#### A drive from Suvarnabhumi airport to downtown Bangkok

September 2, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

A drive from Suvarnabhumi airport to downtown Bangkok - YouTube, September, 2009

## Wansley murder acquittal upheld

September 2, 2009 Categories: Crime

Wansley murder acquittal upheld – Bangkok Post, September 2, 2009

#### Free trips to Thailand for the internet savvy

September 2, 2009 Categories: Tourism

<u>Free trips to Thailand for the internet savvy</u> – *Arizona Daily Star*, September 2, 2009

Attention Internet-savvy travelers: Thailand is giving away free trips to five lucky couples who don't mind sitting in front of a computer while on vacation...

### Family waits for charges in Calgarian's death in Thailand

September 2, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Family waits for charges in Calgarian's death in Thailand</u> – Calgary Herald, September 2, 2009 ... They have just learned that the evidence in the case is now under review in a Thai court, and a decision on whether charges will be laid could be made in weeks...

#### Mong's plane will fly after all

September 3, 2009

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

Mong's plane will fly after all - The Irrawaddy, September 3, 2009

In a turnaround by the Thai Ministry of the Interior, Mong Thongdee, a Burmese boy who had been denied the opportunity to travel to Japan to compete in a paper airplane contest, was on Thursday granted a temporary Thai passport...

## 2 Filipinos nabbed for robbery in Bangkok

September 3, 2009 Categories: Crime

2 Filipinos nabbed for robbery in Bangkok – Inquirer.net, September 3, 2009

## Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group arrives in Thailand for port visit

September 4, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group arrives in Thailand for port visit – Navy Compass, September, 2009 ...Reagan Public Affairs Three ships and more than 5000 Sailors from the Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group arrived at the island of Phuket...

#### Car bomb damage in the Deep South

September 4, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Car bomb damage in the Deep South – September 4, 2009

Dr. Has reports: The damage from the car bomb explosion in downtown Yala city, near the Na Nakorn Road intersection, which occurred at 9:40 on September 4, 2009. The blast caused on local authority to die at the scene. One other official and a villager died at the Yala hospital and many others suffered injury.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Young Muslim Association of Thailand (YMAT) – September 5, 2009

Dr. Has reports: Today the Young Muslim Association of Thailand (YMAT) hosted a feast for fast ending period and scholarship granting for victims of the violent situation. The picture shows women who are widows and children who are orphans (above).

The YMAT invites Police Major Gen. Jamroon Denudom, former Deputy Police Commander, and his team team to give moral support and promote team cooperation (below).

#### Wearing masks

September 4, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Wearing masks – September 4, 2009

The billboard reads: It is the time that Thais must wear mask to face each other – Wear masks when catching a cold or staying in a crowded area – Wear mask correctly (use it wisely), click <a href="www.flu2009thailand.com">www.flu2009thailand.com</a> – Ask information on flu 2009 and ask for media printouts, call 1422 or 1330

#### Lost car

September 4, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Lost car – September 4, 2009

The billboard reads: car is lost inform 1599 - Check if a car is illegal - www.lostcar.go.th

## Billboard opposing Red Shirt petition to the King asking for a Thaksin pardon

September 4, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Anti-petition billboard – September 4, 2009

The billboard reads: Do you think the listing of people's names on a petition is proper or not? If not, to whom it is not suitable for? Is it proper or not? Thais who do not agree.

#### Thai-made film on President Ho Chi Minh screened

September 4, 2009 Categories: Film and TV

Thai-made film on President Ho Chi Minh screened – Nhan Dan, September 4, 2009

...Scriptwriter Dr. Aitdhiruth Surachettapong who is a lecturer at the Thaksin University in Thailand, said Ho Chi Minh is a special man who plays the most important role in the history of Vietnam. Such a great man with a strong personality, but he leads a very simple and modest lifestyle, and that has inspired him to produce the documentary...

#### Philip Morris Thai faces \$2 billion tax charges

September 4, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Philip Morris Thai faces \$2 billion tax charges</u> – *Thailandnews*, September 4, 2009

The Thai unit of Philip Morris International faces charges that it violated customs tax rules by understating the prices of imported cigarettes, a Thai police official said...

## **Sorry for the inconvenience**

September 5, 2009



Sorry for the inconvenience – September 5, 2009 The sign reads: Sorry for the inconvenience (Left) I hope you drive safely (Right) Me too, I hope you drive safely (erected by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration)

## In Bangkok, a small landmark causes big trouble

September 5, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News

In Bangkok, a small landmark causes big trouble – The Star, September 5, 2009

# At least 22 hotels on the block – Buyers starting to bargain down prices

September 6, 2009

Categories: Property and Development

At least 22 hotels on the block – Buyers starting to bargain down prices – Bangkok Post, September 6, 2009

## Crackdown fails to stop airport gangs – Illegal operators defy authorities

September 6, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines, Crime

Crackdown fails to stop airport gangs - Illegal operators defy authorities - Bangkok Post, September 6, 2009

## Thai soap operas boom during downturn

September 6, 2009 Categories: Film and TV

Thai soap operas boom during downturn – PDO, September 6, 2009

#### MOE is paving its way for refugee children to study in Thai school

September 6, 2009

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

MOE is paving its way for refugee children to study in Thai school – Thaipr.net, September 6, 2009 Miss. Diana (Di) Chungjintanakarn, the first Thai refugee ambassador and Mr. Veerawit Tianchainan, Country Director of US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) Thailand pay their visit to make a discussion with Deputy Education Minister, Mr. Chaiwut Bannawat educational policy to allow the refugee children to access into Thai educational system...

## Repentant Thai breeds 4,600 scorpions

September 7, 2009 Categories: Food and Drink

Repentant Thai breeds 4,600 scorpions – Reuters, September 7, 2009

A Thai man is keeping more than 4,600 scorpions as pets to atone for the years he spent cooking the arachnids to sell as snacks...

## Thai Airways to sell tickets online, five years after all other airlines did so

September 7, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines

Thai Airways finally discovers full potential of the internet – ETN, September 7, 2009

...Asked why Thai Airways is finally moving into e-fares in 2009 when most of its competitors did it five years ago, Boobphakam says only that now it's history. The new EVP Commercial confirmed to have instructed marketing teams around the world to be prepared for a complete flexibility in fixing air fares...

## Mugging victim dies in Thailand

September 7, 2009 Categories: Crime

<u>Mugging victim dies in Thailand</u> – *BBC News*, September 7, 2009 An Inverness woman who was mugged in Thailand a week ago has died in a Bangkok hospital...

#### Newsweek.com serves up scareware

September 7, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Newsweek.com serves up scareware – PC Mag, September 7, 2009

...This and all the other screens, which are intended to resemble a local PC program, are in fact HTML coming from advancedpcscanner6.com. The domain was registered on September 3 to Prakit A Jiraporn of Bangkok...

## Swedish politician mulls Thai bows to counter swine flu

September 8, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Swedish politician mulls Thai bows to counter swine flu - thelocal.se, September 8, 2009

#### Waterworld maps

September 8, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Waterworld maps - September 8, 2009



#### Outside the Thai consulate in Brisbane, Australia

September 9, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Outside the Thai consulate in Brisbane, Australia – September, 2009

Yesterday we posted the above photo. G. explains about the origin: *The artist is Elsje Downes, and is somewhat prolific in Brisbane.* 

To brighten up the city's traffic signal boxes, <u>Brisbane artists</u> are giving them a little colour.

# 'Good for families' — Lonely Planet's Thai beach where ten people have drowned this year

September 12, 2009 Categories: Tourism

'Good for families' – Lonely Planet's Thai beach where ten people have drowned this year – Daily Mail, September 12, 2009

## Confessions of a farang Bangkok bodysnatcher

September 12, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Confessions of a farang Bangkok bodysnatcher</u> – *Phuketwan*, September 12, 2009 ... He is the only non-Thai member of the Bodysnatchers of Bangkok, otherwise known as the Ruamkatanyu Foundation...

## Ratchayothin flyover

September 12, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Ratchayothin flyover – September 12, 2009 Ratchayothin flyover is reduced to one lane each way for construction. Similar closures are happening around the city.

#### **Shopping in Yala**

September 13, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Shopping in Yala – September 13, 2009

Dr. Has reports: This week is the final week for the Islamic to practice the fast period and is marked as the shopping period of the Muslims to buy new clothes for themselves and their family. Many who reside in villages come out to do shopping in the crowded atmosphere.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

## India is influencing culture in Bangkok

September 13, 2009 Categories: India

<u>India is influencing culture in Bangkok</u> – AP, September 13, 2009

...India pops up in unexpected places in the Thai capital, with the country's ancient Hindu civilization infusing the Thai language, classical dance and religious architecture...

#### Hollywood couple convicted of Thailand bribery

September 14, 2009 Categories: Crime

<u>Hollywood couple convicted of Thailand bribery</u> – Reuters, September 14, 2009

A U.S. jury has convicted a pair of married Hollywood producers of paying more than \$1.8 million in bribes to a former Thai government official in charge of tourism, in part so they could manage the Bangkok film festival...

#### No Reason to Invest in Newspapers in Thailand

September 14, 2009

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines

<u>Dunkley's chance</u> – Bangkok Post, September 14, 2009

... "Of course, blind Freddy will tell you The Nation is potentially gasping for air and is on its knees. Incompetence is finally catching up with them," he said.

"...We are not particularly interested," he said bluntly.

<sup>&</sup>quot;How could we be when foreign ownership is capped at 30% and at the board level 25%, which is strange in itself. Navigating the minefield of politics would also be quite a task. I wonder wouldn't it be better to go farther afield for investment opportunities?"...

## Couple bikes from Bangkok to Pakistan

September 15, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Couple bikes from Bangkok to Pakistan</u> – *BYU Newsnet*, September 15, 2009 ... Their adventure began with teaching English to youth in private schools in Bangkok for six months ...

