 2006

Categories: Thai Holidays and Festivals



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Building the arches – May 27, 2006

**More:** [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)

Photos on this page show several of the arches under construction for the June celebrations of the King's reign. *Bangkok Post* reports that 31 arches are being erected along Ratchadamnoen Avenue for the event.

Anyone who was here for the 1996 anniversary will remember the spectacular arches erected for that occasion. The 1996 celebrations included a series of commemorative arches in various architectural styles—many based on fantastic Thai mythological themes.





(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)

**More:** [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



# Registering Your Car

May 27, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Registering your car –

May 27, 2006

In case you do not know: Those registering cars do not have to have their vehicles inspected on-site at the motor vehicle department. For 106 baht you can get a certificate of inspection from one of the special shops that ring motor vehicle department. All these shops display the logo (above) that designate a "privately run business for checking a car's condition."

# A tale of two newspapers: Did Sophon leak?

May 27, 2006

Categories: A Tale of Two Newspapers

A tale of two newspapers: Did Sophon leak?

[Sophon](#)

[says Thaksin trying to discredit him](#)

– Bangkok Post, May 27, 2006

*Caretaker Senator Sophon Suphamong has alleged caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra invented*

*lies to discredit him after he exposed the "Finland Conspiracy," a five-step plan allegedly adopted by the government to take control of the country... Mr Sophon said the true story was that Mr Thaksin had asked to dine at his house four years ago and confided in him about the Finland Conspiracy.*

*Social*

*critic Prawase Wasi was also at the dinner table, according to Mr Sophon...*

['PM](#)

[should back off or I'll reveal his secrets'](#)

– The Nation, May 27, 2006

*...Sophon yesterday denied ever having leaked the so-called Finland Plot and dismissed allegations he had asked Thaksin for a large amount of money and been refused.*

*Thaksin told his Cabinet on Thursday Sophon had fabricated a story about the so-called Finland Plot because he was angry he had not received a large amount of money from Thaksin that he had asked for.*

*"I have never thought about setting up a fund by asking for money from the PM," Sophon said yesterday.*

*"I have never entertained such an idea, particularly with this PM. Thaksin is making up stories to ruin my reputation," he said...*

**More:** ['A](#)

[tale of two newspapers' archives](#) compares how news sources report the same stories.



# Arch Bomb

May 27, 2006

Categories: Security

Arch bomb  
– June 3, 2006

*The Nation reports: Debris of a pillar of  
an arch on Rajadamnoen Road that was destroyed by a  
bomb explosion on Friday early morning (right).*

**Below:** The arch on May 27, 2006

**Earlier:** [Building  
the arches](#) – May 27, 2006



(Photo: Kitti Buppachat, *The Nation*)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

# Bangkok Storms, Clouds, and Sunsets

May 28, 2006

Categories: Weather

On this page are most of the photos of these clouds that have been featured on 2Bangkok.com from 1998 to 2008.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok storm – July 1, 2008



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Friday night clouds – June 2, 2006

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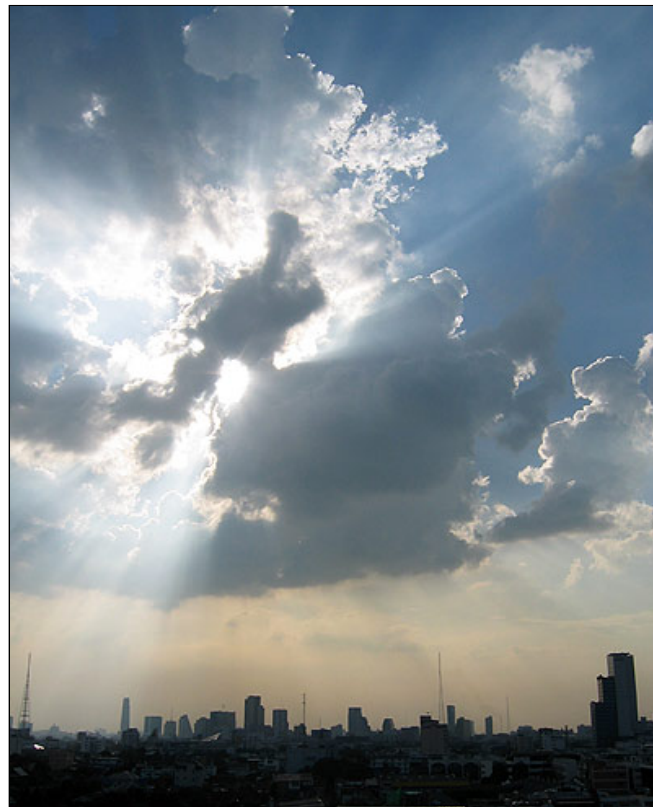




(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Sunday night cloud – 6:42pm, May 28, 2006

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Afternoon clouds – 4:20pm, October 15, 2005



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Storm clouds over Bangkok – 3:40pm, October 14, 2005



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Booming Bangkok thunderstorm – 10:21, October 3,  
2005

A long and sustained storm pounds Bangkok...  
Power transformers glow yellow in the distance as  
they pop off and on. Thunder rocks the city nearly  
continuously for eight minutes and lightning keeps  
the sky glowing white.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thursday night rain – September 15, 2005

**Right:** Ratchadapiesek Road during a  
Thursday night rain storm.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wednesday rain – September 14, 2005

Baiyoke II disappears into the clouds during Wednesday's all-day showers.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Clouds towering over Bangkok – 6:08pm, August 20, 2005

[WICKED WEATHER: Storms batter Bangkok](#) – *The Nation*, July 22, 2005

*...In Thailand, waterspouts are rare, happening only once or twice every few years. This year, however, there have already been three reports of them, with the first waterspout hitting Chanthaburi in April.*

*...Chalermchai added that heavy thunderstorms are expected every evening for the rest of July. He said people should avoid staying near or under large trees, unstable buildings, and billboards...*

**Right:** Wednesday's storm



(Photo:  
2Bangkok.com)





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wednesday morning thunderstorm – July 13, 2005

A thunderstorm rolls across Bangkok on Wednesday morning. This view is looking west towards Phahonyothin Road. [Rain, pot plants cause havoc](#) – *The Nation*, July 14, 2005

Thursday storm – July 7, 2005

Forward edge of a Thursday afternoon storm.

**Right:** East  
**Below:** West



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wednesday storm – June 29, 2005



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Friday thunderstorm – June 24, 2005



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



**June 4, 2005** – *With the rainy season starting, it is time once again for photos of towering cloud formations that periodically sweep through Bangkok.*



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Dark storm over the city – September 30, 2004

It really was this dark for a time at 5:59pm as a booming thunderstorm rolled over Bangkok's business district. Note the winding Chao Phraya River in the distance.



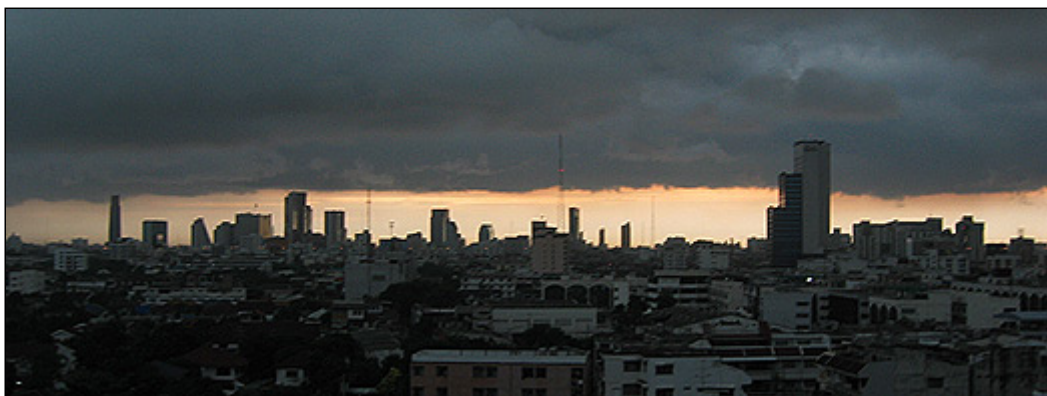
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



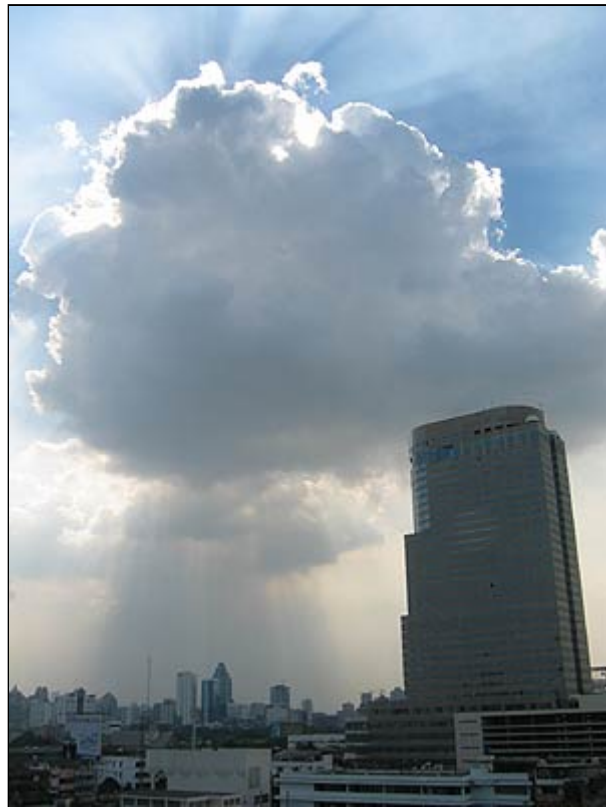
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



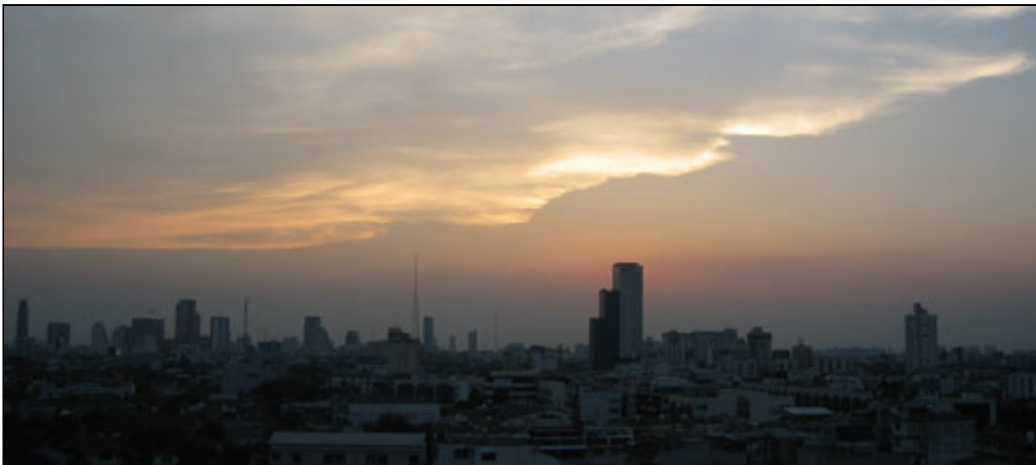
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

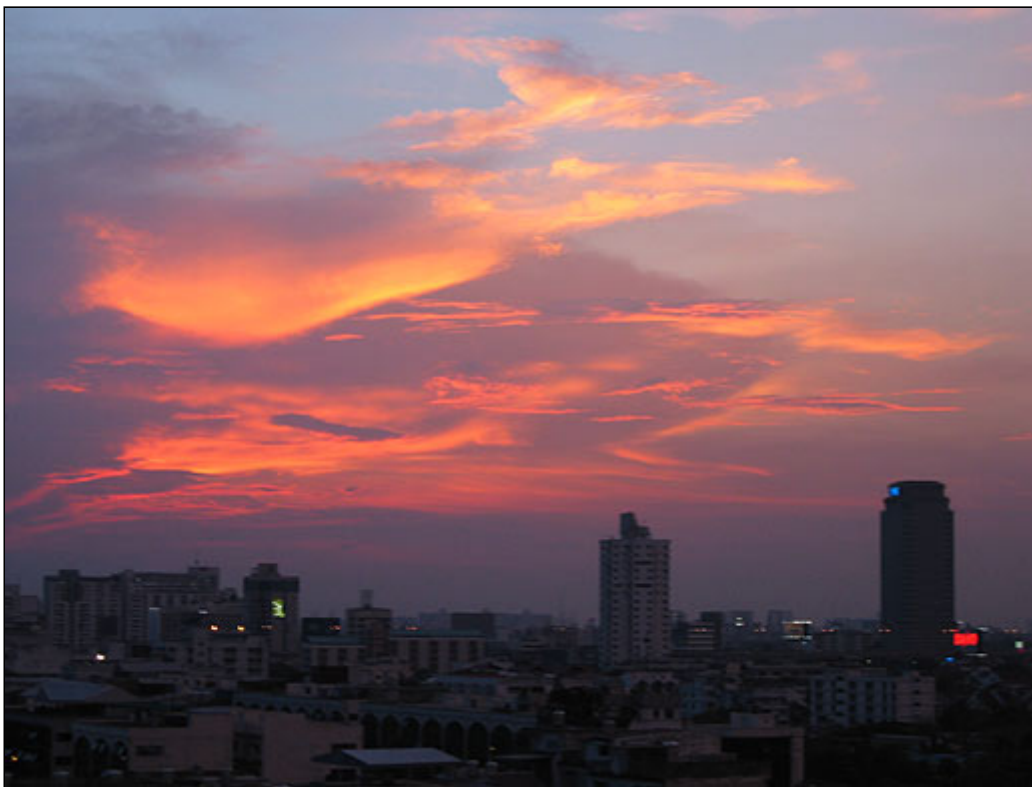


(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

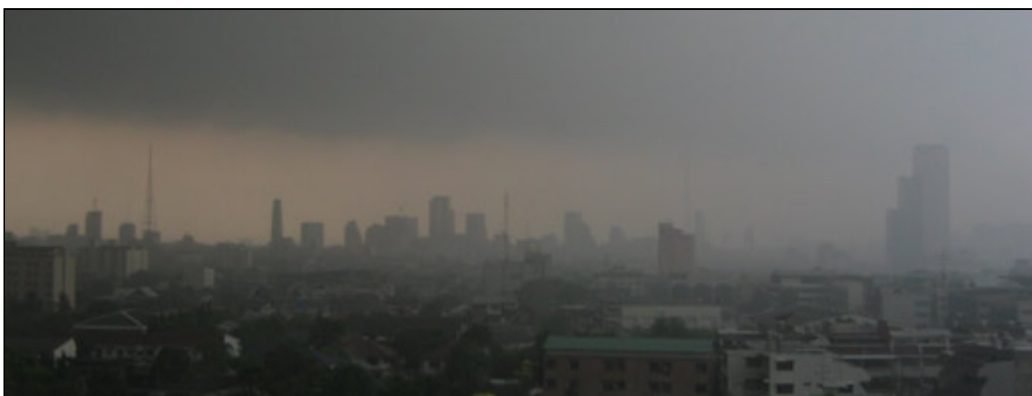


(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)





(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)





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

# Nicolas Cage to star in Pang brothers' remake of Bangkok Dangerous

May 28, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

[Nicolas](#)

[Cage to star in Pang brothers' remake of Bangkok Dangerous](#)

– AP, May 28, 2006

*Nicolas Cage will star in the Hollywood remake of the Hong Kong-born Pang brothers' 1999 gangster thriller Bangkok Dangerous, a newspaper reported Sunday.*

*The twin brothers – Oxide and Danny Pang – will direct the remake and are to start shooting in Bangkok in August, the South China Morning Post reported...*



# Stone Replica of Persepolis Built in Thailand

May 28, 2006

Categories: Buildings

[Stone](#)

[Replica of Persepolis Built in Thailand](#) –

CHN, May 28, 2006

# Playing trains with a political twist

May 28, 2006

Categories: Mass Transit

[Playing trains with a political twist](#) – *The*

*Nation*, May 28, 2006

*The partisan politics in the implementation of mass-transit rail schemes to solve Bangkok's chronic traffic congestion and reduce dependence on private vehicles has been quite intriguing of late...*

# Flood disaster tipped for city in next 2 months – Even bigger one picked for end of year

May 28, 2006

Categories: Floods

## [Flood](#)

[disaster tipped for city in next 2 months- Even bigger one picked for end of year](#) – Bangkok

Post, May 28, 2006

*Bangkok could be hit by a flood disaster in the next two months, when the annual monsoon joins forces with the La Nina weather phenomenon triggering torrential rain, chairman of the National Committee on Natural Disaster Warning Smith Dharmasaroja has warned.*

*However, "the worst flood" is predicted to strike the city in November and December.*

*"It is likely that Bangkok will face one of the worst floods in its history at the end of the year due to a combination of the annual sea water intrusion, arrival of northern runoff and La Nina-triggered downpours," said Mr Smith...*

# **Pattaya launches city restructuring plan to retain world-classed reputation**

May 29, 2006

Categories: Pattaya

[Pattaya launches city restructuring plan to retain world-classed reputation](#)

– TNA, May 29, 2006

*...The eastern resort city's restructuring plan is also aimed to retain its reputation as a regional and world-classed tourist attraction, according to Pattaya Mayor Niran Watthanasartsathorn. Under the plan, all the city's utility systems, including electric wires, water pipes and telecommunication cables, would be relocated underground—from Dusit Resort Hotel to Walking Street, the mayor noted...*

# **British women drive rickshaw from Thailand to England**

May 29, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[British women drive rickshaw from Thailand to England](#) – *Mumbai Mirror*, May 29, 2006

# Extrajudicial killings of alleged drug dealers in Thailand

May 29, 2006

Categories: Drugs, The Thaksin Years

"Extrajudicial  
killings of alleged drug dealers in Thailand"

– May 29, 2006

With the government restarting its war on drugs, it is interesting to review Asian Legal Resource Centre's June 2003 [Extrajudicial killings of alleged drug dealers in Thailand](#).



