Ch Karnchang wins two Thai rail contracts

July 1, 2010

Categories: Mass Transit, Thai Railroads

Ch Karnchang wins two Thai rail contracts - Interactive Investor, July 1, 2010

...The two contracts are part of five contracts for the 27-km (16.8-mile) underground and elevated lines that will stretch from central Hua Lumphong railway station to Bang Khae, in the west of the city, and from Bang Sue in the north to Tha Phra in the west.

Construction is expected to start after the contracts are signed in October, Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand (MRTA) Deputy Governor Chaisit Kururat told reporters.

In early June, a joint venture between China's Sinohydro and Unique Engineering and Sino-Thai each won auctions for the contracts to build the elevated sections of the project.

The government is spending 1.6 trillion baht on infrastructure projects in 2009-2011, including mass transit lines in Bangkok, rural roads and irrigation systems...

Waiing Ronald McDonald

July 3, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Waiing Ronald – July, 2010

A billboard from 2003. The Thai words read: The Mc time, time for being full with smiles

PT: 'Bring Thaksin back' is a key policy

July 3, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

PT: 'Bring Thaksin back' is a key policy – Bangkok Post, July 3, 2010

PT: "Bring Thaksin back" is a key policy 3/07/2010

Bringing back former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra to Thailand and reinstatement of the 2007 Constitution would be two main key policies for next election campaign of Puea Thai Party, MPs chairman Chalerm Yubamrung said on Saturday.

Mr Chalerm said the opposition camp will also inform voters that it would move ahead with the populist policy initiated by the now defunct Thai Rak Thai Party, such as 30 baht for curing all diseases and village fund.

The veteran politician said his party will also come up with a law to grant amnesty to yellow and red-shirt protesters facing criminal and political charges after the September 19, 2006 military coup.

He was confident that Puea Thai party's MP candidate, Korkaew Pikulthong, would win the July 25 by election in Bangkok's constituency 6.

Mr Korkaew, being detained in prison on charge of terrorism, is a co-leader of the pro-Thaksin United front of Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD).

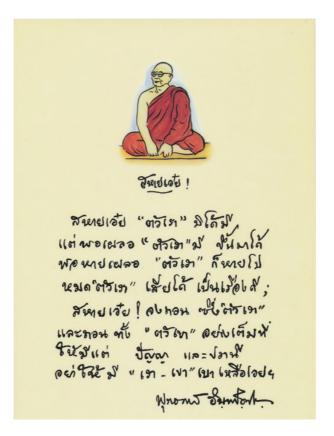
Mr Chalerm also believed that the Bhumjaithai Party, the main coalition partner of the Democrat-led government, would win no more than 18 MP seats in the North and Northeast in the next election.

Pheu Thai look for robot to campaign on Kokaew's behalf - The Nation, June 25, 2010

No Self

July 3, 2010

Categories: Buddhism



No self – July 3, 2010
The poem "Fellows!" by Bhuddadas Inthapanyo
The poem reads:
Fellows, "self" has no existence,
but in the loss of consciousness "self" appears
by consciousness "self" disappears,
without "self" is good,
Fellow! Uproot your "self"
and uproot others' selves fully
Let it be only wisdom and kindness
Be no self of you and self of others at all
Bhuddadas Inthapanyo

Boat banned from sailing on day of Thai crash

July 3, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Boat banned from sailing on day of Thai crash - ABC Online, July 3, 2010

Survivors of Thai boat crash outraged – Thailandnews.net, July 3, 2010

Be imprisoned certainly!

July 3, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Drugs – July 3, 2010

The billboard reads: Mr. Chavarat Charnveerakul, Interior Minister- drug taking – drug trafficking – drug making – Be imprisoned certainly! – the success of solving the drug problem is due to peoples' participation – with concern of the Interior Ministry

Laos Convenience Stores

July 3, 2010 Categories: Laos



(Photo: Nils)

Laos convenience stores – July 3, 2010

Nils reports: Laos now has its own brand of convenience stores (apparently since 2006) with currently 8 branches (all located in Vientiane).

I went there in April and just rediscovered one of their plastic bags with the web address.

Influenza always attacks when you are unaware!