# Jet ski video maker faces prosecution – Police admit extortion of tourists hard to stop

September 16, 2009 Categories: Scams

<u>Jet ski video maker faces prosecution – Police admit extortion of tourists hard to stop</u> – *Bangkok Post*, September 16, 2009

A Thai video production company involved in the filming of alleged extortion of foreigners by a Phuket jet ski operator is to be prosecuted for sending the recordings abroad for broadcasting without permission...

<u>Police furious over 'staged' video nasties – Clips 'not intended to harm tourism industry'</u> – *Bangkok Post*, September 16, 2009

... They had been edited to tarnish the image of both Thai tourism and the police force and presented only the negative side of the story through narrators, he said.

Pol Lt Gen Santhan ordered police investigators to find out if any Thai individuals were involved in the making of the footage. They could face criminal charges...

Bangkok airport embarks on image makeover – thewest.com.au, September 12, 2009

Baggage handlers at Thailand's main airport now wear uniforms with pockets sewn shut to prevent pilfering. Police are hauling away illegal taxi touts. And cushions are being added to metal seats at departure gates derided as a "pain in the rear..."

Scams against tourists are the subject of a new British documentary series called "Big Trouble in Tourist Thailand." The program, which aired its first of eight episodes last week on British television, "explores the ugly side of tourism in Thailand" – like getting ripped off by a gun-wielding jet-ski operator and landing in jail after partying at a drugged-out, all-night beach rave...



More comment via: kohphangannews.org

...Real funny is the story about Thai business man JJ, a half Thai half Dutch jet-ski operator at Patong beach in Phuket. Just awesome when JJ starts pulling out his gun and tells everyone that he can just shoot them...

(Image: Big Trouble in Tourist

Thailand)

Police extend net on trail of gem gang – Bangkok Post, September 25, 2009

...Thiraphon Kanchanakat, legal adviser to the Thai Gem and Jewelry Traders Association, said the theft did not take place at the 44th Bangkok Gems & Jewelry Fair, as reported by the media. It took place at another jewellery fair which was also held at Muang Thong Thani.

Mr Thiraphon said the inaccurate reports had hurt investor confidence in the fair and damaged the association's reputation...

#### In Thailand, a beach house

September 16, 2009 Categories: Buildings

<u>In Thailand, a beach house</u> – NYT, September 16, 2009

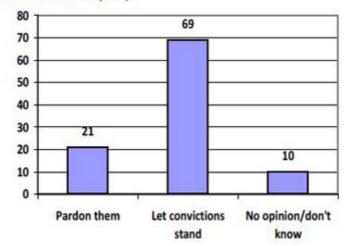
...Mr. Levine, who was born in Montreal, made his name as the founder of California Fitness, a gym chain that now is part of the 24 Hour Fitness group. After selling his interest in 24 Hour Fitness almost three years ago, Mr. Levine started another gym and yoga company, California WOW Experience, which is listed on the Thai stock exchange and has about 200,000 members at gyms in Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Australia...

## Thai People Gauge Attitudes toward Constitution, Reform, and Democracy

September 16, 2009 Categories: Polls

#### 3.2 Pardoning Politicians

Some politicians have been convicted of crimes, but say that they are innocent and that the convictions were politically motivated. To reduce political conflict, should these politicians be pardoned, or should their convictions stand? (Q12)



<u>Asia Foundation's Survey of the Thai People Gauges Attitudes toward Constitution, Reform, and Democracy</u> – *PRNewswire*, September 16,2009

...Thais give the courts by far the highest integrity rating, with two-thirds (64 percent) assessing them positively. The army has the second highest positive rating at 44 percent, while the police are seen as the least-trusted institution. Only 35 percent gave the election commission high marks, and just 21 percent felt the media has high integrity.

Decentralization was also a key focus of the survey. "As politicians and other stakeholders debate the future of the political process in Thailand, it was interesting to note that a substantial majority (69 percent) of our survey respondents are in favor of shifting some power from the national to the local level, and directly electing provincial governors..."

Also: The complete findings from <u>Constitutional Reform and Democracy in Thailand: A National Survey of</u> the Thai People

## NSPCA duped by Bangkok syndicate

September 17, 2009 Categories: Scams

NSPCA duped by Bangkok syndicate – news24, September 17, 2009

## Thailand's celebrity panda cub waves to her fans

September 17, 2009 Categories: Wildlife and Nature

Your morning adorable: Thailand's celebrity panda cub waves to her fans – LA Times blogs, September, 2009

## Street vendor selling fake ID cards

September 18, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: <a href="mailto:seanbonner.com">seanbonner.com</a>)

Street vendor selling ID cards, Thailand: random road snapshot – BoingBoing, September 18, 2009

### I was close to walking away from Manchester City, admits Mark Hughes

September 18, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics

I was close to walking away from Manchester City, admits Mark Hughes – Guardian, September 18, 2009 ... Garry Cook, City's chief executive, who was seen as an apologist for Thaksin after describing him in an interview as "a great guy to play golf with," said he now feels "dreadful" about having made that comment. Cook joined City from Nike in the US, where he had become president of the Jordan brand, but he, too, soon found there was no money.

"I have made some mistakes in my life," Cook said, "but I deeply regretted my failure to do proper research on Thaksin..."

#### The 2006 Coup in Thailand

September 19, 2009

Categories: 2006 Coup, High Tension in Thailand 2004-2008, Thai Politics

September 19, 2006





September 20, 2006

Also: <u>September 20 newspaper front pages</u>
Also: <u>Almost like being there: Photos from</u>

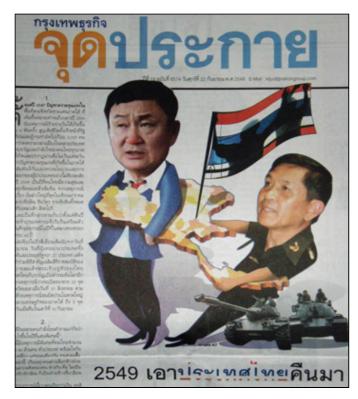
downtown

<u>September 21, 2006</u>

Also: Troops at The Nation building

Also: September 21 newspaper front pages





<u>September 23, 2006</u>

Saturday morning at the Royal Plaza: <u>Tanks</u>, <u>families</u>, <u>human interest</u>, <u>and Scientologists</u>

Official website: <u>Council for the Democratic</u> <u>Reform</u>

September 24-October 9, 2006

Earlier: <u>November 2005-September 2006: High</u> tension in Thailand



Also: Hat Yai blasts

Also: 2Bangkok.com exclusive: Conversation with a southern separatist

## Flyover repair

September 19, 2009 Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Flyover repair – September 19, 2009 The banner reads: Read sorry for the inconvenience – The overpass is under improvement

## **Red Shirt Convoy**

September 19, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Red Shirt convoy – 14:42, September 19, 2009 Hundreds of Red Shirt motorcyclists in a convoy near Ratchayothin intersection

#### Trip to Thailand villages raises ethical questions

September 20, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Trip to Thailand villages raises ethical questions</u> – *The Washington Post*, September 20, 2009 ... You can see almost anything in the world if you pay enough. So I was startled when a respected trekking company in northern Thailand refused my request to travel to a village of a tribe called the Padaung. "PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS!" the company wrote me...

## Taxi driver playing Tetris

September 20, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Taxi driver playing Tetris – September 20, 2009

## **Red Shirt flag**

September 21, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This is one of the main flags used by groups at the Red Shirt rally on Saturday. It reads: Khon Jing Jai Rak Prachathipatai Club FM 94.75~MHz

#### Billboard truck

September 21, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Billboard truck – September, 2009

The billboard reads: Music and dance performance to perform on September 21, 2009 with male and female performers Buaphan Thungso and Srijan Weesee. The place of the performance is opposite to the Jakkawarn Cinema in Dindaeng. The performance is be a great performance to be recorded for Northeastern music and dance performance in history.

#### The Phuket Mafia

September 22, 2009 Categories: Scams

Phuket mafia – September 22, 2009

andrew-drummond.com has a series of hair-raising articles about the recent confrontations between tourists and the Phuket mafia and other incidents related to the "Big Trouble in Tourist Thailand" series: ... We filmed the mafia but suddenly we are the criminals apparently. The atmosphere is a little bit hysterical. The Marines are behind me thank god.

The gun incident happened on Phuket when a young marine Jack Tebbott from Leicester was kidnapped by tattooed mafia figures, who control what's for sale on Phuket's' Patong Beach...

Camera director of Big Trouble in Thailand makes "tactical withdrawal"

Foreigner arrested after Big Trouble in Thailand documentary

<u>I apologise to the Thai people but blame the film-makers – JJ (updated)</u>

Swiss couple flee jet ski operator in terror – Chaweng

Thai jet ski boss took cash off the US Marines too

British Royal Marines ready to go to "war" over Thai gun confrontation

### Hungry monkeys storm houses in Thailand

September 22, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Hungry monkeys storm houses in Thailand - Rian, September 22, 2009

...As the global economic crisis and political instability has cut visitors to Thailand, wild monkeys, mostly macaques, are attacking villages and even Buddhist monasteries across the country, pilfering everything that can be considered edible...

## Three Latin Americans arrested in US\$1.7 million jewel heist from gem fair

September 22, 2009 Categories: Crime

<u>Three Latin Americans arrested in US\$1.7 million jewel heist from gem fair</u> – TNA, September 22, 2009 ... Three men arrested as suspects later in Pattaya denied the charges.

Gen Chalong said that the police had investigate the suspects and found suspicious travel records. During their stay in Thailand, they rented a car in Pattaya and drove to Muang Thong Thani every day from September 14 through September 18, according to the GPRS tracking system record from the rental car...

Still not a peep from the local English-language press on this story. Update: *The Nation* is now reporting the arrests: <u>Three arrested after 'largest in living memory' jewel heist</u>

Nor any story on HM The King in hospital that was written locally: <u>Thai king spends fourth day in hospital</u> – *AFP*, September 23, 2009

Update: The *Post* is leading with updates on HM THe King's condition: <u>Nation joins prayer for quick recovery</u>

## U.S. missionaries target a tough sell: Bangkok bar girls

September 22, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

U.S. missionaries target a tough sell: Bangkok bar girls - CNNGo, September 22, 2009

#### Consumer satisfaction left in the hands of bureaucrats

September 23, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Consumer satisfaction left in the hands of bureaucrats – Bangkok Post, September 23, 2009

The choice for who wins in 3G is being made now, but not by the consumer. Rather it is being made by certain decision-makers who for some reason unknown to mankind seem to think that betting on 900 MHz somehow makes more sense than 850, even though 850 3G coverage is now widely available in Bangkok. But while that mess is relatively well documented, it pales in comparison to the spectrum clash we have higher up the frequency map...