# **Finland plot: TRT and PM file libel suit against Manager Group**

May 30, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

Finland plot: [TRT and PM file libel suit against Manager Group](#) – *The Nation*, May 30, 2006

# New Property Law Stuns Foreigners

May 30, 2006

Categories: Property and Development

[New property law stuns foreigners](#) – *Bangkok Post*, May 30, 2006

...It is common practice for such “shell companies” to include Thai nationals who have been paid to act as nominees to facilitate the deal and who have invested nothing in the purchase.

The new regulation, signed by Suraart Thoingniramol, deputy permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry, is designed to halt the use of such companies for property purchases in the future.

“If it appears that an alien holds shares or is a director or it is reasonable to believe that a Thai holds shares as a representative of an alien, the officers shall investigate the income of Thais holding shares, delving into the number of years in the current profession and monthly salary,” reads a translation of the law. “The provision of necessary evidence is required...”

# Land crackdown targets Thai shareholders

May 31, 2006

Categories: Property and Development

[Land crackdown targets Thai shareholders](#) – *Phuket*

*Gazette, May 31, 2006*

*The Ministry of Interior has ordered a crackdown on property companies attempting to circumvent Section 74 of the Land Act in order to allow foreigners to control land ownership...*

# **“Where did North Korea get the fertiliser it sold ...**

May 31, 2006

Categories: North Korea

["Where](#)

[did North Korea get the fertiliser it sold to us?"](#)

– *The Nation*, May 31, 2006

*South Korea donates fertiliser to North*

*Korea as a part of its cooperation to assist with food shortages in the North. This activity is handled by a government firm*

*named the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (Kotra).*

*Kotra recently claimed that North Korea exported a total of 25,000 metric tonnes of fertiliser with a value of US\$5 million to Thailand in 2005.*

*Kotra reported it had requested cooperation from Thailand in disclosing the type of fertiliser imported from North Korea, but the Thai government has so far refused to provide any details...*

# Troubles in the South – June 2006

June 1, 2006

Categories: The Thai Deep South

Troubles in the South – June 2006

[Troubles in the South index page](#)

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Roadside bombing – June 27, 2006

Mr. John reports: *On the road in the village of Thambon Arzong, Amphur Raman, Yala, officers investigate the place where assailants planted a bomb to attack those protecting teachers. This caused 4 Raman volunteers and 1 soldier to die and 1 was injured.*

(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: A villager in Amphur Raman for 2Bangkok.com)





(Photo: A villager in Amphur Raman for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: A villager in Amphur Raman for 2Bangkok.com)





(Photo: A villager in Amphur Raman for 2Bangkok.com)

Almost like being there: Bombing in the deep south – June 27, 2006

Additional photos from the June 27 bombing that killed four Yala volunteers and one soldier.



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

Celebration in Yala – June 29, 2006

Mr. John reports: *At Ban Talohsumae School, Amphur Krongpinang, Yala there was a celebration for the 60th anniversary of his Majesty's accession to the throne. There was a Lamadhayat ceremony and the deputy chief came to be the chairperson of the ceremony. Lots of*

people come to participate.

More on [Lamadhayat](#)

More on the [60th anniversary of the King's accession to the throne](#)

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Sonthi to ease southern unrest within one year – To focus on using politics – translated and summarized from *Thai Rath*, June 22, 2006

As a result of the increased violence in the three southern border provinces, Pol. Lt. Col. Thaksin Shinawatra assigned Pol. Gen. Sonthi Boonyaratglin, commander-in-chief, to visit Malaysia to seek measures to ease the situation.

On June 21, Yala governor Boonyasit Suwanrat, visited the Thammawittaya Foundation School in Yala district to meet with nineteen Islamic teachers (ustazes) who had previously been arrested. He asked the teachers to inform the real facts about the Islamic religion to children, youths, and ordinary people in order to help solve problems peacefully.

On the same day, the police arrested two people who were suspected of bombing a marble table located in front of Joh-I-Rong district office. The suspects refused to admit to any guilt.

Sonthi Boonyaratglin gave an interview after returning from Malaysia concerning his assignment to solve the southern unrest. He said he will focus on using politics to lead the military. Also he stated that he is not afraid of being a scapegoat, unlike his predecessors, as he understands the problems and has a perfect plan. Further, he advised the problems will be cleared within one year.

---

[Badly serviced spy cameras fail to catch bombers](#) – *Bangkok Post*, June 22, 2006

*Malfunctioning surveillance cameras have been blamed for the authorities' failure to identify most of those behind the series of coordinated bomb attacks in the deep South last week.*

*Security reports say many of the surveillance cameras supplied by Xytech Co were out of order due to a lack of maintenance, as technicians skipped routine checks because they were frightened by the ongoing violence...*

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

Almost like being there: “To be number one” – June 22, 2006

Dr. Has reports: *Today, on June 22, the Office of Education, Yala, zone 1 organized the activity called “To be number one” (an anti-drug program). There are many activities such as a singing contest for the song “To be number one” that students from many schools participated in. The*



atmosphere is quiet because the situation is still tense making not so many people coming to join.

---

[Army chief outlines moves to resolve southern unrest](#) – TNA, June 23, 2006

*...The army chief—recently assigned full authority to oversee the southern insurgency—said that in the last two years the Fourth Army Area Command, responsible for Thailand's southern region, had faced problems in administration and management of forces. Gen. Sonthi promised an early resolution of the problem.*

*Major hurdles hindering an effective response to the southern violence, he said, stemmed from differences between state agencies, each of which has carried out tasks in their own way...*

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

Almost like being there: Lamadhayat – June 22, 2006

Dr. Has reports: *Today (June 22), Ban Budi School organized the activities to promote community relations and also the activity of Lamadhayat. Lamadhayat is a main ceremony for every school in the three southernmost provinces because it will ward off the bad things (the unrest in the area) and this will create morale and willpower for teachers, students, and people.*



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

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[South wary of Sonthi in full control](#) – Bangkok Post, June 20, 2006

*Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's decision to give army chief Gen Sonthi Boonyaratglin full authority to bring the restive far South under control has generated a mix of concerns and hopes among southern opinion leaders. But Gen Sonthi's army colleagues are viewing the assignment with scepticism.*

*They doubt it will be good for Gen Sonthi's career, but say nor will it allow Mr Thaksin and his deputy in charge of security, Pol Gen Chidchai Wannasathit, to dodge responsibility if the mission fails.*

*Most southern opinion leaders are concerned over reports the army commander-in-chief plans to despatch five fresh battalions to deal with the troubles in Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat...*

---

[Narathiwat police nabs Indonesian bomb suspect](#) – The Nation, June 16, 2006

*Narathiwat police Friday arrested an Indonesian man who authorities suspect might be behind yesterday's series of bomb attacks in the deep South.*

*Police found the suspect, identified as 37-year-old Zablee Hamaeruding, alone in a hut on a rubber plantation in the Rangae district of Narathiwat province. They seized bomb-making materials such as fertilizer and three kilograms of nails, Police Col. ManojIntaritkul said...*

---



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

June 17, 2006 incidents in the Deep South

Dr. Has reports: *At 9:50 pm on June 17, a bomb exploded in the karaoke room at the Yalarama Hotel in the center of Yala. One person was killed and and two were injured. This is the second bomb that has been left at the Yalarama Hotel.*

**Left and below:** Damage at the hotel





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

Mr. John reports: *The officers investigate the car of Mr. Mustorfa Masa-ar, a deputy chief of Kabang District, Yala (right). The bad guys planted a bomb in it which exploded while he and his wife drove from the house to park at a market near the road. The power of the bomb caused he and his wife to be seriously injured and the car was destroyed. At present they are being treated at Yala Hospital.*



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

Example of bomb damage – June 16, 2006

Mr. John reports: *On June 16, 2006 officers investigate the place where the bad guys bombed a bathroom at Amphur Kokpoe Train Station, Pattani. The power of the bomb did not hurt or cause people to die because it occurred early in the morning. Bombs went off at the same time in many places of the three southern provinces on June 16, 2006.*

[Thai militants seek Muslim world's attention](#) – Reuters, June 17, 2006

[Malaysia urges Thailand to stop blame game](#) – AFP, June 16, 2006

*Thailand should stop using Malaysia as a scapegoat for the insurgency in its Muslim-dominated southern states, Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said...*

[Lull ends in savage wave of 44 blasts](#) – The Nation, June 16, 2006

*2 dead, 25 injured; Thaksin 'lost for words' as to why authorities could not prevent attacks...*

[PM: Government must boost counter-insurgency measures](#) – TNA, June 15, 2006

TNA often has unintentionally funny photos with its article. This one has a very sad-looking Thaksin.

[Militants evolve as military wilts](#) – The Nation, June 16, 2006

*...It was clear that yesterday's attacks, which involved the use of small, improvised explosive devices, were aimed primarily at humiliating the local authorities, police and the armed forces. They also served to remind the local population that the cause championed by small groups of Malay nationalists to create a separate homeland in the Muslim-majority region is still very much alive, and that the government's effort to restore peace and re-establish the rule of law is not working.*

*...Without a doubt, yesterday's attack was another slap in the face of the country's security apparatus. Like previous incidents, our esteemed political leaders were left with virtually nothing to say – merely mumbling their way from one interview to the next, unabashedly saying how government policy has been on the right track and how things are going to improve...*



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

Almost like being there: Thursday's bombings – June 15, 2006



Mr. John reports: *There were bomb explosions in at least 50 points in the three southern provinces. The bombs were of both high and low power and two people were killed in Pattani. For the above photo, the officer investigates Mr. Amnan Moodor's car. Mr. Amnan is a reporter that reports Malayu news on Channel 11 in Yala. The bad guy hid a bomb in his car, but Mr. Amnan noticed something strange and the bomb exploded before he got into his car.*

---



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



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

**Above:** Bomb damage at Yala Train Station

**Left:** Yala Train Station

Almost like being there: Friday's bombings – June 16, 2006

Dr. Has reports: *At 6:30am today, an explosion occurred in the toilet of Yala Train Station at the same time that others went off in Pattani.... At 10:30am, explosions happened again at Raman Station and Laloh Station. All the bombs were placed in the toilets.*

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[What chance of reconciliation in the South?](#) – Chang Noi, June 12, 2006

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[Porntip to file report about bodies claim](#) – Bangkok Post, June 9, 2006

*Forensic expert Porntip Rojanasunan has agreed to prepare a report on the discovery of many unidentified corpses in the deep South to a committee headed by police inspector-general Seripisut Temiyavej...*

*Kraisak Choonhavan, outgoing senator from Nakhon Ratchasima, told the Muang Thai Rai Sapda (Thailand Weekly) talk show, hosted by publisher Sondhi Limthongkul, two weeks ago*

*that more than 300 unidentified corpses had been found in graveyards in the violence-ravaged southern provinces.*

*Chidchai Wannasathit, acting deputy prime minister and justice minister, while denying the corpses were of people killed in the southern violence, asked Pol Gen Seripisut to investigate...*

---



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

**Bomb explodes – June 8, 2006**

Mr. John reports: *On June 8, at 2:30 pm police at Ruesor Police Station were informed that a bomb exploded on the road of Ban Balae, Ban Jor Bueza Mu 10, Thumbon Ruesor, Amphur Ruesor, Narathiwat. Five police were killed and three severely injured. The bomb was detonated by wire when two police pickup trucks were passing by on their way to escort teachers from Ban Ruesoh School home. The police assumed this was done by RKK group that have declared that they will attack the teacher safety in red areas.*

---





(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

Village safety volunteer shot dead – June 4, 2006

Mr. John reports: *On June 4, Mr. Abdullah Homprasert, a 40-year-old village safety volunteer, was shot twice while he was driving his motorcycle back from sending his son to Tadika School one kilometer from his home. He always carried his gun. After investigation, it was found that two bad guys followed and shot him. When he fell, they took his gun. The police assumed they planned the shooting because the deceased had spoken out forcefully against terrorists.*

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[What chance of reconciliation in the South?](#) – Chang Noi, June 12, 2006

---

[Porntip to file report about bodies claim](#) – Bangkok Post, June 9, 2006

*Forensic expert Porntip Rojanasunan has agreed to prepare a report on the discovery of many unidentified corpses in the deep South to a committee headed by police inspector-general Seripisut Temiyavej...*

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*Chidchai Wannasathit, acting deputy prime minister and justice minister, while denying the corpses were of people killed in the southern violence, asked Pol Gen Seripisut to investigate...*

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[Plan to pay civilians who shoot rebels](#) – Bangkok Post, June 8, 2006

*The governor of Pattani wants to offer cash rewards of 50,000-100,000 baht to civilians who kill or injure insurgents in gun fights. He says rewards would give people an incentive to fight back, but academics and law experts argue it would just encourage more extra-judicial killing...*

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[Poverty in Thailand Blamed for Unrest in Muslim South](#) – VOA, June 6, 2006

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[Thailand must change policy on Muslim south – probe](#) – Reuters, June 5, 2006

*An independent body which has been investigating the bloody violence in Thailand's largely Muslim south for a year said on Monday it could get worse unless the government changed its policy...*

---

Interior Minister refuses to accept rumor about the establishment of Pattani state – translated and summarized from *Krungtep Turakit* online, June 1, 2006

*Interior Minister ACM Kongsak Wanthana said that governors of the three southern border provinces are outlining qualifications for people who want to apply to join volunteer village security units. Currently, there are insufficient forces to maintain watches around the clock. Trained volunteers from other areas may be stationed in the three southernmost provinces until there are enough forces in the area. ACM Kongsak said that he was not aware of any additional teachers in the Yaha district of Yala province having been taken hostage. He also refused to add credence to the widely-spread rumor that green flags are shown in Pattani province to support the establishment of a Pattani state.*

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[Troubles in the South index page](#)

# 60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

June 1, 2006

Categories: Thai Holidays and Festivals, The Monarchy

60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

June, 2006

Also: [Building the arches](#)

Also: [Vintage photos](#)

Also: [Downtown on June 9](#)

[Special newspapers commemorating the June celebrations](#)



[Police ban distribution of controversial image of Bhutan crown prince](#) – *The Nation*, June 27, 2006

...Yannaphol, head of the Information Technology Division under the Department of Special Investigation (DSI), said the individual would face criminal charges of libel if the image was found to have been doctored. "Please stop distributing the image, or you risk facing criminal charges. Actions are being taken without any formal requests that might possibly be made by Bhutan," he said.

Maj-General Prachin Waree, a deputy chief of the police Information Technology and Communications Bureau, said electronically-based examination was underway to locate the person who first released the image.

"This may violate the crown prince's reputation. It requires thorough and careful examination to work this out," he said...

[Article discussing succession](#) – *The Age*, June 28, 2006

It is interesting that these types of articles always show no insight beyond the day-to-day scuttlebutt of the average Thai... and the conclusion as usual is absolutely wrong.