July 3, 2010

Categories: Health, Signs and Billboards

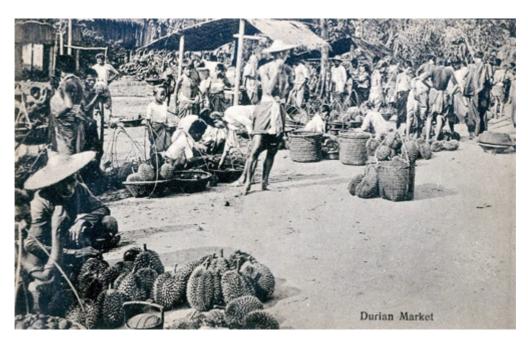


(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Influenza... always attacks when unaware! – In December, 190 patients in 12 provinces were reported – If you don't want to be the next one, take care of your health and stay healthy – For extra information call 1422 or 1330...

Durian Market, 1930

July 3, 2010 Categories: Old photos and films



Durian Market, 1930

Thai temple offers Buddhist funerals for pets

July 4, 2010

Categories: Buddhism

Thai temple offers Buddhist funerals for pets - Washington Post, July 4, 2010

...Bereaved pet lovers in Bangkok come to Klong Toey Nai temple by the Chao Phraya river to mark the passing of their animal friends with full funeral rites which begin with short prayers by monks, a two-hour cremation, and a trip down the river to spread the ashes...

Cannock Dad calls in Interpol after toddler is kidnapped by Thai bride

July 4, 2010 Categories: Crime

<u>Cannock Dad calls in Interpol after toddler is kidnapped by Thai bride</u> – Sunday Mercury, July 4, 2010 ... The detective previously thought he had made a breakthrough and led a team to Nong Bulapo, a desolate village 13 hours drive from Bangkok.

They expected to find Jobe at the ramshackle home of Kim's sister, but the hut was boarded-up and empty when they arrived...

Boston Bright: Go Ahead and Study

July 4, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Go ahead and study—no need to wait for a necessary reason — The English school Boston Bright — fun study, fluent speaking, fast learning skill

Baby ghosts

July 5, 2010

Categories: Local Beliefs

Baby ghosts



(Source: Komchadluek, July 5, 2010)

Black Magic in 2010 – Baby corpses on sale on website – translated and summarized from Komchadlu 2010

In 1994 society was shocked by the news of "Nen Air" or "Han Raksajit", a well-known magician who arrested for grilling a boy to make a magic ghost. He was arrested and released. He continued his life ir magic showbiz and was arrested again due to the money and luring women. The Court recently gave hi sentence of 100 years on June 23.

Ten years later, there is news on the stealing of a dead body of a girl from a coffin in Saiyok in Kancha The case highlights the subject involving black magic that is widespread.

In the year 2010, the era of social networks is booming and communication is made through Facebook Twitter, but strangeness continues. Police found the dead bodies of 14 babies from abortions preserved in an abandoned house in a district in Ubon Ratchathani. "Nangnoi Kawan," an agent who brought pres to have abortions admits that dead children are preserved to send to customers in the southern area at 1, each. The supply is unlimited. They used the bodies for black magic ceremonies!?!

The dark magic belief is that a boy is used to create a boy ghost, known as Kumarn Thong and for girls or girl ghost. To bring the child's body out of the casket, spells are used on the four corners of the coffin insure the souls of children not to pester the living. Then the corpse is roasted and passes a 9 days, 9 nig ceremony before being pickled and wrapped in beeswax. Some are made dry and taken up to the mante slightly lower than the Buddha's shelf and worshiped with red sweet drink, boiled eggs and the incense candles with the belief that the worship have a positive impact on trade and without good care, it can m owner of the corpse to face mental illness.



(Source: Komchadluek, July 5, 2010)

One magic occult specialist in Khon Kaen provides information that nowadays the black magic occult s Kumarnthong and Baby Ghosts, most of them in Surin, Si Sa Ket and Cambodia. The bodies of infants brought from illegal abortion clinics and price depends on the negotiation.

When the baby bodies were delivered, they would be roasted to dry and oil was taken from the bodies. complete ceremony to consecrate the corpse uses savory food, flowers, white cloth, candle, and incense Some people use a propitious time for performing auspicious rituals. This audience of the ceremony wi people who eat and live with the ghosts and do not respect monks.