#### Last shares give Sheikh Mansour total control of Manchester City

September 23, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics

<u>Last shares give Sheikh Mansour total control of Manchester City</u> – Guardian, September 23, 2009

...Thaksin, who was reported over the weekend to have been refused entry to Dubai, has denied financially supporting the takeover of Portsmouth being conducted by Sulaiman al-Fahim, who originally brokered ADUG's takeover of City. A Premier League spokesman confirmed last night that the league is still awaiting for confirmation that Fahim's Portsmouth deal has been concluded and has not yet received evidence about where his money is coming from.

## The Economist banned in Thailand again

September 23, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News

The Economist banned in Thailand again – September 23, 2009 This week's <u>print edition</u> of the *Economist* is being withheld from circulation. This is the fourth time this year.

## Suvarnabhumi Airport Rail Link photos

September 23, 2009 Categories: Mass Transit

Suvarnabhumi Airport Rail Link photos – September 23, 2009

#### Thaksin is Thailand's 16th richest man

September 23, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics

<u>Thaksin is Thailand's 16th richest man</u> – Thailandnews.net, September 23, 2009 Despite being on the run, ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra remains among the richest persons in Thailand...

2009: Thailand's 40 richest

2009: Thailand's very richest

#### Bill's excellent adventure

William Heinecke's empire has taken some hits, but the fun-loving optimist travels on...

Americans abroad

2008: Thailand's 40 richest

#### 2Bangkok in Lonely Planet

September 23, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok

2Bangkok in Lonely Planet – September 23, 2009

Don reports: The new Lonely Planet Thailand came out last month (13th edition, published August 2009), and 2Bangkok gets two mentions, both of them in the Bangkok section.

Page 107, in the boxed text entitled "The Inside Scoop": Several Bangkok residents, both local and foreign, have taken their experiences to the 'small screen' and maintain blogs and websites about living in Bangkok. Some of the more informative or entertaining include:

2Bangkok (www.2bangkok.com) News sleuth and history buff follows the city headlines from today and yesterday.

Page 180, in the boxed text entitled "The War on the Gem Scam": Want to know more or want to report a scam? Visit www.2bangkok.com and navigate to the 'Gem Scam' page for five years' worth of tracking the phenomenon, or go to Thai Gem Scams Group (www.geocities.com/thaigemscamgroup) for photos of touts who troll the temples for victims.

## An arranged wedding to promote Thai jungle tourism

September 25, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: Thai Rath via thai-blogs.com)

An arranged wedding to promote Thai jungle tourism - thai-blogs.com, September 25, 2009

# Foreign in-laws honored for contribution to Thai community development

September 26, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Foreign in-laws honored for contribution to Thai community development</u> – *Thailandnews*, September 26, 2009

Three foreign men and their Thai wives were honored for special contributions to community development in northeast Thailand late Friday...

# Thai bride of tax advisor who stole 2m from old woman gambles it away

September 26, 2009

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

<u>Thai bride of tax advisor who stole 2m from old woman gambles it away</u> – *Daily Telegraph*, September 26, 2009

...Mr Castle told the court: "His Thai bride then embarked on a spending and gambling spree and spent the lot of the money in casinos in Bangkok..."

### AMC threatens to quit Congo in row over 'rebel links

September 29, 2009 Categories: Business

AMC threatens to quit Congo in row over 'rebel links' - Times, September 29, 2009

...In response to the criticism, AMC said that Thaisarco, its tin smelting subsidiary in Thailand, which purchases tin ore from Congo, would not enter into further contracts with suppliers unless it had the support of the United Nations and campaign groups for a certification scheme. After a UN report last year on illicit trading by rebel groups in Congo, Thaisarco began to develop a certification scheme with ITRI, the tin industry organisation, aimed at verifying the origin of shipments of tin ore...

### Thailand is world's largest maker of lenses

September 29, 2009 Categories: Business

<u>Thailand is world's largest maker of lenses</u> – *The Nation*, September 29, 2009

Thailand is the world's largest manufacturer of optical lenses, accounting for 22 per cent of global output, even though manufacturers have to import all their raw materials...

# US officials have tried to arrest Roman Polanski around the world since 1978

September 29, 2009 Categories: Film and TV

<u>US officials have tried to arrest Roman Polanski around the world since 1978</u> – *Times Online*, September 29, 2009

...October 2005: submitted an Interpol Red Notice to Thailand after learning that Mr Polanski was visiting...

### Hare in the moon

September 29, 2009 Categories: Signs and Billboards



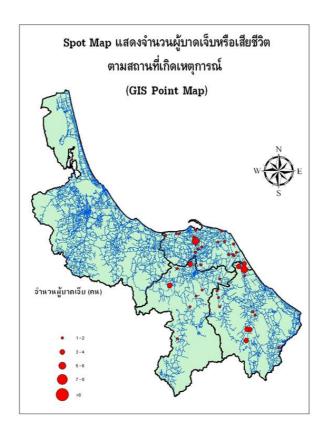
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Hare in the moon – September 29, 2009 Billboard for bathroom fixtures featuring the "hare in the moon"

### **Southern Violence Statistics – September 2009**

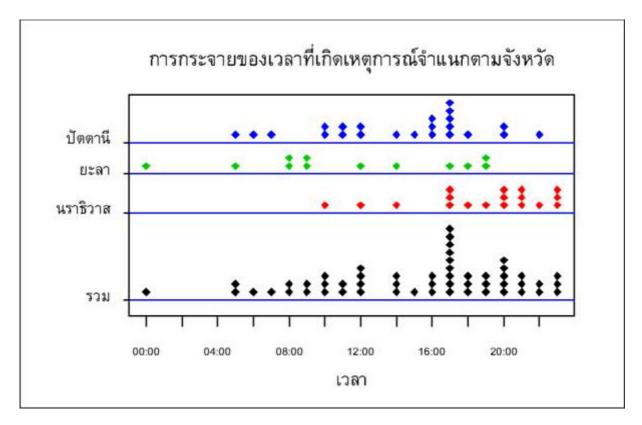
September 30, 2009

Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics

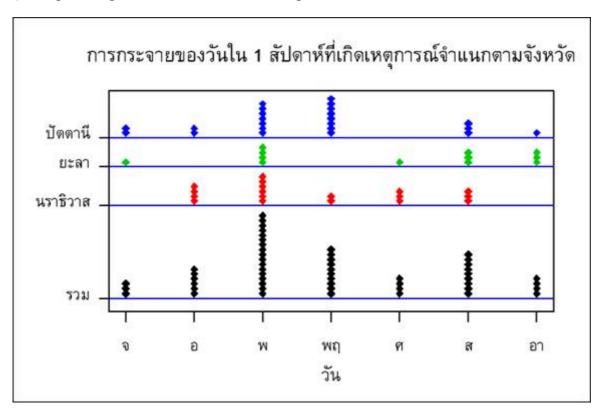


Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

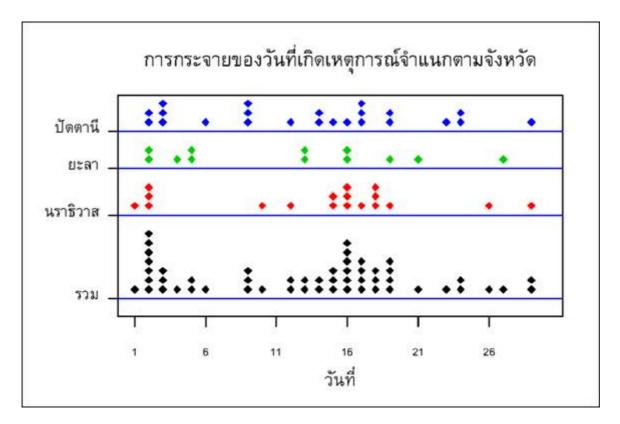
Southern Violence Statistics – September 2009 Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South



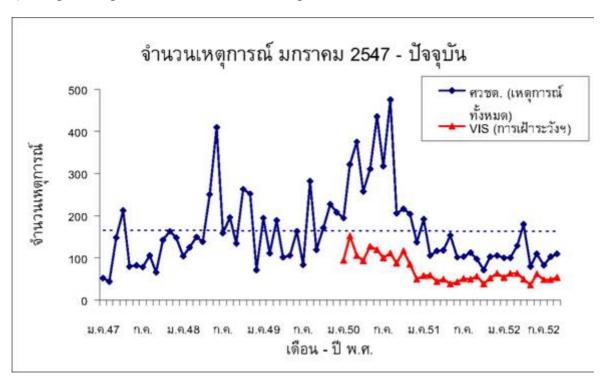
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



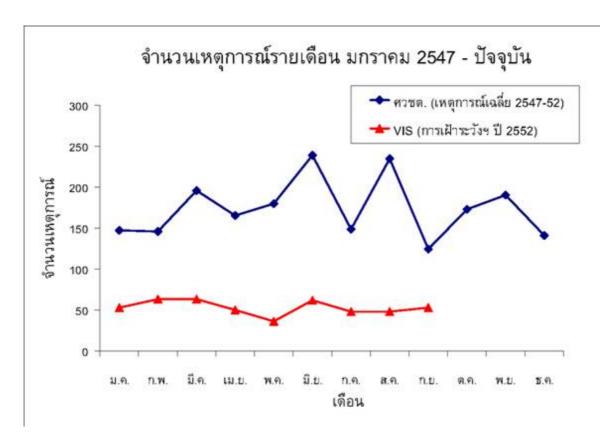
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the week (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). The days of the week start with Monday on the left. Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