[Bhutan's guideline on tourism](#) – *Bangkok Post*, June 28, 2006

... Here in Thailand, the country uses a different formula. This Kingdom prefers "high value, high volume." That means the more they come, the better for the country. Last year the country had 12 million foreign visitors, and this year its target is 4.5 million more. The Tourism Authority of Thailand recently called on the



government for 900 million baht to be used on promotion campaigns to make its target reachable. But there is a price to pay for that, regarding the changing of lifestyle and culture. Mae Hong Son of yesteryear is completely different to Mae Hong Son of today; the same goes for Chiang Mai, Koh Samui, Koh Phangan and elsewhere.

What Thailand's agencies responsible for tourism fail to appreciate is: who should really benefit from the friendly tourism drive? What the TAT has in mind is a target and projections, but it overlooks a key factor – how to allow the locals to get the most benefit from its policies, instead of outsiders...

[Cost keeps Thais from following prince charming](#) – *The Nation*, June 28, 2006

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[A humble fruit appeals to royal taste](#) – *The Nation*, June 17, 2006

A Bangkok fruiterer had the proudest day of her life when she impressed a visiting monarch with her durians and her love for His Majesty the King...

And here's a [photo of the Bhutanese crown prince wai-ing in Phuket](#).

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[Abac pollster retracts results of survey on visiting royals' popularity](#) – *The Nation*, June 21, 2006

Assumption University's Abac pollster Wednesday retracted the results of its latest survey on the relative popularity of visiting royals just hours after they were released because of pressure from the Foreign Ministry...

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[What the Princess saw](#) – *The Nation*, June 24, 2006

...At one point, Queen Sirikit, who was standing behind the King's back, instructed Princess Sirindhorn to take the pictures.

"The Queen pointed her finger and told Princess Sirindhorn to take the pictures here and there," said Phaothong Thongjua, a well-known Thai artist and academic. He got this account from Thanphuying Putrie Viravaidya, His Majesty the King's Deputy Principal Private Secretary.

After a while, His Majesty the King turned to take a critical look at Princess Sirindhorn's busy snapping away. The King said: "Shh ... can you take the pictures somewhere else?"

...Yesterday, Princess Sirindhorn held a solo exhibition at the Conrad Hotel of 14 photographs taken by her digital camera on the balcony of the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall on June 9. The exhibition is open to public between June 24 and July 2...



(Photo:  
AP?)

**Earlier:** Photo exhibition – June 20, 2006

Asprier writes: *The Nation Weekly* mentions that at the Conrad Hotel there will be an exhibition of Pratep's (the King's daughter) photographs taken by her on June 9 when she photographed next to the King on June 9 (left). Not sure, but I think the dates are June 26-July 5.

Anyone heard about this?

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[Nation lensman revels in memories of royal day](#) – *The Nation*, June 24, 2006

...The Royal Photographic Society of Thailand, which is under the patronage of HM the King, told *The Nation* photo editor that they would permit one photographer from the paper to enter the hall compound, he said.

"None of the six *Nation* photographers working that day was wearing an appropriate white shirt, including me," he said. "Without white shirts, we couldn't go inside."...

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Chakri family tree – June 23, 2006

Interesting [family tree of the Chakri dynasty](#) (676kb). We do not know from what website the graphic is from, but it says it is from the "Queen Savang Vadhana Foundation."

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[Thai women go crazy for Bhutan's prince heartthrob](#) – *Channel NewsAsia*, June 19, 2006

Bhutan's 26-year-old crown prince, with his movie star looks, has become the latest heartthrob for Thai women after attending celebrations honoring the Thai king's 60th anniversary on the throne...

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Celebrating the King – June 15, 2006

Billboards and photos of the King on highrises...

**Left:** We love the King.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

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[Backstory: The king and Thai](#) – CSM, June 12, 2006

*...Last year, Major Cineplex asked director Rashane Limtrakul to produce a new presidential salute. His lavish minute-plus film is about a Buddhist king rescued from stormy seas by a goddess. "I wanted to make people remember why you stand up," he explains. Instead of ending on the customary image of the king, the film shows the royal family, with the crown prince in a prominent position. A subtle way of preparing moviegoers for the inevitable royal succession? No, says Mr. Anavach: "We try to remind people to love the royal family. It's not only the king." Any feedback from the palace? Oh yes, Anavach says, the king loves this one. "Our king is an artist," he says proudly.*

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[Thailand king's got that swing](#) – CNN, June 11, 2006

*For so many Thais, King Bhumibol Adulyadej is a father figure for the nation. But for a small group of jazz musicians, he is also the King of Swing...*

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[June 9, 10, 11, 2006 front pages](#)

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[Arches and exhibits in honor of HM The King](#) – Bangkok Post, June 9, 2006

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[Whatever HM the King suggests will be implemented and carried on](#) – TNA, June 10, 2006

*The government will continue all His Majesty the King-initiated projects and implement whatever the revered monarch has advised, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said here on Friday.*

*The prime minister told TNA that all Thais are loyal and feel gratitude to His Majesty the King for his wisdom and dedication for the better life and well-being of his subjects throughout the kingdom over the past 60 years...*

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[HM the King's speech at Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall](#) – June 9, 2006





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[Official English-language site for the celebrations](#)

[About the arches](#) – [About the barges](#) – [About royal palaces](#) – [Meaning of the royal emblem](#) – [About the Royal Regalia](#)

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The schedule – June 9, 2006

Friday is a public holiday.

**AM** – Besides grand celebrations, Thais will have a chance to wish him well from the Royal Plaza as the King and Queen greet the crowds from the balcony of the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall...

To view Friday's event, people are advised to arrive before 7am and take traffic disruption into account. At about 10am, the King and Queen will take part in a religious ceremony to pay homage to previous kings.

([Rare chance to see King at Royal Plaza](#))

**PM** – At 19.19... – nine is an auspicious number and he is the 9th Rama of the Chakri dynasty – most of the king's 63million subjects will light candles in his honour. ([Thai politics on hold for king's anniversary](#))

The great formal celebration will take place on June 12-13. The monarchs of 28 countries have been invited to Bangkok for the occasion.

Among the highlights will be an exhibition by the Royal Thai Navy at Navy Hall, presided over by His Majesty and his royal guests. On the night of June 12 there will be a dazzling procession down the Chao Phya river of 52 boats manned by 2,400 oarsmen. ([Regal Events over the long weekend](#) – The Nation)

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60-baht note – June 7, 2006

**Right:** Commemorative 60-baht note for sale at banks around town for 100 baht.

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[ThaiMonarchy.com](#) – June 7, 2006

News on the 60th anniversary of the King's accession to the throne is [here](#).



(Source: Email forward)

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(Source: Vin)

[First Thailand hand transplant as royal tribute](#) – TNA, June 7, 2006

*Surgeons at the leading hospital in this southern province Wednesday performed Thailand's first successful hand transplant operation as a royal tribute to His Majesty the King on the 60th anniversary of his accession to the throne...*

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Photoshopped Baiyoke 2 – June 7, 2006

*Vin writes: I have checked 2Bangkok regularly for nearly 3 years. Since Baiyoke 2 Tower can be seen from almost everywhere in Bangkok, including Nonthaburi and Samutprakarn (probably Prathumthani also), I have tried something with it for our King's Celebration event. So I share with you... (right) Thanks for many information on the city.*



Almost like being there: Yala celebration – June 6, 2006



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

Dr. Has reports: *On June 6, 2006, the Office of Education Center of Yala zone 1 organized a fair for the 60th anniversary celebrations of his Majesty's Accession to the Throne. There were lots of government officers wearing yellow shirts that make a beautiful scene. The Yala Governor (right) also came to be a chairperson of the opening ceremony.*



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

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[Friday extra holiday to mark King's celebration](#) – *The Nation*, June 6, 2006

*The Cabinet Tuesday announced that Friday June 9 will be another holiday to mark the 60th anniversary celebration of His Majesty the King's reign. The Cabinet earlier announced June 12 and 13 as special holidays to mark the celebration.*

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[ThaiMonarchy.com](#) – June 7, 2006

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More on the upcoming festivities – June 6, 2006

– [www.v4king.in.th](#) and [wallpapers](#).

– via *The Nation*: *The Department of Public Relations has constructed a Thai and English website, [www.60thcelebrations.com](#), to publicise the celebrations, he said.*

– [Thai-language pdf](#) of the roads that will be closed

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[Thai holiday sparks yellow-shirt craze](#) – AP, June 5, 2006

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Ayutthaya sign – June 4, 2006

The sign reads: Ayutthaya Great Auspicious – The 60th Anniversary Celebrations of His Majesty's Accession to the throne – From 16 May (Visakhabucha Day) to until 11 July (Buddhist Lent Day)

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[Traffic-easing measures for royal event](#) – *The Nation*, June 4, 2006

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More Royal Barge info – June 1, 2006

Nils found more info on the upcoming Royal Barge Procession:

[Operation Plan and Rehearsal Schedule](#) and [Grand Royal Barge Procession & Light-and-Sound Show](#)

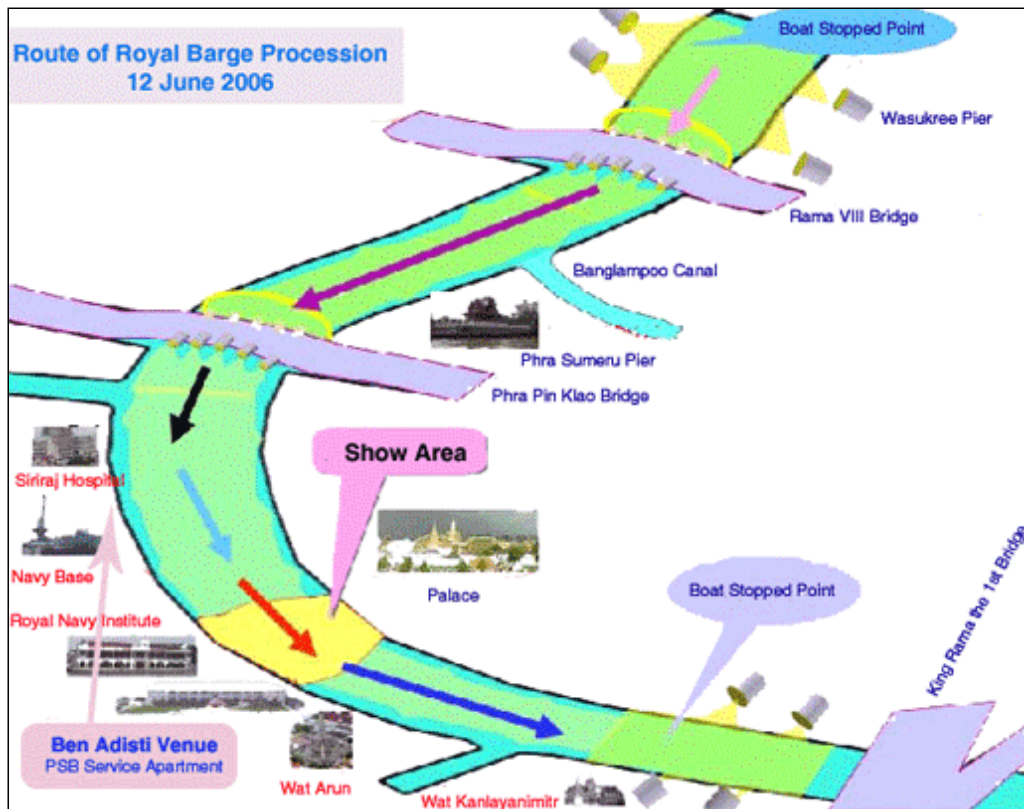
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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[Building the arches](#) – May 27, 2006



(Source: Ben Adisti Co.)

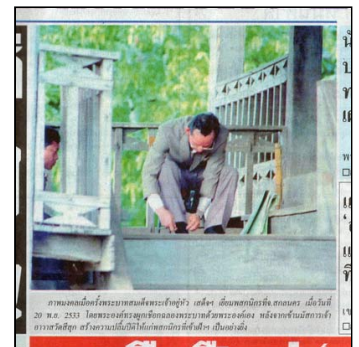
Royal Barge Procession – May 30, 2006

According to Ben Adisti Co., this is the route of the Royal Barge Procession on June 12 and the rehearsal on June 2 from 17:00-20:00.

Photos of the King – May 8, 2006

With the celebrations for the 60th ascension to the throne coming up in June, newspapers have been running historic photos featuring memorable or unusual moments involving the King.

*Khao Sod* ran this photo on their front page on May 6: "The king ties his shoelaces by himself when he went to Sakonnakorn province on 20 November 1990."



(Source: *Khao Sod*)



[Young lad who wai-ed to King has been found](#) – *The Nation*, March 30, 2006

Many reliable sources have identified the young boy captured in a much-loved photo giving a "wai" at the feet of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej 33 years ago.

He is Payungsak Kalamik, who now serves as a legal officer at a land-reform office in Nakhon Si Thammarat...

[Three people in pictures identified](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 30, 2006

The hunt for five people seen with His Majesty the King in old, frequently-seen photographs has narrowed, with three of them being identified. Ja-Kur, or Pana Paipraditpol, a Muser

(Source:  
*Khao Sod*)

*hilltribe descendant, says he is the toddler being given medicine by the King in one of the photos. Mr Ja-Kur is now 39...*

Earlier: Identifying people in famous photos of the King – March 30, 2006

[Do you know who this boy is?](#) – *Tha Nation*, March 28, 2006

*Who is that boy offering a wai at His Majesty the King's feet in this old but well-known photograph? ...*

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**Also:** [Building the arches](#)

**Also:** [Vintage photos](#)

# High tension in Thailand – June 2006

June 1, 2006

Categories: High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008

High tension in Thailand: June, 2006 news

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

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[Wasant fears for life after suspected kidnap attempt](#) – *The Nation*, June 30, 2006

*Outspoken National Human Rights Commissioner Wasant Panich told the media yesterday he believed his life was in danger for scrutinising the case of missing lawyer Somchai Neelapaijit and investigating unidentified bodies buried in the deep South...*

[PM fears 'plot to throw me out'](#) – *The Nation*, June 30, 2006

*... "Confusion persists because charismatic people and some organisations outside of those sanctioned by the Constitution are trying to impose changes, even though they do not have any mandate to do so," Thaksin said.*

*In his hour-long speech, the caretaker PM portrayed himself as a defender of democratic rule and lashed out at his opponents for trying to dethrone him by undemocratic means.*

*"Do not confuse democracy with 'democracy'. Everything will work out in accordance with the established rules," he said, remaining upbeat he can emerge unscathed from the political crisis...*

[PM uncertain when election will take place](#) – *TNA*, June 29, 2006

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[Rational debate on FTA nearly impossible](#) – *The Nation*, June 29, 2006

*...Should Thailand conclude an FTA with the United States? At this time, a good answer is impossible. And such an answer is not even desirable. For perspective, clarity, and debate have not yet been brought to bear on the real costs and potential benefits that an FTA would involve. The maturity, responsibility and sophistication that speakers and listeners alike demonstrated night after night in the anti-Thaksin rallies this year have been sorely missing from discussion of the agreement. But during both the negotiation and ratification phases of any Thai-US FTA and on the part both of the government and the public, clear, cogent and serious debate is clearly possible and clearly necessary.*

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[Thai minister downplays former Singapore premier's criticism on Thai politics](#) – *TNA*, June 29, 2006

*...Singapore's former prime minister Lee Kuan Yew said in his news article released recently that the Thai political development had relatively lagged behind that of Iraq...*

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Six reasons to dissolve the Democrats – June 28, 2006

Many readers have asked about this... According to *Komchadluek* and *Manager* on June 28, these are reasons the Democrats are being recommended for dissolution:

1. The Democrats participated with the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) to overthrow the government.
  2. The Democrats asked for a royally appointed PM. (This being regarded as an attempt to violate the constitution.)
  3. The Democrats did not field members for MP election in April. (They boycotted the election.)
  4. The Democrats campaigned with a slogan of "vote for no vote." (Asking people to select "no vote" on the ballot.)
  5. The Democrats hired the Better Life Party, Pattana Chat Thai Party and Progressive Democrat Parties to malign other parties.
  6. The Democrats obstructed candidates who wanted to apply to run for MP in the Songkhla area.
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[Democrats added to list to 'calm' TRT nerves](#) – *Bangkok Post*, June 28, 2006

*Adding the Democrats to the list of political parties that the Constitution Court has been asked to dissolve is a bargaining chip to keep the ruling Thai Rak Thai party alive, analysts said yesterday. They doubted the*



Constitution Court would hand down a ruling to dissolve all five parties, especially the Thai Rak Thai and Democrats, because of the political crisis such a decision would spawn...