When the ceremony is finished, magic is performed to bring the soul of child to be adopted by the own Worshiping with water and rice and treating well the Kumarnthong will bring good support to the famil guarding home very well.

In addition, a baby's unbiblical cord can be made as a sacred object. The dried chord is believed by the to make talisman for lucrative for trade and prosperity. It is in rare today and mostly cat's placentas are instead. Amulet talismans are very popular among female traders.

Some core black magicians use the soil from seven cemeteries in place of a child's body or use auspicic types called Mai Rak and Mai Yom or sheet metal or gold and from that create child images. The image chanted upon and 32 characters written on it to retrieve the soul of a child. The golden boy that is made way is popular to promote lucrative for trade and prosperity.



(Source: Komchadluek, July 5, 2010)

Tiger Khemtewada, lecturer from Thailand's Tattoo Club, famous for the tattoo charms and Salika Lin commented that although Thai society is developed greatly, if one look back to see, they will find that t

development is not throughout the whole system. Story of faith like this still exists.

"Thai society is today more selfish. Each person cares how to survive and make a living. In Bangkok so people living in neighborhoods don't know each other. Thai society has people who were left alone. The get help even if they are in trouble. This group of people needs encouragement. When no one gives the find the mysterious object that is auspicious according to their beliefs from ancient times."

As the Tattoo Club is aware of, the occult of magic talisman is favored among people in the Northeast I the people have belief in this type of mystery. Furthermore, the corpses of the dead bodies are easily att elsewhere.

A survey conducted in various temples in the vicinity show that many undertakers tell people come to a them to buy dead children at the temple. The bid is from the 10,000 to 30,000 baht depending on the peintegrity of the body.

"Suthep", an undertaker from one temple in Mahachai district revealed that people had contacted him to bodies of newborn babies often in the past, but not as much anymore. This is because foreigners settle cearn their living in the area. He talked with friends from other temples and confirmed that buyers conta buy, but did not say what they will use it for, however, it is enough to understand that the case involves magic.

The black magic trade deal does not occur only in the narrow society in suburbs, but also in the cyber v would seems not to be involved. There are many sales announcements related to matter of magic as we modern technologies. Knowledge of various qualifications are provided and clubs are set up.

For example, one member posts a message on their profile for rental of four amulets for 3,500 baht or, separate sale, a baby ghost from Cambodia. Another member posted a message in the profile about an aghost, framed already and with fabric amulet for luck and worship.

This will confirm part of the belief that black magic still exists, despite this being a modern age of the part where many say there is a boom of social networks.

Chayanon Praneet



(Source: Komchadluek, July 5, 2010)

New car tags available next month

July 5, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

New car tags available next month – The Nation, July, 2010

...The Smart Pass is an RFID tag that will be installed on the vehicle's headlights, and will bring the vehicle in direct contact with a new government RFID network designed to provide real-time information on a vehicle's whereabouts and identity...

Two Thai suspects arrive Bangkok from Cambodia

July 5, 2010

Categories: Cambodia, Red Shirt Protest 2010

Two Thai suspects arrive Bangkok from Cambodia - The Nation, July 5, 2010

Why not Arisamun? – The Nation, July 4, 2010

Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban said Monday declined to comment on why Cambodia did not arrest and return a leading red shirt leader; Arisamun Pongruengrong, who is reportedly taking refuge in Cambodia...

Hate Everyday

July 5, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



(Source: *Thai Rath*, cartoon by Zia, July 5, 2010)

From Thai Rath, cartoon by Zia, July 5, 2010

The cartoon title reads: How many million calls from agony? On the blood in the middle: "Dispersal order" and "Red Shirts" At the top a hand is struck with an arrow that reads "Kho Soi Dao" The mouse at the bottom right is saying: Hate everyday

Taste and Complain

July 6, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons





From *Manager*, Politics Cartoon "Chim pai Da pai", July 6, 2010 Left panel: Why are you holding the two of us to send back to Thailand?

Hun Sen: For damaging the assets of a Cambodian.

Right panel: Where?!