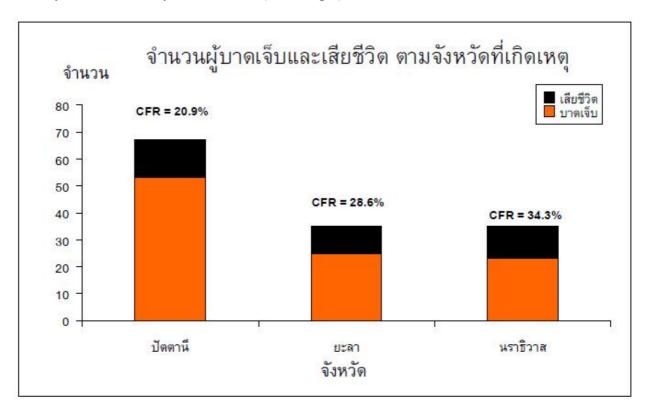
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



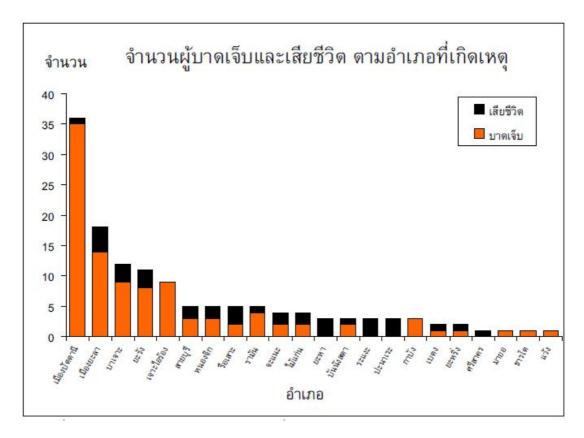
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out to report violent incidents).



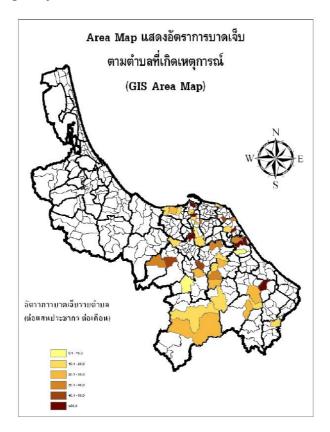
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from January to December (left to right).



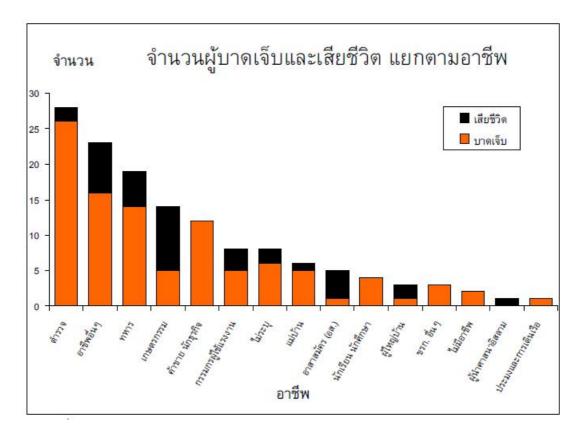
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, orange=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



The toll of dead and injured (y-axis), classified by the districts where the incidents took place (x-axis). Black= dead, orange=injured.



Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing the number of violent events by tambon (village). Starting at light yellow, the levels are 1-10, 10-20, 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, and greater than 60.



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, orange=injured. From left to right: police officers, others, army officers, agriculturists, merchants and businessmen, laborers, unknown (no data), housewives, volunteer defense guards, students and college students, village headmen, other officials, unemployed, Islamic religious leaders, fishermen and marine transport workers

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

#### Thai Media Project – September 2009

September 30, 2009

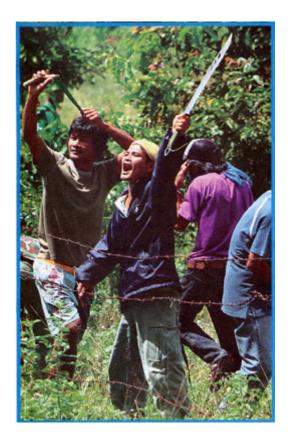
Categories: Thai Media Project

**More: Unlocking** 

the Thai world: Thai-language newspaper headlines

The two weekend rallies and a jewel heist – September 19, 2009

Right: *Komchadluek*, September 21, 2009 – The caption reads: Fight against each other – The police beef up security to prevent the villagers from Tambon Saothingchai in Kantaralak district in Sisaked province throwing things at PAD protestors who head to the Phra Viharn National park and to also to stop the clashes between the groups. Two are reportedly critically injured and many others suffered minor injuries on September 19, 2009.





The headlines read (above top left): Stealing 65 million worth of diamonds – Foreign gang troubles the Bangkok Jewelry Fair

(above bottom right): Red shirt fights the rain to gather at the Royal Plaza – Maew VDO links asks for compromise – Stop the plan to invade the Si Sao residence – Prem stays at the military campsite



Daily News, September 21, 2009

PAD queues up at the Pha Moedaeng Mountain announcing a manifesto to ask for the return of the Prea Vihear and declaring a peoples' war

From *Prachathasana (Prachathad)*, September 12-18, 2009

The cover reads: Thaksin, stop pressuring your children and wife!

The words across the red ban symbol read: Movement in politics

The white letters on the student read: wants every side to talk based on reason.



#### Victory for the Bhumjaithai Party

September 30, 2009

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Victory for the Bhumjaithai Party – September 30, 2009

This photo (above) was taken moments after the Bhumjaithai Party's new banner was unveiled on a billboard above Rama 9 Road. This is the day after the party's controversial bus project was approved by the cabinet.

The billboard (above) reads: For better quality of life for the people – Populist policy – happy society

- \* Dustless road
- \* 1 village, 1 sport court
- \* the work that we intend to do for the happiness of the Thai people



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

<u>Suthep: Bus approval not a pay-off</u> – *Bangkok Post*, September 30, 2009 ... "It is also not a birthday present for Newin Chidchob," he said...

Earlier: The NGV busses – July 30, 2009

The billboard (above right) reads: The Bhumjaithai Party works with intention for the people – populist policy promotes social happiness – 4,000 NGV busses air-conditioned – 12 baht for all round trip – 800 baht for one month trip – 30 baht for all day -600 baht for students for one month – It is time that Bangkok residents have qualified and lower fare public buses

#### **Bangkok Noir**

September 30, 2009 Categories: Art

Bangkok Noir – September 30, 2009

Michael writes: I would like to inform you about a book, making by a German favorite writer and artist. The author, Mr. Roger Willemsen is a... romantic traveler. <u>His book "Bangkok noir" with photos of Mr. Tooten</u> (lives in Bangkok for years), is a intimate look at the people and city...

From the <u>book website</u>: But above all, Willemsen and Tooten let themselves drift through the night itself, open to everything that night life has to offer in this metropolis of many faces. The result is a magnificent nocturne, composed of literary images of night and photos of suggestive, often intimate power. Bangkok's nightlife has never displayed more colors than in Bangkok Noir.

## Chehalis woman arrested at Sea-Tac, accused of kidnapping son 13 years ago

September 30, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Chehalis woman arrested at Sea-Tac, accused of kidnapping son 13 years ago</u> – *Q13 FOX Seattle*, September 30, 2009

...Once Sudderth got to Thailand, Werner says prosecutors faced a dead end. That's because the country has no parental kidnapping law. Last week, the FBI says Sudderth contacted the U.S. Embassy, telling them she wanted to take her son back to Washington...

## Police in Kenya seize Bangkok-bound ivory

September 30, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

Police in Kenya seize Bangkok-bound ivory – AFP, September 30, 2009

Kenya police are looking for the people behind a shipment of 684 kilogrammes of ivory seized at Nairobi's main airport and destined to Bangkok...

#### A lot of signs

October 1, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

A lot of signs – October 1, 2009 From a vehicle inspection center in the Mor Chit area

#### Live arrival/departure info from Suvarnabhumi Airport

October 2, 2009

Categories: Airports and Airlines

<u>Live arrival/departure info from Suvarnabhumi Airport</u> – October 2, 2009

Jani notes: It's live data apparently straight from BKK's air traffic control. All incoming and outgoing flights, scheduled and chartered, with estimated time of arrival/departure (ETA/ETD), actual time of arrival/departure (ATA/ATD), on/offblock (end/start of taxi), position (gate/remote parking stand), equipment used and registration number.

## Girls and guns

October 2, 2009 Categories: 2Bangkok News



Girls and guns – October 2, 2009

Cover of a magazine featuring air guns and air gun competition

#### Taxi haters rate drivers around the world

October 3, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Taxi haters rate drivers around the world – The Age, October 3, 2009

...Todd says their arrival at Bangkok Airport in 2006 was the spark for <u>IHateTaxis.com</u>, a website devoted to information about ground transport from airports around the world: by bus, train, bike, limousine and, yes, taxi...

## **Bungee jumping accident in Phuket**

October 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Bungee jumping accident in Phuket – CNN, October 5, 2009 And the article on Daily Mail.

Thanks to Lance for pointing this out.

## People fill the streets for climate action in Bangkok

October 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

People fill the streets for climate action in Bangkok – Huffington Post, October 5, 2009

## World's greatest city: 50 reasons why Bangkok is No. 1

October 5, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

World's greatest city: 50 reasons why Bangkok is No. 1 – CNNGo, October 5, 2009

## Whatever happened to Thaksin's "Building a Better Future Foundation"?

October 6, 2009

Categories: Thaksin Lobbying



Whatever happened to Thaksin's "Building a Better Future Foundation"? – October 6, 2009 We do not know, but the <u>website</u> has seem to have become a <u>ghost site</u>. Also on <u>FaceBook</u>.

## Crab populations in Thailand replenished with crab condominium

October 8, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

<u>Crab populations in Thailand replenished with crab condominium</u> – Channel News Asia, October 8, 2009

#### Thai court considering 'Merchant of Death' release

October 8, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thai court considering 'Merchant of Death' release - The Washington Times, October 8, 2009

...Many intelligence experts, as well as international human rights activists, think Thailand's judicial action is highly suspicious. One thing is for sure: the last thing Russia wants is Bout on American soil spilling his guts after getting a taste of American justice meted out in a federal courthouse.