"Eventually it will be concluded that no mistakes were made. Politics sees no wrongdoers," Mr Suriyasai said...

[STOPPAGE TIME: Another stab at Frequently Asked Questions](#) – The Nation, June 28, 2006

...The prosecutors have been acting strangely, haven't they? On the eve of a major announcement on the election-fraud allegations against Thaksin's Thai Rak Thai Party, Attorney-General Pachara Yutithamdamrong visited the prime minister at Government House, purportedly to receive instructions on the deep South. And yesterday, an OAG committee concluded that along with Thai Rak Thai, the opposition Democrat Party and three small parties should also be indicted for election-law violations, punishable by party dissolution.

The onus is now on Pachara. He could forward any of the five cases or all of them to the Constitution Court in the next few days. What will he do? From Thaksin's wicked smile and the Democrats' long faces, we can safely assume all five will go to the court...

The crippled and much-maligned commission has defied all the odds, dragged the Democrats into the mud and could last much longer than it already has. But if the three remaining commissioners do stay to organise the next election, then God help our Kingdom!...

[Fiasco could drag out till 2007, if top court is slow](#) – The Nation, June 28, 2006

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[OAG proposes dissolution of Democrat, Thai Rak Thai, 3 other parties](#) – The Nation, June 27, 2006

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Odds and ends – The Nation, June 26, 2006

\* Pracharaj Party leader Snoh Thienthong speaks at a seminar on the future of Thailand's democracy yesterday. The veteran politician said he didn't think there would be an election on October 15 as His Majesty the King's advice on national reconciliation had gone unheeded.

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On the forum: [Who is the "highly charismatic individual" behind Visanu's resignation?](#)

So who is the individual in question? Surly not someone that is better off going unnamed?

Also, any clue about the reference to the "proxy war"? Part of me has always felt that the recent political conflict about a whole lot more than just Thaksin, but perhaps I shouldn't speculate further for the time being.

...Cabinet members close to Mr Thaksin said he was becoming tired of fighting a proxy war. He believed he was pitted against a highly charismatic individual who was behind campaigns to oust him from office.

The individual in question was believed to be behind the resignation of his top legal experts, Borwornsak Uwanno and Visanu Krue-ngarm...

The source said Mr Thaksin was putting on an act when he stepped onto a stage and sold populist policies. Instead he was ready to step aside as prime minister and take advice from "non-partisan" individuals who would mediate to resolve the political crisis, said the source...

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[Measuring Thai society's threshold for shame](#) – The Star Online, June 24, 2006

The Thai public be warned: a new social disease is spreading. And it's possibly contagious...

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[There is work to be done, says PM](#) – The Nation, June 26, 2006

Media misquoted him as being demoralised; TRT has 'not done anything wrong'...

**Earlier:** [THAKSIN AGAINST THE WALL – Demoralised?](#) – The Nation, June 23, 2006

EC endorses fraud accusations | Wissanu set to resign | PM reluctant to quit politics for fear of asset seizure | Pojaman 'keen to leave country'

...While the EC has set October 15 as the date for the next election, it is so discredited that one Thai Rak Thai member said there was still no certainty on when a new ballot would be held. He said politicians were doing little except waiting for the outcome of court cases to clear the political deadlock...

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[FM 94.25 a hit with patriots](#) – *The Nation*, June 26, 2006

*...The first caller, Chatchai, said the media should stop reporting on politics until the end of the year.*

*Prayoon said: "They might die if they did that, don't you think?"*

*Chatchai said the media could report about His Majesty the King instead...*

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[Fake grenades lobbed into Thai Rak Thai head office](#) – *The Nation*, June 24, 2006

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[Election Commission says PM's party broke law](#) – *The Nation*, June 22, 2006

*... "The Election Commission ruled that Thai Rak Thai broke two laws governing political parties. The EC said TRT had acted against democratic rule, and that the party's actions were a threat to national security," Attapon said...*

[TRT likely to survive EC report](#) – *Bangkok Post*, June 23, 2006

*...The EC ignored the Nam panel's recommendation that Mr Thaksin be called to testify because the alleged fraud was intended for the benefit of the ruling party, rather than for individuals. The report singled out TRT deputy leader Gen Thammarak and deputy secretary-general Pongsak Raktapongpaisal as the key players in the alleged bankrolling case.*

*...OAG spokesman Atthapol Yaisawang said the re-submitted EC report advised that TRT has been found guilty under article 66 of the Political Party Act, but refused to delve into details.*

*He said an OAG panel, chaired by Deputy Attorney-General Chaikasem Nitisiri, will hold a meeting today to review the report and may be able to reach a conclusion on whether to indict the party.*

*An OAG source said that if the prosecution agrees on an indictment today, the case is likely to go to the Constitution Court on Monday.*

*The OAG will submit the EC's recommendations for the dissolution of three other small parties \_ Pattana Chart Thai, Pan Din Thai and Prachatippatai Kao Na \_ to the court on Monday...*

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[Wisanu submits resignation](#) – *The Nation*, June, 22, 2006

*Deputy Prime Minister Wisanu Kruengam has submitted resignation from the position that will become effective next month...*

**Earlier:** [Wissanu signals he is set to resign](#) – *The Nation*, June 17, 2006

*Caretaker Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam yesterday signalled that he intends to step down after the visiting foreign monarchs and royal dignitaries leave the country.*

**Earlier:** [DPM refuses that he handed a resignation letter today](#) – *Thaisnews*, June 16, 2006

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[Questions that The Economist has to answer](#) – *The Nation*, June 21, 2006

*...All we've heard is it's the protesters' fault: "Thais are paying a heavy price for the opposition's dismissal of April's election result." "has taken a big step backwards." "Once you start allowing demonstrators who number in thousands to throw out politicians who have been elected by millions, the fabric of any democracy is bound to fray, let alone one that has existed for only 14 years and still lies under the shadow of crown and gun..."*

*When Thaksin and his wife were found to have stashed Bt10 billion worth of shares in his servants' accounts, this Constitution was screaming, "STOP HIM!" But whereas The Economist at that time sounded a major warning over his "insuperable conflicts of interest" and his "alarmingly undemocratic instincts", Thais forgave him, because – just as The Economist of today would have been pleased about – he had won a landslide election victory. Thais tolerated his contempt for human rights and other democratic principles and massive graft scandals for the same reason: he had been endorsed by so many of the electorate...*

*What if Tony Blair owned England's largest telecom firm? What if he hid some shares in his servants' stock accounts and a mysterious offshore firm for no good reason? What if those shares enabled him to evade taxes or exposed him to charges of stock manipulation? What if other British had to pay taxes for similar share transfers, but he didn't? What if parliament couldn't censure him? Questions like this go on and on where Thaksin is concerned, but the ultimate question to The Economist is: "Would you tolerate it?"...*

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[Attorney-general sends back EC report](#) – *The Nation*, June 17, 2006

*...The three commissioners are bound by law to resubmit the report by June 27 with a proper recommendation or risk prosecution for negligence, Atthaphol said.*

*"Let's see what they do," he added.*

*He said the commissioners had clearly applied a double standard in submitting such reports to the OAG. Reports on small political parties believed to be involved in serious electoral fraud were submitted with recommendations by the commissioners to dissolve the parties, Atthaphol said.*

*Furthermore, the only evidence in the case against Thai Rak Thai submitted to the OAG was the report, whereas cases against small political parties contained additional evidence, he said.*

*The public is watching the commissioners very closely, and it is unlikely that they can delay the process much longer without facing serious repercussions, he said.*

*He warned that the commissioners could face criminal charges if they did not resubmit the report with a recommendation. "Let's see what kind of criminal offence they land themselves in," he said....*

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[PM sues over 'demon blood sucker' smear](#) – Bangkok Post, June 15, 2006

*Caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra yesterday filed a libel suit against the Democrat party, its election staff and three newspapers for typifying him as a "blood-sucking demon" cheating the country.*

*Lawyer Werapat Srichaiya laid the criminal charges against Democrat election coordination centre spokesman Thepthai Senpong, Matichon's editor-publisher Suwapong Chanfungpet, Khao Sod editor Thakoon Boonpan, and Daily News editor Pracha Hettrakul...*

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[PM files defamation suit seeking Bt800 million](#) – The Nation, June 14, 2006

*Caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Wednesday filed criminal and civil lawsuits demanding Bt800 million in damages for defamation allegedly spreaded by the rival Democrat Party and three major newspapers.*

*Thaksin launched his litigation just hours after calling for political reconciliation based on His Majesty the King's speech calling for unity...*

*Based on reports published in the three newspapers, Thepthai compared Thaksin to a wandering spirit trying to get back into a body, the writ said.*

*It also says Thaksin was portrayed as a ghost called "Pop" feasting on intestines in an effort to tarnish his reputation by implying that he was plundering the country...*

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[Unity theme: response to King's celebrations delights PM](#) – TNA, June 14, 2006

[Whatever HM the King suggests will be implemented and carried on](#) – TNA, June 10, 2006

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[Thai crisis expected to worsen after royal jubilee](#) – Reuters, June 10, 2006

*Thailand's political crisis is expected to worsen after a truce for gala festivities for the Diamond Jubilee of revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej end this week, analysts, newspapers and the opposition say...*

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[Thai PM mulls politically popular, economically doubtful plans](#) – AFP, June 10, 2006

*Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is considering a slate of proposals to bolster the sagging economy, but analysts say many of the measures are more aimed at shoring up his political base ahead of new elections...*

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[Election Commission fighting on every front](#) – The Nation, June 9, 2006

*The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has again accused the Election Commission of double standards because it had recommended that two small parties be disbanded but let the Thai Rak Thai Party off the hook...*

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[Borwornsak caught in the hot seat](#) – The Nation, June 8, 2006

*...Likhit said if the royal decree were endorsed it would give the Election Commissioners a longer lease of life since the election law provides "protection" to the EC once a ballot has been called.*

*...The King has urged the judiciary to help bring an end to the political crisis. But the EC and Thai Rak Thai-led caretaker government appear aligned on one side, with the courts on the other.*

*An article in Matichon newspaper reported that respected people, who oppose the EC's decision on the election date, had called on Borwornsak not to introduce the royal decree for a new poll. But politicians in the Thai Rak Thai camp wanted him to speed up his work to introduce the decree to Cabinet in support of an October 15 poll. Borwornsak was caught in a power struggle, and found it very stressful...*

[Dispute over election decree ‘just a rumour’](#) – *The Nation*, June 8, 2006

*Borwornsak Uwanno, the outgoing Cabinet secretary-general, yesterday dismissed as groundless speculation that he decided to resign after being pressured by the government to issue a royal decree calling a new election...*

[Last gasp of a desperate EC](#) – *The Nation*, June 8, 2006

*...One thing is clear. The EC as a constitutionally sanctioned watchdog – whose job it should be to ensure free and fair elections and prevent corrupt politicians from entering politics in the first place – has consistently failed to serve the people, its real master; the way it was intended to. Instead, it has allowed itself to be manipulated by corrupt politicians determined to undermine the Constitution and democracy, which it is supposed to serve. The noose is tightening on the EC, which is destined for an ignominious end. Perhaps this prolonged agony is not such a bad thing after all. Never before has corruption at the highest level been played out in public in such great detail over such an extended period of time, leaving no one in any doubt whatsoever as to who the bad guys are and how they do their evil deeds. This could be a first-class political education, if only the right lesson is learned.*

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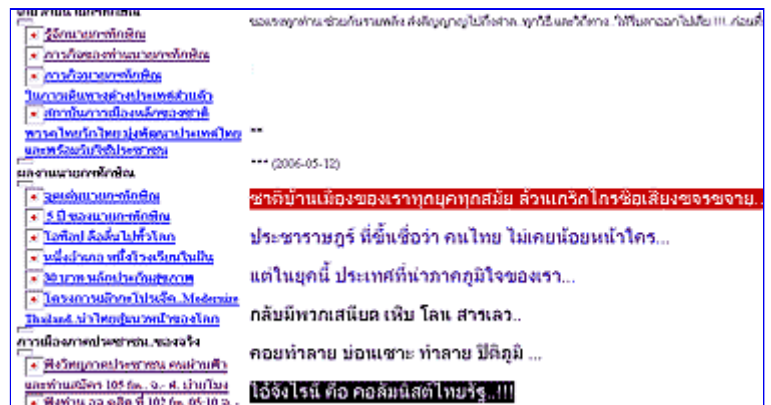
[TRT targeted for dissolution](#) – *The Nation*, June 7, 2006

[Answers to more Frequently Asked Questions](#) – *The Nation*, June 7, 2006

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[www.taksinclub.com](http://www.taksinclub.com) – June 7, 2006

The site has mysteriously disappeared, but can still be viewed in Google's [cache](#) (right) and here is the [whois info](#). *The Nation* has an article about the site: [TRT denies website link](#). We think the style of the site is similar to older versions of the anti-Thaksin site [thaiinsider.com](http://thaiinsider.com). Or check out Thaksin's official site: [The Knight of the Third Wave](#)



(Source: Google)

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[Prinya: More than one party doomed – ‘Don’t be in rush’ to expel commissioners](#) – *Bangkok Post*, June 6, 2006

*The Election Commission (EC) has enough evidence to dissolve more than one party, commissioner Prinya Nakchudtree said yesterday. He made the comment while lashing out at people who criticised the EC for being undemocratic and negligent in its handling of the April 2 general election.*

*“Don’t rush to expel me. The sooner they expel the EC, the faster they will escape punishment. After all pieces of evidence are gathered, certain political parties must be dissolved. The evidence we have now shows more than one party will be dissolved,” said Mr Prinya...*

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"Let the people speak" – June 5, 2006

A reader comments: *I’m a fan of your 2Bangkok.com. It is definitely on the top of my favorite website list. Anyway, there’s an interesting article in The Irrawaddy responding to how The Economist portrays political situations in Thailand. This is very interesting because I too was annoyed by The Economist the same way. Glad someone could articulate that. I just think you might like to check it out. Here’s the link:*

[Let the People Speak](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, May, 2006

*...So while not wishing to engage in a dog fight with colleagues—the lowly Irrawaddy is hardly a match for The Economist—it does seem unfair to tar as undemocratic and unruly those Thais who felt sufficiently motivated to take to the streets as their democratic right to try to restore democracy.*

*A highly-influential journal like The Economist should perhaps think more deeply, and with more understanding, about what has actually happened in Thailand before trashing a significant sector of its population as an undemocratic mob.*

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[Fortune teller says Oct 15 election will not happen](#) – *The Nation*, June 3, 2006

*A well-known fortune teller has predicted that the new election would not happen on October 15 as planned because a big "lightning" event would happen instead.*

*Kijja Thaweeikul made the prediction on his Web site – [www.mornid.com](http://www.mornid.com)...*

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[Election date could still be changed: Wissanu](#) – *The Nation*, June 2, 2006

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[The Thai King's over-taxed prerogative](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, June, 2006

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



# Old SRT buildings at Hualamphong

June 1, 2006

Categories: Thai Railroads

Nils writes: *One afternoon...*

*I decided to have a look at the SRT buildings that stretch along the eastern side of Khlong Padung Krung Kasem north of Hualamphong. Some way behind the Eastern & Oriental rail platform there is a diesel engine repair shop, then the railway police station (opposite a bridge over the khlong) with small park and some rail exhibits, then the actual HQ complex, and finally, at the northern end, immediately before getting to Rama I Road, you will find a large warehouse (?), a handsome 3-storey structure built from brick and wood that is no longer used, but which can be accessed. It was really nice to explore this historic building, as it is very atmospheric – particularly the wooden staircase!*



(Photo: Nils)

HQ building, unfortunately  
off-limits (they have historical locos parked to both sides of the building)



(Photo: Nils)

View through the gate



(Photo: Nils)

The famous SLM diesel loco, one of two acquired from switzerland in 1928 (on the other side of the building is a small steam loco)





(Photo: Nils)

Benches near the khlong



(Photo: Nils)





(Photo: Nils)

Part of the main admin  
building



(Photo: Nils)

Near the railway police  
station: open-air exhibits and Library train



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)





(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

RSR wagon built in Makkasan



(Photo: Nils)

Armoured railcar





(Photo: Nils)

The 'warehouse' (looking  
north – Rama I Road is behind)



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

The wooden staircase (with  
a plaque stating that the building was renovated 1997)





(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)





(Photo: Nils)

Note the pulley!