Hun Sen: The Bhumjaithai Party, the owner of this party is Cambodian

Carrefour to pull plug on Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand operations

July 7, 2010

Categories: Business

<u>Carrefour to pull plug on Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand operations</u> – Bloomberg, July 7, 2010 Carrefour SA, the world's second-biggest retailer, plans to exit Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, and is seeking offers for its operations in the Southeast Asian countries, said four people familiar with the matter...

From Midnight University, Somkiat Tangnamo: A pause in the struggle

July 7, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

From Midnight University, Somkiat Tangnamo: A pause in the struggle – The Nation, July 7, 2010

Thailand's new migrant labor laws spark fear, criticism

July 7, 2010 Categories: Refugees and Migrants

Thailand's new migrant labor laws spark fear, criticism – KI, July 7, 2010

Conflicts of interest in Thailand

July 7, 2010

Categories: Economy, Red Shirt Protest 2010

Conflicts of interest in Thailand – Forbes, July 7, 2010

...But therein lies the opportunity of Thailand. It's had a political crisis like the current one, and even the occasional regulatory crisis—in December 2006 a significant drop with some stocks plunging 30% followed the government's announcing that it would restrict investors from withdrawing their money for a year, a decision that was reversed the next day. As a result it has always traded at a discount of up to 50% to others in the region including Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Taiwan...

From Not the Nation: Thai Film Office Reluctantly Congratulates Thai Cannes-Winning Film

July 7, 2010 Categories: Humor

Thai Film Office Reluctantly Congratulates Thai Cannes-Winning Film

...Film board director Wanasiri Morakul, whose tenure has seen virtually no support for alternative film directors such as Apichatpong, issued a short and unenthusiastic statement that congratulated him for "bringing honor and fame to the Kingdom of Thailand..."

Nissan's waiting list swells in Bangkok on car demand

July 7, 2010 Categories: Economy

<u>Nissan's waiting list swells in Bangkok on car demand</u> – *Bloomberg*, July 7, 2010 ... *About 8,000 buyers have ordered the vehicle, which starts at 375,000 baht (\$11,600) he said...*

Thaksin's bid to drive a wedge between Bangkok, Washington

July 7, 2010 Categories: Thaksin Lobbying

Thaksin's bid to drive a wedge between Bangkok, Washington – parliament.go.th, July 7, 2010

15 best videos of Bangkok from British Pathe

July 8, 2010

Categories: Old photos and films

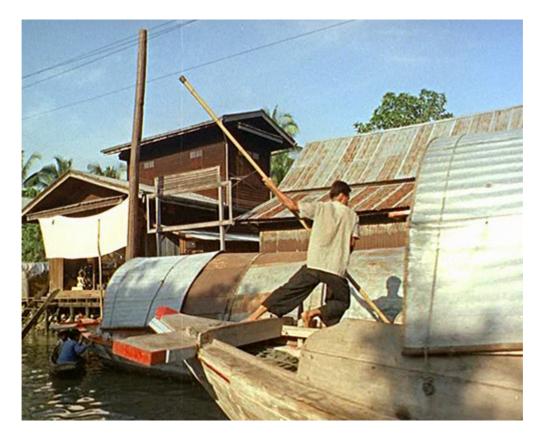


(Source: British Pathe)

15 best videos of Bangkok from British Pathe – July 8, 2010

Jack writes: I work in the British Pathe film archive and I noticed that several of your readers have been visiting our online archive to watch videos on Bangkok.

Below is a link to a collection that I have put together for you, of videos on Bangkok, our 15 best videos of the city filmed throughout the 20th century. Please do share this link on your website somewhere so that your online community can enjoy these videos: <u>Bangkok videos</u>



(Source: British Pathe)

Thai PM says monarchy, army should stay out of politics

July 8, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Thai PM says monarchy, army should stay out of politics – AFP, July 8, 2010

..."I can definitely say, categorically, that all the decisions during the protests were taken by the government. The palace does not interfere in the matter," he said.

[&]quot;The institution plays the same role as in other constitutional monarchies..."

British protester in Thailand will be deported

July 8, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

British protester in Thailand will be deported – WKBT La Crosse, July 8, 2010

A Briton involved in bloody anti-government protests was freed Thursday by a Thai court after pleading guilty to all charges and will be deported within the next few days...