Something else is certain: Treacherous men hold grudges. If the NSC thought Bout was a substantial threat to our national security before the DEA stung him hard, he will certainly be a greater danger once the Thai government unleashes him on the global community.

#### German firm picked to run airport rail link

October 8, 2009

Categories: Mass Transit

German firm picked to run airport rail link – Bangkok Post, October 8, 2009

News around DB International: Airport Rail Link in Bangkok - DB International, October 10, 2009

From the company's website regarding SRT and airport link:

DB International GmbH:

Shareholders: DB Mobility Logistics AG (100 percent)

DB Mobility Logistics AG (DB ML AG) operates the mobility and logistics activities of the Deutsche Bahn

Group (DB Group).

Deutsche Bahn Group – German State Railway (Government Enterprise)

## Misty Bangkok

October 9, 2009 Categories: Weather



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Misty Bangkok – October, 2009 From the Rama III Bridge

#### Pheu Thai opposing constitutional amendments

October 9, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics

Pheu Thai opposing constitutional amendments – October 9, 2009

In case you missed it, the quick-moving Pheu Thai position on charter change:

Pheu Thai announces boycott of charter amendments

Govt to go ahead with charter change

PM surprised by Pheu Thai's stance

Pheu Thai still for charter amendment

Turnabout was so quick that <u>editorials analyzing the Pheu Thai opposition</u> were out of date by mid-morning.

# Coyotee's T.J. Hawley died of asphyxiation; Go-Go closed permanently

October 9, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Coyotee's T.J. Hawley died of asphyxiation; Go-Go closed permanently – tfs2m.com, October 9, 2009

## Cambodia's monarchy quietly evolves

October 9, 2009 Categories: Cambodia

Cambodia's monarchy quietly evolves - Asia Times Online, October 9, 2009

#### Success of AIDS vaccine trial is at issue

October 10, 2009 Categories: HIV-AIDS

Success of AIDS vaccine trial is at issue – NYT, October 10, 2009

<u>Thai HIV vaccine hype misrepresents data; AHF calls for independent review of AIDS vaccine effort</u> – *Reuters*, October 12, 2009

#### Why this face frightens the average Thai

October 10, 2009

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

Why this face frightens the average Thai – Thais have a fear of illegal immigrants that parallels that of Americans. The UN wants to change that – Global Post, October 10, 2009

...Many natives on the other side regard the migrants as job-stealing invaders. Yet, if they were all deported, the economy would collapse...

## Local man shifting the tide for mangroves in Thailand

October 11, 2009

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

Local man shifting the tide for mangroves in Thailand – EarthTimes, October 11, 2009

#### Thai security detains 60 at Islamic school

October 12, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South

Thai security detains 60 at Islamic school - The Irrawaddy, October 12, 2009

...On Monday, 200 policemen and soldiers detained 60 Islamic teachers and students at Saengtham Wittaya School in Narathiwat province's Bacho district, said Police Col. Chamlong Ngamnet...

## Thai boxer Sakai dies in Japan

October 12, 2009 Categories: Sports

Thai boxer Sakai dies in Japan-Fight News, October 12, 2009

#### The symbolism of the Thai spirit house

October 13, 2009

Categories: Local Beliefs

<u>The symbolism of the Thai spirit house</u> – *Times of India*, October 13, 2009

... "It's a Thai concept. We believe that if the spirits are provided with such shelters and appeared with daily offerings, they will protect the house..."

## Thailand's last secret island – Koh Lipe

October 13, 2009 Categories: Tourism

<u>Thailand's last secret island – Koh Lipe</u> – ETN, October 13, 2009

#### The farang in you

October 14, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The farang in you – October 14, 2009

The billboard reads: You can do – Discover the real English skill inside today

#### At the October 14 Memorial

October 14, 2009

Categories: October, 1973



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

At the October 14 Memorial – October 14, 2009 The banner reads: June 24 originates democracy

#### Why Stocks Fell

October 14, 2009 Categories: Economy

Thai stocks down 2 per cent on profit-taking – The Nation, October 14, 2009

... "There was a panic in early trading due to rumours, but the market rebounded"...

King in 'good health' – Bangkok Post, October 14, 2009

Thailand's royal palace has said that King Bhumibol Adulyadej (seen here in 2008) is in good health but must stay in hospital, after rumours of his deteriorating health rattled the country's stock market...

SET chief attributes index plunge to market consolidation – TNA, October 15, 2009

#### Exhibition of quality goods at blue flag prices

October 14, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: Nils)

Exhibition of quality goods at blue flag prices – October 14, 2009

NIIs reports: Seen near my home: Exhibition of quality goods at blue flag prices — Under the "Bright Sky" Project — Thai people are able to smile — Eat Thai — Use Thai — Help the Thai nation — At Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, 7-12 October 2009, 10:00-20:00 hrs — organized by: Dept. of Internal Trade — Ministry of Commerce

*Text around the blue banner logo: Sky-blue flag – budget prices* 

#### Old subway project sign

October 14, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Subway



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Old subway project sign – October 14, 2009 Derelict sign for the subway depot project promising completion in 2002

## **Environmentalists score huge victory in Thailand**

October 14, 2009

Categories: Analysis, Wildlife and Nature

Environmentalists score huge victory in Thailand – VOA News, October 14, 2009

... "Many governments never pay attention to the enactment of the organic law," Somchai said. "So the environmentalists and the communities who suffer from the bad environment cannot tolerate it anymore..."

## History of kway-tiew

October 15, 2009 Categories: History

<u>History of kway-tiew</u> – BeenThereEatenThat, October, 2009

In the period of Prime Minister Field Marshal Por Piboonsongkram, he had stated "Convention Policy" to support eating noodle as a habit amongst Thais...

# Exile and the kingdom – Thaksin still hankers after a triumphant homecoming

October 15, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics

2009

Exile and the kingdom – Thaksin still hankers after a triumphant homecoming – The Economist, October 15,

...It is not clear with whom Mr Thaksin could do a deal. Mr Abhisit says the law must prevail. Palace sources sniff at the idea of a settlement. He faces a two-year jail sentence, and has been indicted in a state-lottery case. He was forced to move to Dubai after Britain, his first place of exile, revoked his visa. Nor was his reputation helped by his fomenting of red-shirted riots in April, when he called for a "people's revolution" in Bangkok. He denies advocating violence and blames pro-government instigators for the unrest. "I don't even kill mosquitoes now," he whines.

#### US, Thailand continue 176 years of diplomatic relationship

October 15, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>US, Thailand continue 176 years of diplomatic relationship through RF-Alaska</u> – *Sourdough Sentinel*, October 15, 2009

... Taylor said flying these missions helps the U.S. understand Thailand's culture and how they operate. Taylor said it also helps the Royal Thai Air Force as they usually fly domestic flights throughout the same area, so coming to Alaska gives them a chance to fly through mountain terrain and in a colder climate. "Red flag broadens their horizons and increases their capabilities for the future," said Taylor. "It also gives them a chance to enhance their technique while training in a safe and controlled environment..."

#### Police arrest Finn on fraud, money laundering charges

October 15, 2009 Categories: Crime

Police arrest Finn on fraud, money laundering charges – TNA, November 1, 2009

Earlier: <u>Investment fraudsters under investigation</u> – *Uutiset*, October 15, 2009

...In March 2008 a Tampere man invested 200,000 euros in an Ikaros subsidiary, IG Entertainment, to help bankroll a night club in Phuket, Thailand. However the funds were allegedly paid directly into the personal accounts of the subsidiary's director...

A "Finnish Reader" notes: *This story is about <u>Ikaros Group</u> and its subsidiaries operating in Phuket, Thailand. Stories in Finnish <u>here</u>, <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.* 

Of sidenote, on Finland is an ongoing criminal investigation against Finland's biggest Ponzi sceme about "Wincapita/Winclub", of which leaders escaped to or lived in Pattaya and Phuket in 2008...

An English-language thread on the company is <u>here</u>.

#### Items from the Thai Press, October, 2009

October 16, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics

**More: Unlocking** 

the Thai world: Thai-language newspaper headlines



From *Vote*, The Vote Toon by Kosin Khaongam, October, 2009 Chawalit Yongjaiyuth says: The new political party... there has been such a party for long time and it was dissolved and then we established the new party continuously



From Vote, October, 2009

The headline reads: Thaksin in fierce opening war to take city – dethrone the Democrat

government – turning over the sky and land Hun Sen's friend – Friendship on the debris of Cambodia Sondhi-Suriyasai – The duo to make dream on new politics come true



From *Vote*, Column: The poem at heart, October, 2009 Looking upon the future is depressing How the police will stay The politicians' order of what they want Performing or not performing... all in turn ruined Once, being proud of what the people are calling for Now, police have to tolerate Great privilege covers the sun Police – use your rights



From *Vote*, Column: Politics in between the week, by Rawnasoon, October, 2009 Headline reads: Black magic of "chao-moon"

The article mentions the belief in magic and magical ceremonies by northern pro-Thaksin supporters and also the beliefs of government officials in the area.

The quote at the bottom concerns the political moves of the Wadah group, the possible political pole change of Dr. Man Pattanothai, and the Matupoom Party established for General Sondhi Boonyaratkalin.



From *Pandin Thai Magazine*, October, 2009 The black letters around the magazine reads: Serve the people, maintain the nation's sovereignty



From Pandin Thai Magazine, October, 2009

The title reads: Man of the land I by Patriot of the Land – General Surayuth Chullanont – The Prime Minister appointed by the National Security Council, please again listen!