(Photo: Nils)

Back yard (looking northeast,  
Baiyoke in the background)



(Photo: Nils)

Front gallery (west)



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

Looking towards Yotse  
Intersection and Hua Chiew Hospital





(Photo: Nils)



(Photo: Nils)

# Airport link construction photos

June 1, 2006

Categories: Airports and Airlines, Mass Transit



(Photo: bluey)

Airport link construction photos –  
June 2006

More on the [Airport rail link](#)





(Photo: bluey)



(Photo: bluey)



(Photo: bluey)



(Photo: bluey)





(Photo: bluey)



(Photo: bluey)



(Photo: bluey)



# Meet Thailand's new face of AIDS

June 1, 2006

Categories: HIV-AIDS

[Meet](#)

[Thailand's new face of AIDS](#) – AP, June 1, 2006

*If you look deep enough, you can see how beautiful Patcharee once was. Her high cheek bones, small nose and deep brown eyes are all still there, but they've become lost in a face rotted by AIDS...*

# Satellite to document rights abuses in Burma

June 2, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Satellite](#)

[to document rights abuses in Burma](#) –

*The Irrawaddy*, June 2, 2006

# Mass Transit News Main Page (2000-2010)

June 3, 2006

Categories: Mass Transit



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

**Above:** Airport link pillars – June 3, 2006

Mass Transit News

[2006-2010 \(post-coup\)](#)

[2006 \(pre-coup\)](#)

[2005 January- April](#) – [2005 May-August](#) – [2005 Taopoon controversy](#) – [2005 September-December](#)

[MASS TRANSIT NATIONALIZATION CANCELED](#) – November 4, 2004

[2004 January-February](#) – [2004 March-July](#) – [2004 August-September](#) – [2004 October](#)

[2003 January-August](#) – [2003 September](#) – [2003 October-November](#) – [2003 November-December](#)

[2000](#) – [2001](#) – [2002](#)

[Skytrain](#) news

[Airport rail link](#)

[Ring Road info](#)

[Master plan maps \(1979-2005\)](#)

[Historic mass transit maps](#)

# Buddhists celebrate tradition

June 3, 2006

Categories: Buddhism

[Buddhists celebrate tradition](#) – *Observer-Dispatch*,

June 3, 2006

*It took Lina Pim about eight hours to cook shrimps she carried  
Saturday morning to the Cambodian Buddhist Community Temple  
on Steuben Street...*



# Don't Drink and Drive Billboard

June 3, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Don't drink and drive –

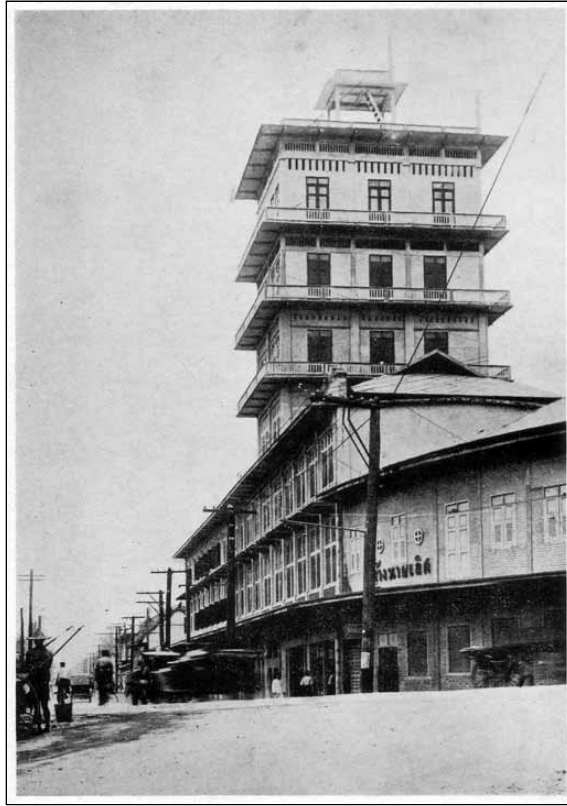
June 3, 2006

This billboard by the horse-racing track downtown shows a nighttime police checkpoint. It reads: Drink and drive and you will be arrested for sure. Penalty: Imprisonment for less than three months or a fine of 2,000-10,000 baht or both imprisonment and fine.

# Bangkok Skyscraper from the Past

June 3, 2006

Categories: Buildings



(Source: Plate 33 from *Jungle Prison – Twenty Years in Siam* by Leigh Williams, 1954)

Bangkok skyscraper

– June 3, 2006

Plate 33 from *Jungle Prison – Twenty Years in Siam* by Leigh Williams, 1954. The caption is "A skyscraper in Bangkok." Anyone know the name of the building?

Also: [Bangkok's tallest buildings over the years](#)

# Economists warn Thailand to prepare for world economic downturn

June 4, 2006

Categories: Economy

[Economists](#)

[warn Thailand to prepare for world economic downturn](#) –

TNA, June 4, 2006

*Leading economists have warned that Thailand could encounter a new round of economic problems due to global economic uncertainty and the country should be well prepared if US and world economies retreat...*

# Who wants to lead the United Nations?

June 5, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Who wants to lead the United Nations?](#) – ForeignPolicy.com, June 5, 2006

*Why he won't: Surakiart, an early favorite, might have been campaigning a little too aggressively, a little too early. Controversial Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Surakiart's biggest champion, could also be his downfall. His crackdown on Muslims in southern Thailand doesn't play well among Muslim U.N. members. Surakiart has also expressed public opposition to the International Criminal Court. And, at only 47 years old, some may believe he's a little too young to lead the world body...*



# Rangoon residents told to show photos

June 5, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Rangoon residents told to show photos](#) – *The*

*Irrawaddy*, June 5, 2006

*Burma's military government has told residents in some townships in Rangoon to hang their family photos in their homes and to send copies to local authorities for security checks, according to residents in the capital.*

*The authorities haven't given a reason for the move, but it is thought to be another way of beefing up security in the wake of a deadly bombing campaign in Rangoon, which began in May 2005...*

# Blessing license plates

June 6, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

Blessing license plates –

June 6, 2006

*The Nation* reports: *Revered monk, Luang Por Koon of Baan Rai Temple blesses car license plates with personalised numbers on Monday in Nakhon Ratchasima. The monk did so at the request of people who believed in his sacred power.*

The amazing photo is [here](#).

# Locals remember eerie ghost film

June 6, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

[Locals remember eerie ghost film](#) – Bangkok

Post, June 6, 2006

*...Many Maharaj people were cast in a locally made horror-comedy Lop Phi Phi Mai Lop (Running Quicker than Ghosts), produced by Khom Akradek of the Coliseum Film Co three years ago. They played the ghosts of villagers killed in a flash flood that devastated the entire village.*

*"You may call it a coincidence but what happened in the film did happen here.*

*"Some of the cast members are really dead now" ...*

# Everything is Hindu

June 7, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

Everything is Hindu

– June 7, 2006

Nothing to do with Thailand, but interesting...

[Purushottam](#)

[Nagesh Oak](#) – ...Oak also claims that the tombs of Humayun, Akbar and Itmiad-u-Dallah — as well as the Vatican in Rome, the Kaaba in Mecca, Stonehenge, and "all historic buildings" in India — were also Hindu temples or palaces...



# Bangkok, 1956!!!

June 7, 2006

Categories: Old photos and films



(Source: TerryMcT)

[Bangkok, 1956!!!](#) – June 7, 2006

Loren pointed out that many more vintage photos have been added to the [Flickr account](#) we featured last week. Of special interest to 2Bangkok readers: [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#)

and [here](#). Notable shots: From the [Golden Mount](#) (note the lack of a skyline), [street traffic](#), [Bangkok road](#), [trade fair](#), and [river scene](#).

On the forum: [1956 Bangkok photo series](#)

# Britain named for colluding in US rendition flights

June 7, 2006

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Britain](#)

[named for colluding in US rendition flights](#) –

*The Independent*, June 7, 2006

*The paper said the CIA had been running interrogation centres in Eastern Europe, Afghanistan and Thailand, and that more than 100 people had been sent to the so-called "black sites" since they were set up following the September 11 2001 terrorist attacks on America...*

**Earlier:** [US](#)

[has woven clandestine 'spider's web' of detentions and transfers...](#)

– June 6, 2006

And the [graphic](#)

# Protecting human rights is dangerous!?

June 8, 2006

Categories: Human Rights

[Protecting human rights is dangerous!?](http://libationkowloon.blogspot.com) – libationkowloon.blogspot.com,  
June 8, 2006

# Thailand Makes Footballs

June 8, 2006

Categories: Sports

[Thailand](#)

[makes footballs](#) – Bangkok

Post, June 8, 2006

*...Made in Thailand by Adidas, which designed and engineered it, the ball was tested in Britain and Germany. It has the Teutonic but sporty-sounding name, +Teamgeist, and will sell at least 15 million of them this year. In fact, 15 million of them already are sold...*



# Hiding illegal workers

June 8, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards

Hiding illegal workers –  
June 8, 2006

This poster is on the elevator doors of a Bangkok highrise.

The sign reads: *Avoid or hide like this...  
Let's go to renew.*

*Burmese, Lao, and Cambodians whose work permits end  
on June 30, 2006 must go to renew. From 1-30  
June, 2006*

The red bags read: *Migrant workers*



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

# Photos: 60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

June 9, 2006

Categories: Thai Holidays and Festivals



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Downtown on June 9 – June 9, 2006

**More:** [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

As with the [2003 APEC Summit](#), authorities put giant billboards along the riverside to hide slums from dignitaries and foreign press who will be viewing the events from the Navy Hall. The shanties in this area are actually quite interesting places to explore.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Slum dwellers watch the rehearsals from above...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



...and below.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Crowds wait on a pier to see the barges. Storm clouds combined with the sunset to produce a beautiful backdrop.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This is the view the average person has of the rehearsal. People were crowded at every available opening along the riverside to catch a glimpse.





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wat Arun



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Not only are the wats downtown lit with spotlights, but also the old shophouses.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wat Po



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Lighting candles and singing the national anthem to honor the King.





(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and wife Potjaman Shinawatra exit the event.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The crush of the crowd exiting Sanam Luang and heading to [Phan Phiphop Lila Bridge](#) was so tight it was difficult even turning around to get this photo of everyone in their yellow shirts (yellow is the color of the monarchy). Over the next four days 100 movies will be shown for free in Sanam Luang.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Arch at Phan Phiphop Lila Bridge (This arch is not listed on the [Bangkok Post graphic](#) for some reason.)

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**Also:** [Building the arches](#)

**More:** [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



# Choummaly endorsed as president of Laos

June 9, 2006

Categories: Laos

[Choummaly](#)

[endorsed as president of Laos](#) – *The*

*Nation*, June 9, 2006

*Communist Laos's National Assem-bly yesterday endorsed party chief Choummaly Sayasone as president and young rising star Bouasone Bouphavanh as prime minister...*

# Vintage photos of royal celebrations

June 10, 2006

Categories: Old photos and films

More: [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)

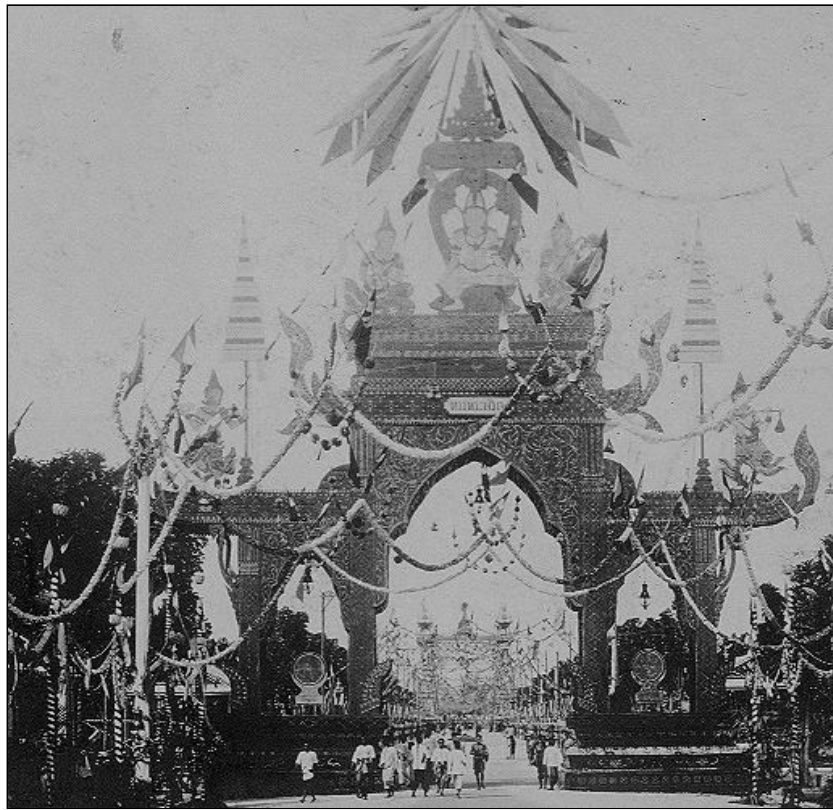


(Photo: circa 1907 – Photo source: *Siam* by Karl Dohring, 1923)

Vintage arch photo from 1907– June 10, 2006

Wisarut comments on the above photo: *The photo is unmistakably the photo when King Chulalongkorn returned to Thailand after his second European trip for medical treatment in 1907. At that time, only insiders in the palace knew that the King had kidney disease since 1905. The long negotiation with both French and British governments to preserve Siam since 1893 had taken a toll on his health.*

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(Source: Photo dated 1908)

Vintage arch photo from 1908 – June 9, 2006  
Does anyone know what event the arch commemorated? [A thread on this photo](#)

---



(Source: Scan of an undated postcard)

Vintage arch photo from 1907 – June 8, 2006  
Does anyone know what event the arch commemorated?

---



(Photo: from *Siam* by Karl Dohring, 1923 – a caption circulated via email puts the date of the event as 1886)

**Above:** (translation of the caption for this photo) This is a bird's eye view photo from January 14, 1886, the fourth day of the Mahapichaimongkol Ceremony when King Rama IV was ceremonially washed and given the name of Jaofa Mahavachirunahid.

**More:** Heinrich [writes](#): *The main photo on today's 2Bangkok.com of the ancient floating pavilion: It was not King Mongkut who received the washing during the River-Bathing Ceremony, as he died in 1868. It was rather a son of King Chulalongkorn, his 20th child and eldest son of his queen Sri Savarindira, [Crown Prince Maha Vajirunhis](#), who sadly died quite young.*

*The ceremony performed within this pavilion was the Mahathitmongkon Ceremony (full name: Phra Racha Phithi Long Tha Son Wai Nam – transl.: "auspicious rite of taking the child out to bathe at a river (or sea) landing and teaching him to swim") from: Steve Van Beek: "The Chao Phya, River In Transition", Oxford University Press 1995, ISBN 967-65-3069-7*

*The photo itself is quite famous and published frequently. The other day I purchased a postcard from RiverBooks in Bangkok with even Wat Arun showing in the left background, which seems to have been cut off in your pic.*

**More:** Heinrich [writes](#): *I have some more information regarding yesterday's [ancient photo of the floating pavilion](#). It's from the book: H.G. Quadritch Wales: Siamese State Ceremonies. London 1931, Reprint by Curzon Press, Richmond 1992, ISBN 0-7007-0269-5*

*I scanned the article about the Riverbathing Ceremony and [posted it on my homepage](#) (without any comments): It was published by Mr. Wells as a supplement to his book in 1971, but Curzon Press (in Thailand: White Lotus) put it all together into one tome.*

*It's quite interesting to read about the going-ons in the olden days. BTW, I remember a small-scale model (about 40cm \* 40cm) of the above mentioned pavilion, that I saw in the National Museum in Bangkok.*

[Royal Barge Procession a spectacle not to be missed](#) – *The Nation*, June 2, 2006

*The highlight of the celebrations of the 60th Anniversary of His Majesty the King's accession to the throne will be the Royal Barge Procession on June 12...*

**More:** [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)

# Thai PM mulls politically popular, economically doubtful plans

June 10, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Thai](#)

[PM mulls politically popular, economically doubtful plans](#)

– AFP, June 10, 2006

*Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is considering a slate of proposals to bolster the sagging economy, but analysts say many of the measures are more aimed at shoring up his political base ahead of new elections...*