From *Matichon* Weekly, October 16, 2009 The headline reads: Por-Yai Jew – Toom Toom Toom





From *Nation Weekend*, October, 2009 The headline reads: Por-Yai-So-Tai and the blunt man of Dubai The blue ribbon on Chawalit's shoulder reads "Pheu Thai Party"



From *Vote*, October 5, 2009 The headline reads: Referendum to tear the constitution – To overcome the power of red and yellow, the game to extend the government's breath

Wisarut explains: Vote is the new version of Khon Mee See Magazine – major modification since May 2008 – Bimonthly Magazine for Political criticism .. along with being the field for the indy Thai writers – Issued every the 1st day and 16th Day of the month. This magazine was headed by Nokpa Usakhaneh (AKA Mr. Jakkrit Sisririn) who also runs a Sunday night talk show on FM105 at 9 pm.

They consider themselves an independent magazine–allowing both PAD and UDD writers to express their viewpoints.

<u>Vote Magazine: New version of Khon Mee See</u> <u>Magazine – Voter magazine website – Khon</u> <u>Mee See magazine website</u>

Also: Isan writers have formed <u>E San State</u> – website of Isan writers

**More: Unlocking** 

the Thai world: Thai-language newspaper headlines

#### **Democrat sign**

October 16, 2009

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Democrat sign – October 16, 2009

Signs praising the government have gone up around town. This one reads: I promise Thai children will study without tuition – Following the promise.. we do – The 15 years learning without tuition project

#### The Bhodhi Court at Thammasat

October 16, 2009 Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The Bhodhi Court at Thammasat – October 16, 2009

A plaque under the tree reads: *The Bhodi Court at Thammasat University* 

is inextricably linked to the fight for democracy in Thailand. It has come to symbolize not only the university's legacy of political freedom, but the struggle by Thai society as a whole in its contemporary struggle to win the democratic rights of a modern people. The democratic movements of 1973, 1976 and 1992 all had their genesis at the Bodhi Court.

The Bhodi Court is the birthplace of the October 1973 student movement which soon grew into mass demonstrations demanding democracy and a new constitution for Thailand. At dawn on October 8, 1973, students assembled here to appeal to the government for the release of 13 people who had been arrested for their persistent calls for a national charter. Soon joined by members of the public, the number of people gathering swelled so quickly... from thousand to hundreds of thousands... that the assembly site had to be shifted to the university's football field. At noon on October 13, 1973 the demonstrators started out from Thammasat University and marched through the streets of Bangkok. It was on the following day that the government violently suppressed the demonstration which sealed the date of October 14, 1973 as a signal event in Thai political history.

The Bodhi Court was also the scene of an open-air stage performance on October 4, 1976 which lampooned the political culture of the day. Photos of the parody became front page news on the Dao Siam ('Siam of Siam') Newspaper and became fodder for military propaganda, denouncing the satire as "acts defamatory to the Royalty."

In response to such negative propaganda, resistance to the student movement was formed by "folk-scouts" and several other groups belonging to the power elite, leading to violent attacks on the students at daybreak on October 6, 1976.

In 1991, the Bodhi Court resumed its pivotal role in the fight for democracy following a military coup d'etat and the drafting of a constitution utterly catering to its power. Students gathered at the Bodhi Court again to protest such an imperious national charter and resurrected the spirit of the Bodhi Court as a focal point for democracy in Thailand. After the general election in early 1992, opponents of the military-led government

gathered here which eventually led up to the 'Black May' massacre, eventually expunging the Armed Forces from their dominant role in Thai politics.

Google Placemark for Bhodi Court

## Ambassadors outraged by Hitler billboard on Pattaya highway

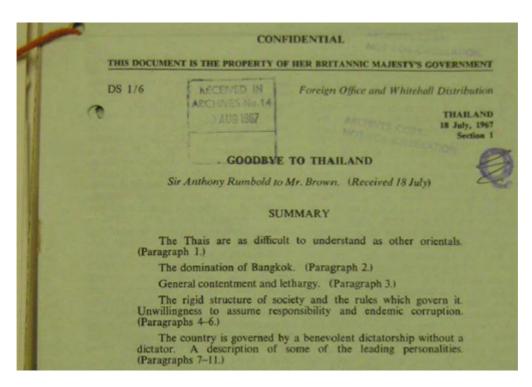
October 18, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Ambassadors outraged by Hitler billboard on Pattaya highway – Bangkok Post, October 18, 2009

#### Letters reveal true views of UK diplomats

October 18, 2009 Categories: History



<u>Letters reveal true views of UK diplomats</u> – Huffington Post, October 18, 2009

...Anthony Rumbold, Britain's ambassador to Thailand from 1965 to 1967, mocked his hosts for an apparent lack of culture. "They have no literature, no painting and only a very odd kind of music; their sculpture, ceramics and dancing are borrowed from others, and their architecture is monotonous and interior decoration hideous," Rumbold wrote.

"Nobody can deny that gambling and golf are the chief pleasures of the rich, and that licentiousness is the main pleasure of them all," he said...

And Anthony Rumbold's 1967 letter about Thailand

#### Discovering the Trail of Thai Royalty in Massachusetts

October 19, 2009

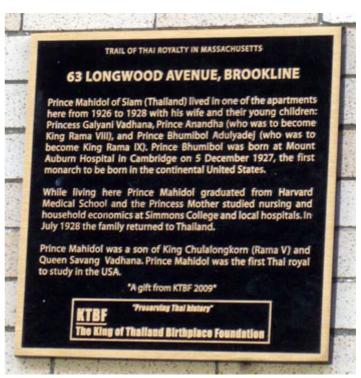
Categories: The Monarchy



(Photo: The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF))

Above: Left to right: James Lesnick, Cholthanee Koerojna (President of KTBF), and Joanne Sullivan, owner of the 63 Longwood Ave building

Discovering the Trail of Thai Royalty in Massachusetts: Infant Thai King's first American home celebrated in Brookline – *KTFB*, By Cholthanee Koerojna, October 19, 2009



(Photo: The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF))

The sweet harmonies of 14 little girls singing the US national anthem and a Thai student in traditional dress intoning her national anthem stirred the hearts of over 100 Boston-area residents last Sunday, 18 October

2009, as they honored the memory of the infant King Bhumibol Adulyadej and his family at His Majesty's first American home at 63 Longwood Avenue in Brookline.

The cold rainy weather did not dim the joy of Thai and American citizens who had gathered to witness the installation of the plaque (see accompanying photo) created by the King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation that marks the apartment building where Prince Mahidol and his wife Mom Sangwan lived with their children Princess Galyani Vadhana and Prince Anandha when Bhumibol was born. The bronze plaque was unveiled by KTBF president Cholthanee Koerojna and Joanne M. Sullivan, one of the homeowners in the building. Thai Buddhist monks from Wat Boston Buddha Vararam blessed and anointed the plaque.

After the unveiling the choirmaster of Park School, the elementary school of Princess Galyani Vadhana, led her choir of 14 in opening the community proceedings with the American national anthem. Ms Duangpon Phongphasuk, a music graduate who has performed for royal audiences in Bangkok, sang the Thai national anthem.

Proud of its history of resident Siamese royals, the Town of Brookline had proclaimed the 18th of October as "Trail of Thai Royalty Day". At the ceremonies, Town Selectman Ms Jesse Mermell read the proclamation and presented a copy to KTBF.

Honoring Thailand's longest-reigning and most beloved monarch and his family, the Massachusetts House of Representatives had passed resolutions that recognize the Trail of Thai Royalty of 10 historic sites in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where Siamese royals had resided; and the day of October the 18th as the Trail of Thai Royalty Day. Ms Sarah Van Auken, resident of Gloucester where her great-grandparents had owned one of the original such residences, read the proclamation on behalf of Representative Frank Smizik. The Commonwealth is keen to promote knowledge of the historic relations with Thailand and its royal family and to encourage visitors to follow the Trail.

For two years from 1926 to 1928, the family of Prince Mahidol lived in the first floor of the three-story building at 63 Longwood Avenue in Brookline, a town near the Charles River surrounded by metropolitan Boston. Prince Mahidol, known as "Father of Modern Medicine and Public Health in Thailand", was completing his medical and public health studies at Harvard. His commoner wife Mom Sangwan was studying nursing and home economics at nearby Simmons College with practical work at local hospitals such as Boston Lying-in Hospital (now part of Brigham and Women's Hospital) and Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge. Little Princess Galyani experienced her first school days at the Park School in Brookline.

The mystery of precisely which apartment the young royal family occupied was solved the day before the ceremonies after one of the audience, Ms Susan Wolkon, read in the Boston Globe about the event to take place on October 18th and called KTBF. Ms Wolkon announced that in 1960 King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit had visited her grandparents Ira and Rose Einstein at the 63 Longwood apartment they were occupying at the time, where His Majesty had lived as an infant. She displayed documents and pictures that showed that the entire first floor with six rooms and a sun porch had been the future king's first home.

Rounding out the community celebrations were talks by Brookline residents and by Mr Rob Crawford of the Park School, who read out a touching reminiscence that Princess Galyani's teacher had written to Mom Sangwan on the eve of the family's return to Siam in 1928. Thai residents performed dances and music on the kheem and demonstrations of vegetable- and fruit-carving as well as songs composed by His Majesty. The audience tucked in to a lunch of Thai food offered by local restaurants.

The next event of KTBF, whose mission is historic preservation, cultural exchange and community service in commemoration of the Thai royal family history in Massachusetts, will be the dedication of a plaque at King Bhumibol's birthplace, Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, and his 82nd birthday celebrations on 5 December 2009.

Cholthanee Koerojna is President of <u>The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation</u> based in the Boston suburb of Burlington, Massachusetts



(Photo: The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF))

Above: 14 Park School students, parents and Director came to sing the American National Anthem



(Photo: The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF))

Above: Birthplace of King Rama IX

The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF) - October 21, 2009

## Thailand urged to stop construction of Salween dams

October 19, 2009

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

<u>Thailand urged to stop construction of Salween dams</u> – *The Irrawaddy*, October 19, 2009 *Fifty-one environmental and human rights groups petition the Thai government to halt construction of dams on the Salween River in Burma*...

#### Myanmar, Thailand to build second bridge to boost border trade

October 20, 2009

Categories: Bridges, Myanmar/Burma

Myanmar, Thailand to build second bridge to boost border trade – Xinhua, October 20, 2009 ... The bridge linking Myanmar's Myawaddy and Thailand's Maesot is estimated to cost 400 million bahts (11.9 million U.S. dollars), the sources said...

<u>Industrial zone ruling creates investment risk for Thailand</u> – *Thailandnews*, October 20, 2009

... The government has come under attack for ignoring repeated warnings to set up an independent body to oversee the HIAs.

A local environment group, which started lobbying governments 13 years ago to clean up Map Ta Phut, says 2,000 local people have since died of cancer as a result of pollution from the plants, although doctors have not said industry is to blame...

Malaysia: <u>Teoh's probe: Set up royal commission</u> – *Malaysian Mirror*, October 22, 2009

The explosive testimony by renowned Thai pathologist Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand at Teoh Beng Hock's inquest hearing is shocking. Her conclusion that Teoh's death was probably homicide seriously undermines the credibility of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Agency (MACC)...

<u>Request to exhume Teoh's body this week</u> – *The Malaysian Insider*, October 25, 2009 ... *The renowned pathologist, hired by the Selangor state government, testified during the inquest on Wednesday that Teoh death was "80 per cent homicide"*...

#### Thailand's fearless 'Dr Death'

October 20, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thailand's fearless 'Dr Death' - Malaysia Today, October 20, 2009

...She has been at odds with them for more than 20 years, ever since a case involving one of her own medical students...

#### **Bangkok Nights online slots**

October 21, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Bangkok Nights online slots - recentpoker.com, October 21, 2009

...Bangkok Nights offers the excitement and exotic thrills of the capital of Thailand's night clubs and entertainment in its Asian theme. The Dancing Girl is the one to watch for – she can award up to 10 000x the stake. Two bonus features, wild symbols, and flexible wagers are also featured...

## CIMB Thai sells Bangkok office block for 1b baht

October 21, 2009

<u>CIMB Thai sells Bangkok office block for 1b baht</u> – The Edge Daily, October 21, 2009 CIMB Thai Bank PCL is selling its office block Sathorn Building in Sathorn, Bangkok for just over 1 billion Thai baht under its rationalisation exercise to improve efficiency and reduce costs...

## Thai fans build life-size Gundam bust before expo

October 21, 2009

<u>Thai fans build life-size Gundam bust before expo</u> – *Anime News Network*, October 21, 2009 ... *A "life-size" bust (from the chest up) of the title robot from the Mobile Suit Gundam anime series was unveiled at Bangkok, Thailand on Tuesday*...

#### Thailand rejects US pressure over 'Merchant of Death'

October 21, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thailand rejects US pressure over 'Merchant of Death' – AFP, October 21, 2009

...Kurt Campbell, the assistant US secretary of state for East Asia, said that US officials including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton have raised the case in every meeting with Thailand.

"We are pressing it as hard as we possibly can," Campbell testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee...

## **Odd Condo Sign**

October 21, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards

Odd condo sign – October 21, 2009

The sign reads: Sometimes, reasons can't solve problem... let her go shopping alone, things will be better



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

## Police sign

October 21, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



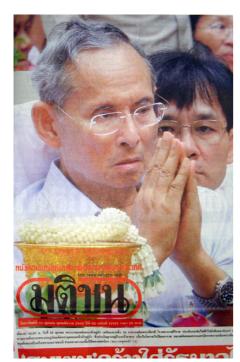
Police sign – October 21, 2009 The sign reads: 365 day project to halt the death rate with traffic discipline – The Makkasan police Station

(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

## HM The King makes appearance outside of hospital

October 23, 2009

Categories: The Monarchy



HM The King makes appearance outside of hospital – Matichon, October 23, 2009

Left: Matichon front page, October 25, 2009



Left: Komchadluek front page, October 25, 2009



Left: Khao Sod front page, October 25, 2009



Left: Daily News front page, October 25, 2009

#### **State Enterprise Union Banners in Samut Prakan**

October 23, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Banners in Samut Prakan – October, 2009

These refer to state enterprise unions that opposed the Thaksin governments' privatization of state enterprises and which has also become critical of the Democrat-led government.

The banner reads: 10 years and the 11 laws selling the nation. The State Enterprise Metropolitan Electricity Authority's Employees Union will demand for the cancellation from the Democrats ultimately – The State Enterprise MEA's Employees Union



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The banner reads: The Metropolitan Electricity Authority's Employees Union members altogether do not vote for the Democrat Party as it does not respect the resolution of the Thai Coalition for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders that is concerned with lawful process – The State Enterprise MEA's employees union



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The banner reads: The Abhisit led government – Stop the crucial FT. increase



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Stop hurting Thailand – October 23, 2009

The banner reads: Stop hurting Thailand by stopping 3 things

- 1. Stop some group of wicked politicians
- 2. Stop the hooded bandit officials masterminding the politicians
- 3. Stop the ruling government of the 2 standards

The State Enterprise MEA's employees union

## Expect weapons dealer to hold a 'grudge'

October 24, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Expect weapons dealer to hold a 'grudge' - WTOP, October, 2009

...The Thai government has refused to prosecute Bout or extradite him to the U.S. Observers say behind the scenes Bout's status has become the focal point of an intense political battle between the U.S. and Russia. A former U.S. intelligence official says the Russians have been plying the Thai government with "gifts" to convince them to release Bout...

#### Thailand seeks China loan for ambitious highway

October 24, 2009

Categories: Highways and Roads

Thailand seeks China loan for ambitious highway - Reuters, October 24, 2009

...The proposed road will link the eastern Vietnamese city of Danang city to Myanmar's sea port of Moulmein, passing through Thailand. It would also link Thailand's western province of Kanchanaburi to Myanmar's deep-sea port of Tavoy and provide a route from Yunnan province via Bangkok to Singapore...

#### Why the Cambodian opposition parties are so silent...

October 26, 2009

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

Why the Cambodian opposition parties are so silent about the Preah Vihear issue? – Khmerization, October 26, 2009

The World is not Flat – The Irrawaddy, October 26, 2009

...Hun Sen's remark was not only an insult to Thailand but also to Burma. The Cambodian prime minister should be made fully aware that Thaksin and Suu Kyi have nothing at all in common...

<u>CCHR issues report on September attack by Thai military on Cambodian loggers</u> – *Cambodian Center for Human Rights*, October 26, 2009

...Following our independent investigation and assessment of the events of 11 September 2009, the CCHR concludes that it is extremely likely that Yon Rith was burnt alive by Thai military who have committed several breaches of international human rights law and principles as a result...

Link to the pdf: <u>Legal analysis of the events of 11 September 2009 that resulted in the death of Yon Rith and Severe injury to Mao Kleung</u>

#### Sign downtown

October 27, 2009

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Sign downtown – October 27, 2009

The sign reads: The Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters – will do the rehearsal for the King's Guards military parade at the Dusit Palace's courtyard and will close traffic

- small rehearsal on Sunday, 1, 8,15 November 2009 at 12:15 o'clock
- grand rehearsal on Sunday, 22, 29 November 2009 at 13:30 o'clock
- ceremonial date on Wednesday, 2 December 2009 at 13:30 o'clock

Sorry for any inconvenience

## List of Ambassadors from the United Kingdom to Thailand

October 27, 2009

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>List of Ambassadors from the United Kingdom to Thailand</u> – Wikipedia, October 27, 2009

## The Melody Karaoke scam

October 27, 2009

<u>The Melody Karaoke scam</u> – *Thai-blogs.com*, October 27, 2009

#### Power to survive the crisis

October 28, 2009



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Power to survive the crisis – October 28, 2009

The billboard reads: Family coordination is the power to survive the crisis – Love weaving project to support the institute of family – AIS

# Drunk and making merit

October 28, 2009



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Drunk and making merit – October 28, 2009
The billboard reads: Getting drunk and going to make merit... and so what do you get?
Giving free alcoholic beverage in merit-making ceremony = sin

### **Banners in the Deep South**

October 28, 2009

Categories: The Thai Deep South



The banner reads: Internal Security Operation Command, the Region 4 Internal Front unit – The morning tea shop project

"I strongly intend to bring peace and happiness to the people in the southern border provinces" – Lieutenant General Pichet Wisaijorn, Region 4 Army and Region 4 ISOC Chief

Banners in the Deep South – October, 2009

Dr. Has reports: The Region 4 Internal Security Operations Command led by the Region 4 Army Commander issued the advertising campaign to promote the PR project of the ISOC that works on developing communities in the four southern border provinces...



The banner reads: Internal Security Operation Command, the Region 4 Internal Front unit – The woman career promotion project

"I strongly intend to bring peace and happiness to the people in the southern border provinces" – Lieutenant General Pichet Wisaijorn, Region 4 Army and Region 4 ISOC Chief



The banner reads: Internal Security Operation Command, the Region 4 Internal Front unit – The paddy field restoration project CHA-LERM-PHRA

"I strongly intend to bring peace and happiness to the people in the southern border provinces" – Lieutenant General Pichet Wisaijorn, Region 4 Army and Region 4 ISOC Chief

#### Mafia Wars: Bangkok

October 29, 2009



Mafia Wars: Bangkok - October 29, 2009

Nils reports: The makers of popular Facebook game Mafia Wars have announced a new extension "Bangkok" to be released at the end of this year, after having already added "Cuba" and "Moscow" earlier

this year.

From the announcement: Coming this winter, you choose between the Triads and the Yakuza in their battle to control a lucrative new territory in Mafia Wars: Bangkok!

Cool thing is that each locale comes with its own currency, weaponry, armor, vehicles, and specifically themed loot items.

Looking forward to the tuk-tuks, taxi-meters, elephants, hot chili sauce, or whatever they will come up with...