# Thai Newspapers: 60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

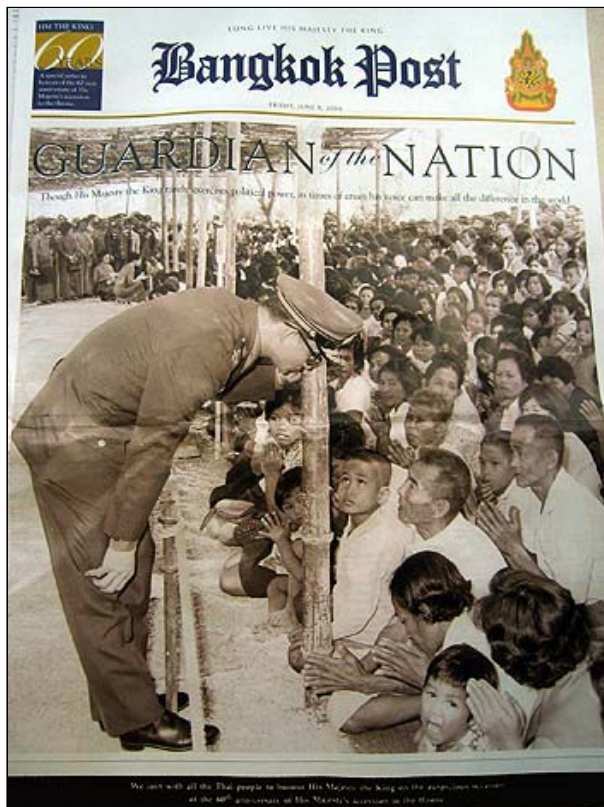
June 11, 2006

Categories: Thai Holidays and Festivals

June 9, 10, 11, 2006 front pages

More: [60th](#)

[Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



June 9 front pages

Top left and right: *Bangkok Post*

Below left: *Daily News*

Below right: *Matichon*





Above: Daily News, June 10





June 10 front pages  
 Above left: *Siam Turakit*  
 Above right: *The Nation*  
 Right: *Komchadluek*  
 Below: *Komchadluek*,  
 page 3







June 11 front pages  
 Above left: *Daily News*  
 Above right: *Thai Rath*  
 Right: *Daily News*, sports section  
 Below: *Komchadluek*,  
 page 3



More: [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



# Burma annuls Chin protester's passport

June 12, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma](#)

[annuls Chin protester's passport](#) —

*The Irrawaddy*, June 12, 2006

# Thais participating in the World Cup?

June 14, 2006

Categories: Sports

Thais participating in the  
Worldcup? – June 14, 2006

Nils writes: *Thought no Thais are participating in the  
FIFA Worldcup? Wrong. See here – there's a [Thai  
assistant referee](#).*

## BBC's WWII memories forum

June 14, 2006

Categories: History

BBC's WWII memories forum

– June 14, 2006

[Searching](#)  
[for “Siam” and “WW2”](#) on BBC's WW2 forum produces some  
fascinating and startling results. For instance: [Saving the](#)  
[King of Siam](#)

# A Blacklist Goes On Sale

June 14, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[A blacklist](#)

[goes on sale](#) – *The Irrawaddy*,

June 14, 2006

*...World leaders on the list include Chinese President Hu Jintao and Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, because they are both deemed to be friends of the regime. There is also Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam, who recently visited Burma and discussed businesses and military affairs with junta leaders.*

*...Some Burmese and foreign scholars on the list are named as “apologists” and “lobbyists” for the regime. They include professor at Singapore’s Institute for Southeast Asian Studies Robert Taylor and Danish policy analyst from the International Crisis Group Morten Pedersen.*



# **Singaporean blogger faces sedition raps for cartoons mocking Jesus Christ—reports**

June 14, 2006

Categories: Singapore

[Singaporean blogger faces sedition raps for cartoons mocking Jesus](#)

[Christ—reports](#) – Southeast Asian Press

Alliance, June 14, 2006

# Photos taken of 'living fossil' in Laos

June 14, 2006

Categories: Laos, Wildlife and Nature

[Photos taken](#)

[of 'living fossil' in Laos](#) – AP,

June 14, 2006

# **“Please help me to find this girl in Patong”**

June 14, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

“Please help me to find this girl in Patong” –

June 14, 2006

Knut writes: *Please help me to find this girl in Patong.*

*I have no photo, so this is my [memory picture after many years](#). If you publish the link in your news-site it could possibly help.*

# Straws

June 14, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Straws – June 14,  
2006

Straws being transported on a motorcycle.



# No Elephants Allowed

June 14, 2006

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Wildlife and Nature



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

No elephants –

June 14, 2006

The sign at the border of Bangkok that reads: This is an area that elephants should not be led into to roam. Don Muang district office, Bangkok.

# Urban Growth

June 15, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Urban](#)

[Growth](#) – BBC, June 15, 2006

# **“5takes” will be filming in Bangkok next week**

June 15, 2006

Categories: Film and TV

"5takes" will be filming in Bangkok

next week – June 15, 2006

[tnop](#) writes: *i've been reading*

*2Bangkok.com for a long time. i'm a big fan of your sites.*

*anyway, i found out that the program "5takes" will*

*be filming in Bangkok next week. so you might be interested*

*to know about this. [check](#)*

*[out the site](#)... you can suggest them what to do in Bangkok*

*too.*

Check out [tnop's incredible site](#)

as well!

# Police seek arrest warrant for national politician

June 15, 2006

Categories: Crime

## [Police seek arrest warrant for national politician](#)

– Bangkok Post, June 15, 2006

*Police are seeking an arrest warrant for a national politician who allegedly masterminded the May 27 murder of former Thai Rak Thai MP for Ratchaburi Kobkul Nop-amornbodi. Priewphan Damapong, the deputy police chief leading the investigation, was briefed on the case progress yesterday...*

*Sa-ngad left a note saying he was solely responsible for the crime and that his boss, Napinthon Srisanpang, an ex-senator and owner of the Sri Muang Market in Ratchaburi, was not involved...*



# Burma's public service suffering

June 15, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma's](#)

[public service suffering](#) – BBC, June

15, 2006

*Burma's hospitals and schools are secretive places. Much of what goes on inside these tightly controlled buildings remains a mystery to the outside world. But indications from the few people prepared to risk speaking out paint a disturbing picture... (Thanks to Danny for pointing this out.)*

# Prime Minister using lawsuits to silence criticism

June 15, 2006

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[Acting prime minister files more criminal and civil defamation suits](#) – CPJ, June 15, 2006

*...We call upon Thailand's prime minister to immediately stop his campaign of intimidation and harassment of the media," said Ann Cooper, CPJ's executive director. "The use of criminal defamation suits against journalists has a chilling effect on press freedom, and Thaksin's recent actions seem to indicate that's exactly what he has in mind..."*

# US Navy says it's likely found World War II submarine in Gulf of Thailand

June 16, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[US Navy says it's likely found World War II submarine in Gulf of Thailand](#) – *Star Online*, June 16, 2006

*A wreck found at the bottom of the Gulf of Thailand appears to be a U.S. submarine that went missing in 1945 during World War II, the Navy says...*

# Exploring Thailand by bicycle

June 16, 2006

Categories: Sports

[Exploring Thailand by bicycle](#) – *The Star*

Online, June 16, 2006

*Cycling across Thailand's stunning landscape is a unique and leisurely way to see local life up close and discover the country's rich cultural heritage...*

# Thailand still confident of UN top job

June 16, 2006

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand still confident of UN top job](#) – Outlook

India, June 16, 2006

*Thailand today voiced confidence that its candidate will win the UN's top job after India officially joined the race by announcing the name of Shashi Tharoor to succeed Secretary General Kofi Annan at the end of the year...*



# Thai student: 'Pete' Deewongsa

June 16, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai student: 'Pete' Deewongsa](#) – BBC, June 16, 2006

*My name is Rachanon Deewongsa, nicknamed Pete. I am 18 years old. My father is a cement company technician and my mother a housewife. I have one younger brother...*

# **All mobile phones in Thailand to have 10-digit numbers in September**

June 16, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[All mobile phones in Thailand to have 10-digit numbers in September](#)

– TNA, June 16, 2006

# What's so Thai about Thaitanium?

June 16, 2006

Categories: Music

[What's](#)

[so Thai about Thaitanium?](#) – *Bangkok*

*Recorder*, June 16, 2006

# Thai Newspapers: 60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

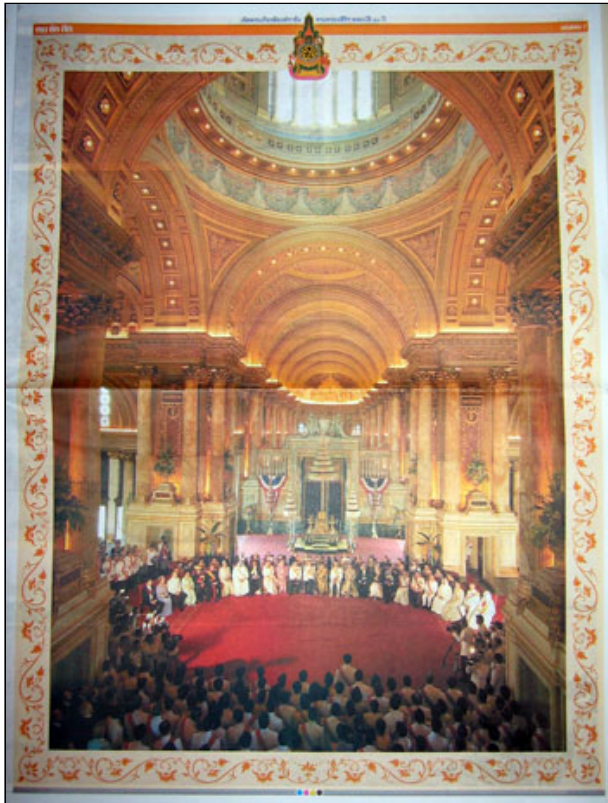
June 17, 2006

Categories: Thai Holidays and Festivals

Special newspapers commemorating the June celebrations

More: [60th](#)

[Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)



*Komchadluek –*  
June 17, 2006









*Daily News –  
June 17, 2006*









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**More: [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)**

# Superman Stops the Skytrain!

June 17, 2006

Categories: Film and TV, Skytrain



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Superman stops the Skytrain!

– June 17, 2006

Advertisements on the Skytrain platforms for the new *Superman* movie.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



# **Long-neck Karens to be relocated as a tourist attraction**

June 17, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Long-neck Karens to be relocated as a tourist attraction](#)

– [chiangmai-mail.com](http://chiangmai-mail.com), June 17-23, 2006

# Navy confirms sunken vessel in Thailand is U.S. WWII sub

June 17, 2006

Categories: History

[Navy confirms sunken vessel in Thailand is U.S. WWII sub](#) – *Star Bulletin*, June 17, 2006

*USS Lagarto* underway, circa late 1944. *Lagarto*, a 1,526-ton *Balao*-class diesel sub, was one of 52 submarines lost during the Pacific war...

Don comments: *I don't get this sudden story on the Lagarto. It looks like it was found at least last year, and there are now dives to it ([here](#) and [here](#))...*

*Plus here's a [story from 10 months ago, last August, in the San Diego newspaper](#). So why all the fuss now, especially if there are dives into it already?*

# Philippines sets an example for Thailand

June 17, 2006

Categories: The Philippines

[Philippines](#)

[sets an example for Thailand](#) – *The Nation*, June 17, 2006

*On June 6 the Philippine Senate and House of Representatives  
both voted to repeal the death penalty...*

# Pride of Indian Navy throws open its door to the people of Bangkok

June 18, 2006

Categories: India

[Pride of Indian Navy throws open its door to the people of Bangkok](#) – *The Nation*, June 18, 2006

*Three Indian Navy ships, including a battleship equipped  
with [BrahMos long-range missiles](#),  
are berthed at Klong Toei port until Tuesday...*

# Thailand says no plan to rebuild Afghan Buddhas

June 19, 2006

Categories: Buddhism

[Thailand says no plan to rebuild Afghan Buddhas](#) – *The Nation*, June 19, 2006

*Thailand on Tuesday denied reports that Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra had offered to rebuild two giant ancient Buddha statues destroyed by Afghanistan's former Taliban regime in 2001...*

**Yesterday:** [Thailand offers to rebuild Bamiyan Buddha statues in Afghanistan](#) – TNA, June 18, 2006

*Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra offered to reconstruct the ancient world heritage Buddha statues destroyed by Afghanistan's former Taleban regime in 2001...*



# Bangkok's rebound turns 'Ghost Buildings' into hotels, offices

June 19, 2006

Categories: Buildings

[Bangkok's rebound turns 'Ghost Buildings' into hotels, offices](#)

– *Bloomberg*, June 19, 2006

*Bangkok's cement skeletons and empty towers, abandoned during the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis, are transforming into hotels and offices as developers return...*

# Myanmar minorities fear being dammed and damned

June 19, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar minorities fear being dammed and damned](#) – Reuters,

June 19, 2006

*From the ice fields of the Himalayas to the azure waters  
of the Andaman Sea, the Salween flows undisturbed through some  
of the most outwardly tranquil territory on earth...*

# Maunsell Towers

June 19, 2006

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

Maunsell Towers – June 19, 2006

Nils points out another interesting item from the [bldg blog](#): [Maunsell Towers](#) (and [here](#))

# Royal Crown Property Bureau website

June 19, 2006

Categories: Property and Development



Royal Crown Property Bureau website  
– July 3, 2006

It seems the entire [RCPB website](#) is now a single page about job interviews:  
*People whose name is on the list, come to be interviewed at the working unit, supporting sector 15 minutes before the interview time. Those who come late will lose their place.*

June 19, 2006 – The content of the [site](#) is gone with only this message left: *No announcement at present.*

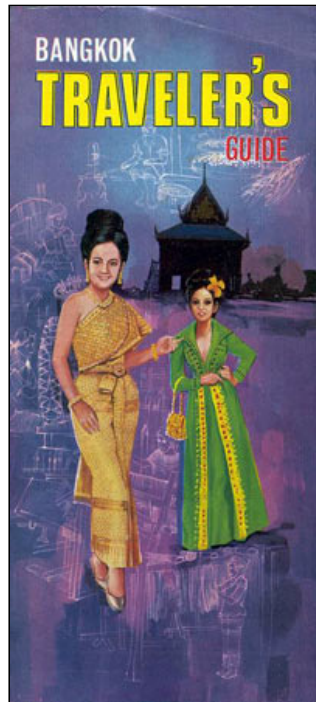


# Groovy Bangkok 1969

June 20, 2006

Categories: Old newspapers, Old photos and films

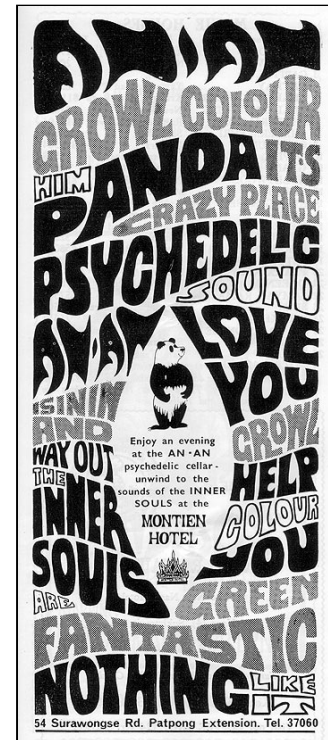
A series of scans from the tourist booklet *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969.



Groovy Bangkok 1969

**Left:** Caption for this cover: *Beautiful Thai silk – from silk worms to finished product. Don't they look just elegant whether worn in either typical Thai or Western style?*

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)



(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)





(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*,  
June 1969)

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*,  
June 1969)

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*,  
June 1969)

16 June 1969

### ART GALLERIES


No.	Name	Address
1	ARTISTS FREE LANCE STUDIO	2nd Fl. Nibondh Bookstore, Gayson
2	BANGKAPI GALLERY	10 Asole Rd. (21)
3	BANGKOK GALLERY OF ARTS	1511/8 Phaholyothin Rd.
4	CHARLIE'S HIDE-A-WAY ART GAL.	Pattaya
5	DESIGN THAI	Maneeya Bldg., Ploenchit Rd.
6	DOLF RIKS STUDIO	46, Soi 81, Sukhumvit
7	DONALD MOORE GAL.	221 Sukhumvit Road
8	GALLERY ASIA	Chao Phaya & Erawan
9	GAL. INTERNATIONAL	Kian Gwan Bg., Suriwongse
10	GALLERY 20	Rajprasong Shopping Center
11	GAYSON ART HALL	Gayson Road
12	GIFT GALLERY	166/2 New Petchburi Rd.
13	GRAND GALLERY	Grand Hotel, Rama 1 Rd.
14	MONDIRA	Chongkolnee Shop, Center
15	NAI LERT A. G.	Nai Lert Bg., Sukhumvit
16	PATHUMWAN A. G.	Pathumwan Circle
17	PRASARNMIT A. G.	Prasarnmit Rd. (23)
18	RAJA GALLERY	Gayson Shopping Center
19	SAINAMTHIP GAL.	Sukhumvit (bet. Soi 20 & 22)
20	SANASEN A. G.	285 Convent Road
21	SIAM GALLERY	Gayson Shopping Center
22	SUP ART GALLERY	453 Soi Siri, Silom
23	STAIRCASE GALLERY	Design Thai, Maneeya Bldg.
24	TRIO GALLERY	60 New Petchburi Road
25	VIENG PING GALLERY	Railway Hotel, Chongmal

The Mysterious Orient  
Captured . . . Captive . . . Eternal  
on Paintings typically Thai at

## Gallery Asia

The selections are many,  
subjects galore,  
price moderate and  
the atmosphere congenial.