### **Buddhist billboard**

October 29, 2009

Categories: Buddhism, Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

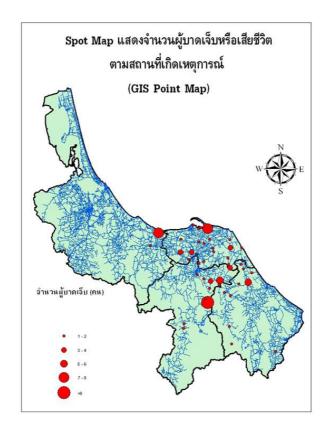
Buddhist billboard - October, 2009

The billboard reads: Krathin merit-making ceremony – every temple nationwide – creating great goodness for the land – Advertising Sign Producer Association

### **Southern Violence Statistics – October 2009**

October 30, 2009

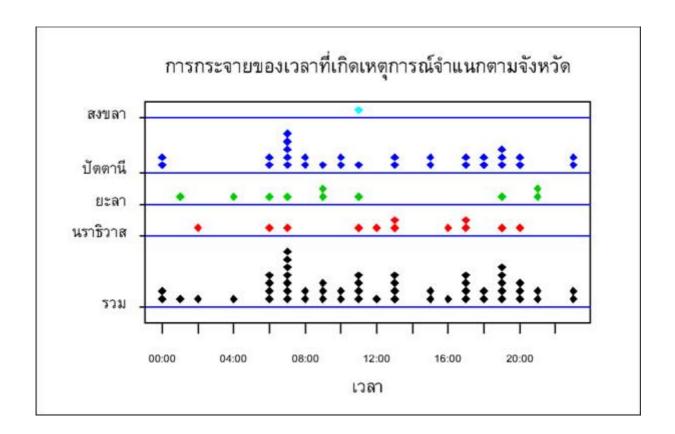
Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics



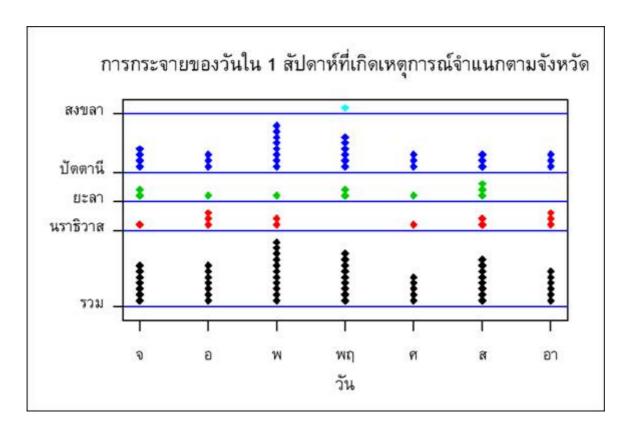
Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

Southern Violence Statistics – October 2009

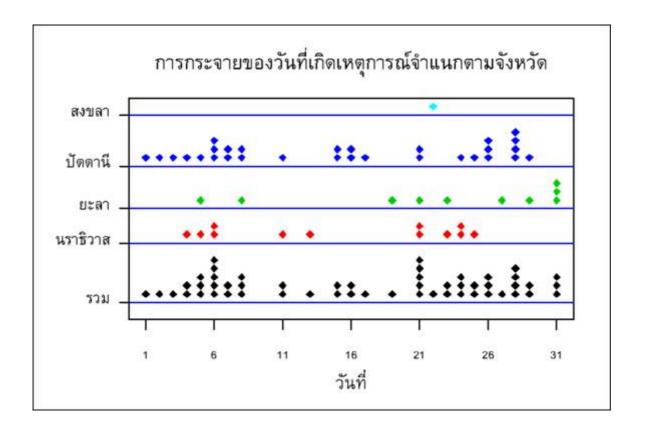
Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South



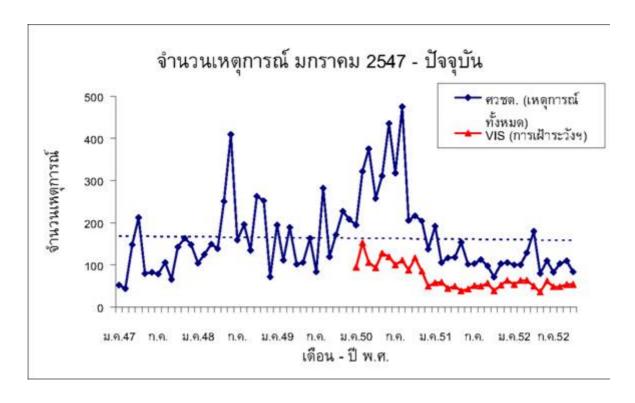
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



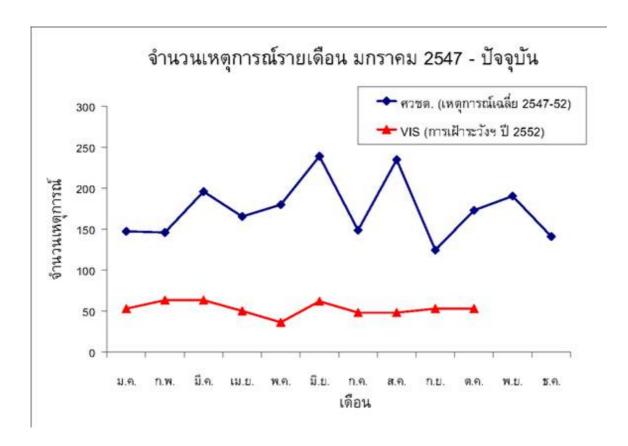
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the week (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). The days of the week start with Monday on the left. Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



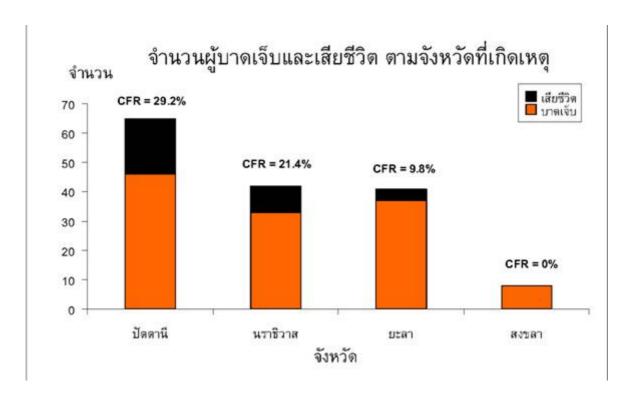
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



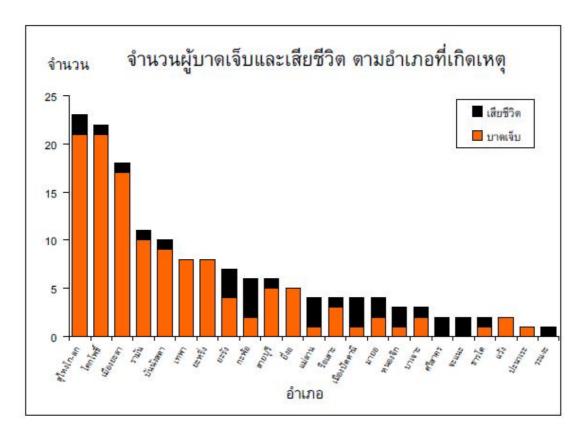
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out to report violent incidents).



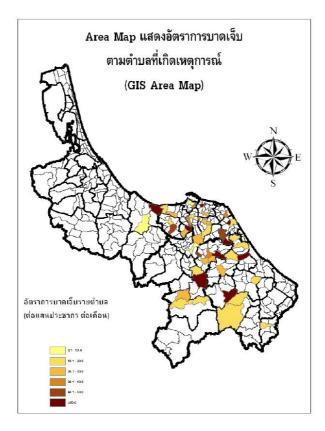
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from January to December (left to right).



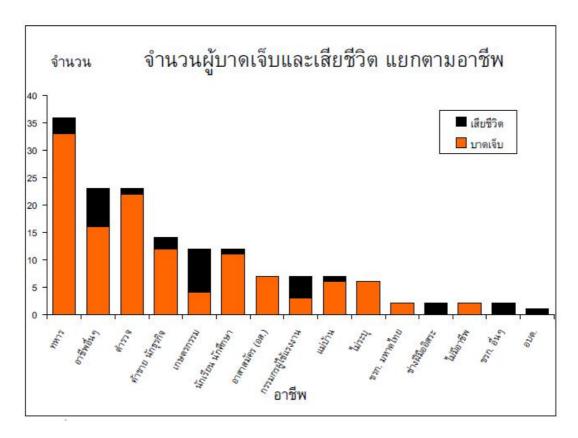
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, orange=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



The toll of dead and injured (y-axis), classified by the districts where the incidents took place (x-axis). Black= dead, orange=injured.



Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing the number of violent events by tambon (village). Starting at light yellow, the levels are 1-10, 10-20, 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, and greater than 60.



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, orange=injured. From left to right: army officers, others, police officers merchants and businessmen, agriculturists, students and college students, volunteer defense guards, laborers, housewives, unknown (no data), Interior officer, self-employed craft man, unemployed, other officials, local administration organization officers.

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

# 100 Pipers

October 30, 2009



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

100 Pipers – October 30, 2009

Across the top is a government warning about drinking: Alcoholic drink reduces the ability to drive The main part of the billboard reads: Wherever to go, friends are given 100% – Give friends 100%

# The Nation in Bangkok gets its Robsons mixed up

October 30, 2009

The Nation in Bangkok gets its Robsons mixed up - Axe Grinder, October 30, 2009

<u>Lancashire's most wanted 'had been in Thailand'</u> – *Lancashire Telegraph*, October 28, 2009 ... The authorities in India said Kaushal is understood to have run his own business in Bangkok and entered Goa using a Thai passport...

# Plane house

October 30, 2009



(Photo: Graham)

Plane house – October 30, 2009 Seen on the highway north of Bangkok going to Nakon Sawan at about Ang Tong.



(Photo: Graham)

## Thai film out of Bangkok's World Film Fest

October 31, 2009

Categories: Film and TV

Thai film out of Bangkok's World Film Fest – Indiantelevision.com, October 31, 2009

...The sub-committee, attached to the Thai Ministry of Culture, judged that: This Area Is Under Quarantine needed to be rated and instructed the festival organiser to go to the rating committee. But it was said that the main rating committee had argued that the festival didn't present a proper document for the film and couldn't consider it.

Meanwhile, the sub-committee couldn't re-consider the film either, because the law doesn't allow it such a function, thus the film was considered as banned...