THAI SAND & OIL PAINTINGS  
ARE THE LATEST IN  
ART . . . OWN AN  
ORIGINAL . . . BE A  
REAL CONNOISSEUR . . . NOW!  
BEFORE THE WHOLE WORLD  
CATCHES UP WITH YOU . . .  
Remember there are no  
taxes or import duties  
on original works of art.



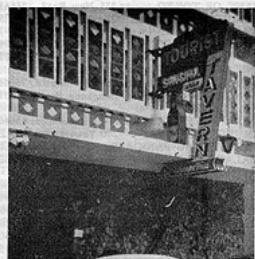
## Gallery Asia

GERANWAN HOTEL Arcade CHAND PIVIA HOTEL  
Tel. 59870 Mezzanine Floor  
Wholesale Office New Petchburi Ext. Tel. 55348

17 June 1969

## THE TOURIST TAVERN RESTAURNAT

(Under European Management)



412-412/1, Siam Square (Opp. Siam Bowl)  
Rama 1 Road, Bangkok

*A restaurant of unusual decor and a delightful bar, The Tavern offers superb cuisine and a large variety of leading imported wines.*

Extends a warm welcome to Bangkok's  
gourmets and visitors to the city.

Open for lunch and dinner

Try Our Businessman's Lunch Of

Choicest Steak  
With A Jug Of Beer  
Tea Or Coffee

All For Only B/35 - Inclusive

For reservations, please phone 51761

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*,  
June 1969)

June 1969 13

SHOP IN  
COMFORT

**SELF-SERVICE**



MEATS

- Many Varieties
- Cut and Trimmed Right
- Packaged Hourly
- Guaranteed Fresh
- Clean and Economical

Dairy Products & Provisions  
Cigarettes & Liquors  
Also Available

## BANGKOK KANGAROO

Air Conditioned  
SUPER MARKET

58313

245 Sukhumvit Road  
(Between Soi 17-19)

June 1969 11

WELCOME TO CHIANGMAI  
AND TO THE NEW, LUXURIOUS



## RINCOME HOTEL

The Rincome Hotel is now open offering truly  
luxurious accommodation and facilities: 100 centrally  
air-conditioned rooms and suites; the elegant Peacock  
Room Cocktail Lounge; Fish Mui Coffee Shop;  
Banquet and Convention rooms; Lobby Bar; Swim-  
ming Pool in beautifully landscaped gardens, and all  
the recreation and service facilities of a really first-  
class hotel, including private golf facilities and an  
extensive shopping arcade.

For reservations --- call 71760  
or contact your travel agent



Rincome Hotel

Huey Kaew Road, Chiangmai, Thailand, Tel. 5044

Cable: "RINCOME" CHIANGMAI

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

  
**AMARIN HOTEL**  
 Tel. 59810-20  
 526 Plerachit Road, Bangkok  
 Cable: "AMRINHOTEL"



220 Rooms First-Class Hotel  
 Completely Air-conditioned  
 "Located in the shopping & business center"

● OFFERING ●

24 Hrs. Coffee Shop (Western Snacks & Thai Food)  
 White Orchid (Chinese) Restaurant — Cocktail  
 Lounge — Japanese Sushi Counter — Nichikigoyi  
 Terrace — Amarin Skyroom (Available for Private  
 Parties) — Travel Office — Beauty Parlor — Ample  
 Parking — Swimming Pool — Shopping Arcade —  
 Barber Shop — Banquet and Convention Rooms

**IN KOGURE**  
 General Manager

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

For Maximum Comfort  
 At A Minimum Cost  
 Stay at the  
**REX HOTEL**



910100  
 Sukhumvit Road, Opp. Soi 49  
 Cable: "REXHOTEL"

European comfort with gracious Oriental hospitality  
 is what you will find when you stay at the REX.  
 Situated in the most fashionable residential area of  
 Bangkok. First class facilities included, Cocktail  
 Lounge with Top Class Band nightly, 24 hour ser-  
 vice Coffee Shop, Roof Pool with Terrace Bar,  
 Travel Agency, Shopping Arcade, Barber & Beauty  
 Salon.



The "APOLLO 4"  
 Entertains Nightly in the  
**Astoria**  
 COCKTAIL LOUNGE  
 From 8 p.m. — 1 a.m.  
 CHALERM KAUHAM  
 General Manager

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

  
 Welcome to  
 Sunny Pattaya Beach  
 and the  
 Quiet ● Cool ● Clean



**PATTAYA BEACH HOTEL**  
 Choburi, Thailand  
 Tel. — Dial "O" and ask for "Pattaya 6113"  
 (Turn to the right on reaching  
 Km. Post 145 - Sukhumvit)  
 Cable: "BEACHOTEL" Pattaya, Choburi

- Fully Air Conditioned
- First Class Facilities
- Coffee Shop - Cocktail Lounge - Restaurant
- International Cuisine

Robert Stam  
 General Manager



Our Large Swimming Pool  
 For Reservations in Bangkok  
 Call Tel. 35901 World Travel Service

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)



**NARAI HOTEL**  
 222 Silom Road, Bangkok  
 For Reservations: Tel. 31070  
 Cable: "NARAIHOTEL BANGKOK"  
 For Taxi:—

**"LA ROTONDE"**  
 15th Floor - Revolving French Restaurant.

**"LAKSMI RESTAURANT"**  
 Mezzanine Floor - Thai decor. International cuisine.

**"PIZZERIA"**  
 Ground Floor. Italian Coffee House. 24 Hr. Service.

**"DON JUAN"**  
 Bangkok's most lively Cel- lar Bar with dance music nightly.

**"CAROUSEL"**  
 Mezzanine Floor. American Bar.

Convention - Concert and Banquet Halls.  
**NARAI HOTEL**  
 222 Silom Road, Bangkok  
 For Reservations: Tel. 31070  
 Cable: "NARAIHOTEL BANGKOK"  
 For Taxi:—

๒๒๒ ซอยลุมพินี กรุงเทพฯ

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Welcome  
to the  
NEW...

**TOPAZ ROOM**  
COCKTAIL LOUNGE & BAR  
Park Hotel  
Sukhumvit Road - Sol 7  
Tel. 55110, 55111, 55112

Beautiful Decor  
Excellent Food • Selected Drinks

Dancing Nightly  
from 8:00 until the Wee Hours with



**ERNIE SEVILLA**  
and his  
**FABULOUS JOKERS**  
"Come and request your favorite songs"  
AMERICAN MANAGEMENT

Open daily from 10 A.M. to 4 A.M.  
Present this AD to the management  
and receive a "Surprise Gift"

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

While you are in SATTAHIP or  
UTAPAO... we invite you to the  
"Rendezvous of the Elite" in this  
area...



**Sritrang**  
Restaurant & Bar

- For Breakfast, Lunch, Cocktails or Dinner
- Mexican, Western, Chinese & Thai Cuisine
- Dinner Dance Music from 6:30 p.m.
- The Biggest Restaurant in this region

PRIVATE PARTIES ACCEPTED

Km. 2 Sukhumvit Road, Sattahip, Choburi

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

**Nipa Lodge Hotel**  
Pattaya Beach, Thailand  
Cable Nipalodge Choburi, Thailand  
Telex: 2243 (Italthai)  
Mail: G.P.O. Box 2641, Bangkok



**RELAXATION UNLIMITED**  
NIPA LODGE Hotel offers 150 fully air-conditioned rooms and suites, set in acre upon acre of tropical gardens overlooking the sea. Vacation time is here...time to enjoy a refreshing holiday at the Nipa Lodge and all the pleasure facilities we have for you. Water skiing, yachting, skindiving, tennis, badminton, fresh water swimming in our large pool, golf, horse riding, bocia, and trips to the coral islands lapped by crystal clear seas - all away from the gadding crowds are a few of the hallmarks of a "relaxation unlimited" holiday. Plus - exquisite Continental cuisine at the "Trade Winds," music and dancing at the "Fish Bowl" and enchanting walks in our tropical garden.


**TARIFF**  
Standard room for one or two persons — B/250  
Deluxe room — B/350  
Suite w/balcony — B/600  
10 % Service charge included

Daily transportation by air-conditioned buses, leaving Bangkok Office at 8 AM, 10 AM, NOON, 3 PM.  
Cost B/60 one way, B/100 round trip, person.


**BANGKOK RESERVATION OFFICE**  
Rajerasong Shopping Center  
Tel. 56187, 54318

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)


See you  
at the...



**SEA GULL**  
Air Conditioned  
Restaurant and Lounge  
Located at the corner by the  
BIG TREE - PATTAYA



Specializing in...  
American • Italian • Chinese • Thai Food  
Ask for the Best Coffee in Thailand  
From our Bar... Selected Drinks



See this  
**OCELOT**  
at the  
**SEA GULL**

Open daily from 11 a.m. to Midnight

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Do Not Miss  
To See This  
Big Picture  
FULL OF ACTION  
at the

**CHALERM KHETR**  
TEL. 811244




**BANDIDOS**  
TECHNISCOPE TECHNICOLOR

STARRING  
**ENRICO MARIA SALERNO**

NOW SHOWING

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

For A  
**PERFECT MEAL**  
Come to



**TUCK'S RESTAURANT**  
At the New Nana Hotel  
Soi Nana (4), Sukhumvit Rd.  
Tel. 54201-5  
*European, Thai & Continental Cuisine*  
**Kobe Steak ... Our Specialty**  
Visit our **COFFEE SHOP (24 Hr. Service)**

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Welcome to

**DINO CLUB**

Tel. 914770

- Just renovated and re-opened
- With that nice, cool, Hawaiian Decor
- And that charming attention by English speaking waitresses
- Open from 8 p.m. — 2 a.m.

and featuring nightly  
the music of  
**PIO BANKIT'S TROPICALS**



**RIC      PIO      LEO**  
315/1-2 Sukhumvit Road - Corner Soi 29

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Welcome to the **FIRST and ONLY**  
**HOTEL in UTAPAO**



**SWAN LAKE HOTEL**  
Kiljo 10, Utapao, Sattahip

- Fully Air Conditioned Rooms
- Private Bath w/ H & C Running Water
- Telephone and Elevator Service
- Quiet and Conveniently Located
- 24 Hr. Restaurant & Bar Service




Our Large Swimming Pool

For Reservations in Bangkok -  
Please Call: 33198, 38444, 35581

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Enjoy Yourself While  
In **PATTAYA** At  
**THE TROPICAL SEA**  
Restaurant & Night Club  
On The Beach



Open from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. daily  
Till 2 a.m. on Fri. & Sat.

We Serve:  
Western • Chinese • Thai Food  
And The Best Of Drinks

Music Nightly  
For Your Dancing Pleasure

★ Attractive Hostesses in Attendance  
★ Prompt Service by Courteous Waiters  
★ Economical Prices For All

**COME ONE... COME ALL**


(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

BARS				
No.	Name	Location	Telephone	Live Music
1	ABC ROOM	ABC Lane	....	....
2	ALLAN'S SPORTSMAN'S	440/2 Suriwongse	At Night	....
3	AMOR	Patpong Rd.	....	....
4	ANNI	647/13 Petchburi	59191	At Night
5	BOSTON	New Petchburi	56028	At Night
6	CALIFORNIA	2077 New Petchburi	At Night	....
7	CARAVELLE	Florida Hotel	54141-3	At Night
8	CAROUSEL	Nara Hotel	31970	....
9	CAT'S EYE	President Hotel	59890	At Night
10	CHITRA'S	Sukhumvit Rd.	....	....
11	CHUTIMA	142 Suthisan	73580	At Night
12	CLUB 99	Silom Road	38491	At Night
13	COPACABANA	Sukhumvit Rd	56366	At Night
14	DERBY KING	74 Patpong	33356	....
15	DIAMOND	Sukhumvit	58607	At Night
16	DINO	Sukhumvit, Soi 29	....	At Night
17	DOMINO	137 Gayorn	56812	At Night
18	DROP DRINK	296 Sukhumvit	....	....
19	FOUR SEAS	Manhattan Hotel	57461	At Night
20	GASLIGHT	Patpong Rd.	32711	At Night
21	GINZA	Surasak Rd.	31093	....
22	GOLDEN SAND	New Petchburi Rd.	....	....
23	GOULASH	Saladang 2	863726	....
24	GRAND PRIX	91 Patpong	32468	At Night
25	GYPSY CSARDA	Soi Phaiat	....	At Night
26	JACK'S AMER. STAR	48/7 New Petchburi	Sundays	....
27	JULIE'S HEART	326/5 Sukhumvit	....	....
28	LA CAVE	Erawan Hotel	59870-9	....
29	LADY "L"	Chongkolnee Rd.	....	At Night
30	LAS VEGAS	New Petchburi Rd.	....	....
31	MAX'S PLACE	Patpong Rd.	32468	At Night
32	MIAMI	Opp. G.P.O.	30142	At Night
33	MITSUYO	Lang Suan Lane	58732	....
34	MONA LISA	Suriwongse Rd.	38561	....
35	MONTHEN TONG	Monthen Hotel	37060	At Night
36	MOSQUITO	Klong Toey	....	....
37	NAGA	Siam Inter Continental	59850	....
38	NIGHT SPOT	Manida Hotel	38-71-5	At Night
39	OCEAN	Peninsula Hotel	37000-11	....
40	OKAY	Klong Toey	....	At Night
41	ORCHID VILLA	49/7 New Petchburi	912315	....
42	PENTHOUSE LOUNGE	Grand Hotel	54101	At Night
43	RAMAYANA	Rama Hotel	31010	At Night
44	RED DOOR	Patpong Rd.	33356	....
45	RENDEZVOUS	Gayorn Rd.	55228	....
46	SAN FRANCISCO	New Petchburi Rd.	At Night	....
47	SEA HAG	Europe Hotel	30314	....
48	SOUTH SEAS	Grand Hotel	54101	After Hour
49	SUSIE	190 Pradipat,	72421	....
50	SIAMESE DOLL	Gayorn	....	....
51	THE BALCONY	New Road	....	At Night
52	THE CELLAR	Silom Rd.	....	At Night
53	THE TROLLEY	Silom Opp. Patpong	....	At Night
54	THREE SISTERS	Gayorn Rd.	....	....
55	TONY'S	Plaza Bldg.	34931	....
56	TOPAZ ROOM	Park Hotel	55111	After Hour
57	VENUS	Klong Toey	....	At Night
58	WASHINGTON	New Petchburi Rd.	....	At Night
59	WHY NOT	Sukhumvit	57345	....
60	WINDSOR	285 Silom Rd.	30985	At Night
61	YARD OF ALE	Silom Cor. Convent	....	At Night

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

**DINERS CLUB** **AMERICAN EXPRESS CARDS**

Dine in Comfort at



**SALA NORASINGH**  
Air Conditioned  
**RESTAURANT**  
featuring  
Delicious Siamese Dishes And  
Traditional Thai Classical Dancing

Luncheon 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (No Lunch on Saturdays)  
Dinner 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

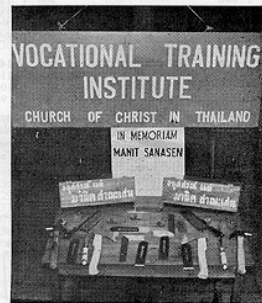
**THAI CLASSICAL DANCING**  
9 - 10 Every Night

For Reservations... ☎ 59197  
Sol 4 South Nana, Sukhumvit Road  
Lane opposite Ra-jah Hotel

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

"In as much as you have..."

The Chiangmai branch of the Church of Christ in Thailand besides its other activities maintains Vocational Centers for training those cured of leprosy and the well children of lepers. Trades taught: Pig & Poultry keeping, Silk production, Cloth weaving, Rattan & Bamboo ware, Ceramics, Printing, Carpentry, etc.



Above shows sets of tools given to those taking the Carpentry course. These become the property of the trainee and on his leaving the Vocational Center enable him to earn his living, and not be a burden on society. One box of tools costs only Tcs. 125 (the price of half a bottle of Scotch), so little a sum can do so much good!

Dr. Chinda Singhanet, the Director of the internationally famous McKean Leprosy Hospital, Chiangmai, also so ably supervises the numerous vocational centers of the Church of Christ in Chiangmai.


Your prayers and donations are urgently needed to help in the good work.

Farmer Jones  
(This space contribute by the publisher)

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)



**ALLAN**



now entertaining nightly at

**ALLAN'S SPORTSMAN'S LOUNGE**

440/2 Suriwongse Road — Opp. Trocadero Hotel

from 8:30 P.M. to 2 A.M.


(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*,  
June 1969)

HOTELS UP-COUNTRY		
No.	Name	Location Telephone
<b>BANGSAEN</b>		
1	Bangsaen	Call TOT - 24641-2 for Reservations
<b>CHANTABURI</b>		
1	Kasemsarn	.....
2	Muang Chand	.....
<b>CHIENGMAI</b>		
1	Chiengmai	22 Chaipoom Rd. 561
2	Lanna	.....
3	Prince	8 Taiwang Rd. 6396
4	Railway	Opp. Railway Station 82
5	Rincome	Opp. Railway Station 82
6	Suraphol	1 Tapair Rd. 309
7	Suriwongse	Changklan Rd. 6630
<b>HAADYAI</b>		
1	Cathay	.....
2	King	.....
3	Lamthong	.....
4	Metro	.....
5	President	Prathan Uthit Rd. 4477
6	Saengfa	.....
7	Station	.....
8	Yongde	.....
<b>HUA HIN</b>		
1	Hua Hin	Call 30122 for Reservations
<b>KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK</b>		
1	Khao Yai Bungalows	Call TOT 24641-2 for Reservations
<b>KHONKAEN</b>		
1	Kosa	.....
2	Varasirivattana	Srichand Rd. 6083
<b>KORAT</b>		
1	Chomaurang	2701/2 Mahadthai Rd. 2940
2	Damrongrak	1674 Chompol Rd. 504
3	Korat	4016/15 Asdang Rd. 2444
4	Sri Patana	.....
5	Thai Pokekarpan	.....
<b>PATTAYA</b>		
1	Arbor Hotel	Call 38603 for Reservations
2	Nipa Lodge	Call 56187 for Reservations
3	Pattaya Beach	Call 35901 for Reservations
5	Royal Garden Bungalow	Call 31958 for Reservations
<b>PHUKET</b>		
1	Imperial	51 Phuket Rd. Cable: Imperial Hotel
2	Thavorn	74 Rasda Rd. Cable: Thavorn Hotel
<b>RANONG</b>		
1	Kay	.....
<b>SATTAHIP</b>		
1	Swan Lake	Call 33198 for Reservations
<b>SONGKHLA</b>		
1	Grand	.....
2	Samila	.....
3	Thai Pokekarpan	.....
<b>TAKLI</b>		
1	Pornsawas	.....
2	Snit Chai	.....
<b>UBOL</b>		
1	North East	22 Rajaboot Rd. ....
<b>UDORN</b>		
1	Krung Thong	195 Prosi Rd. 161
2	New Siri Udon	.....

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

While in PATTAYA

Relax and Enjoy  
Yourselfes at  
The



**BAMBOO BAR**

Restaurant & Night Club

From 10 A.M. to 1 A.M. Daily

Chinese • Western • Thai Food

Lively Dance Music  
from "Eight"

and

SPECIAL FLOOR SHOWS

**NIGHTLY**

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

Bus Routes Important To Visitors		
Bus No. & Destination	Starting Point	Passing Through
1 THANON TOK to TATIAN		New Rd., Bangrak, Post Office, Jawarad (China Town), Grand Palace, Sanam Luang (Pramane Ground)
2 SAMRONG to PAKKLONG TALAD		Bangna, Prakanong, Bangkok, Rajaprasong (Erawan Hotel), Patunam, Petchburi Rd., Rajadamnern Ave.
4 KLONG TOEY to TALAD PLU		Lumpini, Rama IV Rd., Hualampong (RR Station), Pahurat, Memorial Bridge, Dhonburi (Big Circle)
14 CUSTOMS HOUSE to SRIYAN		Lumpini, Rajprasong, Makkasan, Women's Hosp., Tukchai, Rajawatt
15 KRUNG THEP BR. to BANGLAMPOO		Silom Rd., Rajaprasong, Patumwan, Sapan Dam, Panfah, Rajadamnern Ave.
16 SURIWONGSE Rd. to SAMYAEK TAOPOON		Henri Dunant (Sports Club), Patumwan, Petchburi Rd., Yomara (Mission Hosp.), Siseo, Banggabo, Bangpo
17 KRUNG THEP BR. to TACHANG		Sathorn Rd., Wireless Rd. (American Emb.), Rajaprasong, Patunam, Sri Ayuthaya Rd. (Parliament Bg.), Banglampoo
18 SIPHYA Rd. to RAMA VI Rd.		Samyarn (Chula Univ.), Payathai Rd., (Victory Monument), Krungton Br., Bangplat (Dhonburi)
22 THANON TOK to KLUAY NAMTHAI		New Rd., Trokchan, Suan Plu, Sathorn, Lumpini, Rama IV Rd.
25 PAKNAM to TACHANG		Bangna, Prakanong, Bangkok, Rajaprasong, Patumwan, Samyarn, Hualampong, Jawarad, Pahurat, Pramane Ground
29 DON MUANG to HUALAMPONG		Laksi RR Station, Bangkok, Sapan Kusy, Victory Monument, Payathai Rd., Samyarn
39 DON MUANG to SANAM LUANG		Bhumipol Hosp., Rajathevi, Sapan Khao, Rajadamnern Ave. (Democracy Monument)
45 PAKNAM to SAMYAEK		Bangna, Prakanong, Bangkok, Rajprasong, Lumpini, Samyarn, Hualampong
47 CUSTOMS HOUSE to SANAM LUANG		Sapan Dam, Lumpini, Samyarn, Patumwan, Yose (Chalerm Khetra Theatre), Rajadamnern Ave.
48 BANGCHARK to WAT PO		Prakanong, Bangkok, Rajaprasong, Yose, Sapan Dam, Vora-chak, Pahurat
97 EKAMAI to TACHANG		Sukhumvit Rd., Rajaprasong, Patumwan, Samyarn, Hualampong, Jawarad, Pahurat

(Source: *Bangkok Traveler's Guide*, June 1969)

# Nation spelling error

June 20, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

*Nation* spelling error – June 20, 2006

One reader reports: *There's a big error on The Nation front page (June 20). It is the group photo of the king and queen and all the visiting royals. The word "Sixtieth" is misspelled.*

Another reader points out: *"Word has it" it was the Royal Photographic Society's spelling mistake...*

# Cheaters score high marks for ingenuity

June 20, 2006

Categories: China, Crime

[Cheaters](#)

[score high marks for ingenuity](#) –

Reuters, June 20, 2006

*Using microscopic earphones and wireless devices, Chinese students upped the ante in the high-tech battle to counter cheating during university entrance exams this month, putting some in hospital as a result...*

# Bathroom advertising campaign

June 21, 2006

Categories: Uncategorized

[Bathroom advertising](#)

[campaign](#) – Coolz0r – Marketing

Thoughts, June 21, 2006

Where is this?



# In Northeast Thailand, a cuisine based on bugs

June 21, 2006

Categories: Food and Drink, Local Beliefs

[In Northeast Thailand, a cuisine based on bugs](#) – *New York Times*, June 21, 2006

*You can't claim to have tried the local cuisine of the hot and arid northeastern quadrant of Thailand known as Isaan without sampling an insect...*

# **N. Korea's heir apparent follows Eric Clapton on tour in Germany**

June 21, 2006

Categories: North Korea

[N. Korea's heir apparent follows Eric Clapton on tour in Germany](#)

– WorldTribune.com, June 21, 2006

# Electric tramway project for hearing – Seven routes put up in consultancy report

June 22, 2006

Categories: Mass Transit

[Electric tramway project for hearing – Seven routes put up in consultancy report](#) – Bangkok Post, June 22, 2006

*A public hearing will be held today to ask residents about an electric tram project, the island's first-ever mass transit system. A consultancy group, comprising Pyramid Development International Corporation, Ecosystem Engineering Consultant and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Thon Buri campus, recommended seven routes for the project, and looked at options including building tracks underground or on elevated structures.*

*Three routes—Phuket airport-Ao Chalong, Patong beach-Phuket downtown and Bang Khu junction-Ao Chalong—were designated as urgent. Provincial authorities gave the group 17 million baht to study the investment viability and construction costs.*

*In its report, the consultancy group proposed two types of trams—one running on tracks and the other running on concrete roads. It said construction of an elevated track for the 41-km Phuket airport-Ao Chalong route would cost 23 billion baht, while an elevated concrete route would cost 22 billion baht.*

*A track on the ordinary road surface cost 13 billion baht but built underground would cost 121 billion baht. Seven tram stations and one maintenance station would be built on this route, able to carry 87,000 passengers a day.*

*On the 18-km Patong-Phuket town route, the investment costs were 10 billion baht for both an elevated track and a concrete road cost.*

*A track on an ordinary road surface required an investment of 3.5 billion baht while an underground track would cost 58 billion baht. Four stations would open on this route, which could serve 45,000 people a day.*

*On the 16-km Bang Khu-Chalong route, investment costs were put at 9.2 billion baht for both tracks and concrete roads. A track on the road surface cost 3.4 billion baht while an underground track cost 51 billion baht. Five stations would be built and the route could carry 61,000 passengers a day.*

*Electric trams running on the tracks would cost about 240 million baht each while those running on concrete roads would cost 25 million baht each.*

*According to the consultancy group, the total investment cost for the 41-km airport to Ao Chalong route would be at least 11 billion baht.*

*Phuket deputy governor Niran Kallayanamitr said the elevated structure might not be suitable for the island province. The island was small and tourists might not like the idea. The hearing should come up with a variety of views on the project.*

# Thailand to develop two new tourist resort islands

June 22, 2006

Categories: Tourism

[Thailand to develop two new tourist resort islands](#) – *Business Day*, June 22, 2006

*Thailand will develop two little known islands into resort destinations like Phuket and Samui as part of plans to boost overseas tourist arrivals to 20 million a year by 2010.*

*The government will increase spending on roads and other utilities on Chang and Kood island in Trat province, 315 kilometers east of Bangkok...*

# Casino raided again in Taling Chan area

June 22, 2006

Categories: Crime

[Casino raided again in Taling Chan area](#) – Bangkok Post, June 22, 2006

*A total of 390 gamblers, 160 men and 230 women, were arrested during a police raid on a major den in a condominium in Taling Chan district yesterday. The police team headed by Police inspector-general Pol Gen Seripisut Temiyavej swooped on the gambling den on the eighth floor of the condominium on Boromratchonnane road, close to Chaophaya Hospital... The den has been raided several times before, but stayed open.*



# Demolish gambling den, says senior police officer

June 23, 2006

Categories: Crime

[Demolish gambling den, says senior police officer](#) – *The Nation*, June 23, 2006

Nils comments: *Bulldoze an 8-storey condominium??? Interesting because of the involvement of the police officer, but also the apparent determination to do something against police corruption. One to watch, this Inspector-General Seripisut?*

Smart – first getting to know the scene while working in the CSD, collecting protection money, then taking over the whole business yourself!

# “Natives of Paklat Pounding Rice”

June 23, 2006

Categories: Old photos and films



(Photo: Undated postcard)

"Natives of Paklat pounding rice" – June 23, 2006

Jerry notes the date on the left side: "06/1905"

[Heinrich](#) writes:

*The writing is in Suetterlin, an old German script. I learned it in school back in the 1950s... my mother still writes like that.*

*The message on the postcard is:*

*"Bangkok, den 06. / 19.05.*

*Lieber Wilhelm!*

*Sende Dir von hier die herzlichsten Gresse Dein Fritz*

*Es ist sehr warm hier 40 – 50 Grad*

*Viele Gruesse an zu Hause"*

*That roughly translates to (note the date!):*

*"Bangkok, 19. May 1906*

*Dear Wilhelm!*

*Send you the most sincere greetings from here*

*Your Fritz*

*It is very warm here 40 – 50 degrees*

*Regards to the family"*

# Website against human trafficking

June 24, 2006

Categories: Crime

[Website against human trafficking](#) – *The Nation*, June 24, 2006

*The Nation* continues their unbroken

record of always getting the wrong url: “[ww.stophumantrafficking.com](#)”

# **Thailand dazzles the world – Unveils 3 landmark destinations**

June 24, 2006

Categories: Tourism

[Thailand](#)

[dazzles the world – Unveils 3 landmark destinations](#)

– *Manilla Bulletin*, June 24, 2006

# **Dangers of travel in Thailand**

June 24, 2006

Categories: Tourism

[Dangers of travel in Thailand](#) – *Courier Mail*, June 24, 2006



# Puppet theatre split over award

June 24, 2006

Categories: Culture and Society

## [Puppet theatre split over award](#)

– Bangkok Post, June 24, 2006

*Controversy looms over the famed Joe Louis Puppet Theatre just weeks after it won an international award at the World Festival of Puppet Art 2006 in the Czech Republic. A letter signed by founder Sakorn Yang- keawsot was faxed to newspapers yesterday, expressing concern about the "exaggerated public relations" accompanying the award...*

# Bad Cops Removed

June 24, 2006

Categories: Thai Police

[Bad cops removed](#) – *The Nation*, June 24, 2006

*The superintendent of Bangkok's Phya Thai police station and four senior officers have been banished to remote posts after they were found responsible for a major gambling den operating in Pratunam...*

## **Sons-in-law wanted. Qualification : 25-35 years of age**

June 26, 2006

Categories: Local Beliefs

From *The Nation*, June

26, 2006

\* *A millionaire in Buri Ram puts up a [sign](#) seeking for potential son-in-law for his four daughters. The sign read "Sons in law wanted. Qualification : 25-35 years of age, healthy and maintain high moral standard." He decided to take down the sign on Monday after he was flooded with callers.*

# Reef Making

June 27, 2006

Categories: Wildlife and Nature



(Photo: Mr. John for 2Bangkok.com)

Mr. John reports: *Garbage trucks from Bangkok being dumped in the Gulf of Thailand in the Narathiwat area. This is a Royal Project to help promote the growth of coral reefs...*

# Thai comic book superhero – Stonecutter

June 30, 2006

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai comic book superhero – Stonecutter](#)

– June 30, 2006



# Hi-res images of the new Myanmar capital construction

June 30, 2006

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



(Source: Google Earth – Pyinmana)

**Above:** New government buildings in the hills outside of [Pyinmana](#)

Hi-res images of the new Myanmar capital construction – July 4, 2006

Don't miss the incredible images of the bunker-building Myanmar military's new capital in Pyinmana. ([Google Earth placemark](#) – [Install Google Earth](#))

[Google](#)

[Earth Imagery May Have Rattled Burmese Regime](#) –

*The Irrawaddy*, July 3, 2006

Another reason for the junta's efforts to block Google ("Junta Blocks Google and Gmail," *The Irrawaddy Online*, June 30, 2006) may well stem for that company's decision to highlight Pyinmana on its [Google Earth product](#). The addition of Pyinmana is recent and the [high resolution imagery is excellent](#), allowing anyone to examine closely the scale of the project and the mindset of its builders.

**More from *The Irrawaddy*:**

[Than](#)

[Shwe Watch](#) – *The wedding of junta supremo Than Shwe's daughter on Sunday was expected by residents in Rangoon to be the most expensive in modern Burmese history, as news of the event spread through town. Rumors have it that the nuptials cost a staggering 4 billion kyat (US \$300,000). Asia World Co Ltd, Burma's biggest conglomerate headed by notorious drug lord Lo Hsing Han, is said to have provided the catering, while well-known Burmese tycoon Tay Za's Htoo Trading Company footed the bill for many of the other arrangements. Lt-Gen Myint Swe, commander of Rangoon Division, is thought to have provided the wedding gown...*

[Construction to Begin on Burmese "Cyber City"](#)

– [Fortunes](#)

[Won and Lost in Burma's Football Fever](#)