Irreconcilable differences

July 8, 2010 Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Irreconcilable differences</u> – *The Economist*, July 8, 2010

Sexuality 101 exhibit in Thailand says it straight

July 8, 2010 Categories: Health

<u>Sexuality 101 exhibit in Thailand says it straight</u> – The Irrawaddy, July 8, 2010 ...In fact, parents need to start talking to their daughters about sex. In Thai society, it is the son who is usually taught this while the daughter is "protected" from it, Pichai explains...

Elephant Cement

July 8, 2010 Categories: Signs and Billboards



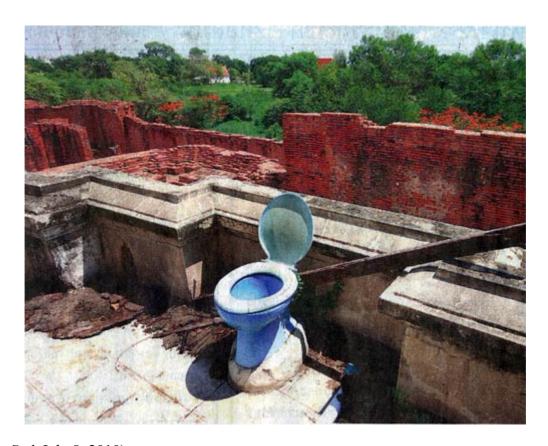
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Elephant Cement – July, 2010 The billboard reads: Firmly with Thailand – Chang Cement

Open-Air Toilet and Afro-headed Toilet Brush

July 8, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: KhaoSod, July 8, 2010)

Above: From *KhaoSod*, July 8, 2010

The caption reads: Disgraceful – The water closet ready for use found on the top of the Nakorn Luang Mondop, the important ancient site in Ayuttaya Province, which is a world heritage site. The Fine Arts Department ordered to dispose of the water-closet immediately on July 7, 2010

Also from The Nation: Ayuttaya's open-air toilet dismantled

Racist Design: An Afro-headed Toilet Brush – Fast Company Magazine, July 9, 2010 This is so egregious that it's hard to believe its real: Recently, in L.A., a Thai design firm—appropriately enough called Gumption—exhibited a set of toilet brushes shaped like black people, with the bristles standing in for an Afro...

Thai bird graffiti

July 9, 2010 Categories: Art



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thai bird graffiti – July 9, 2010

More on the International Crisis Group

July 9, 2010

Categories: Thaksin Lobbying



(Source: USA for Innovation YouTube channel)

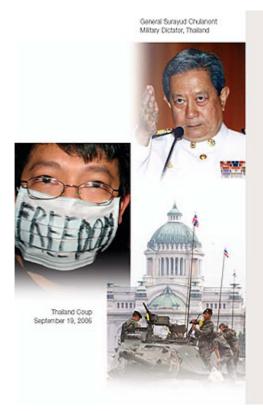
More on the International Crisis Group – July 9, 2010

We <u>noted yesterday the International Crisis Group's call for elections</u> and other actions which seem to be a catalog of Thaksin demands—new elections, introduction of international monitors, "international assistance" in conducting inquiries into the recent violence, amnesty for banned politicians, etc.

Nils notes: Interesting find in the <u>International Crisis Group report (PDF, page 30)</u>: Appendix D
International Crisis Group Board of Trustees
Other Board Members

Kenneth Adelman Former US Ambassador and Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

Ken Adelman was the front man for the <u>fake lobbying organization</u> set up by Thaksin in 2007 to attack the military government.



Slouching Towards Burma

Thailand's Radical New Regime

When military dictators take over by coup, the people lose. Right now, General Surayud Chulanont is steering Thailand the way of Burma.

First, he lined military pockets with pay increases of \$9 million and new military spending of \$1.1 billion.

Then the opposition started disappearing. Human Rights Watch last month released a report detailing 22 cases of targeted "disappearances" by the Thai military in the southern provinces.

Then the Ministry of Health threatened to kidnap American tourists. The military-appointed representative at the World Health Organization, Dr. Suwit Wibulpolprasert, proposed in January holding Western tourists hostage to bargain for flu vaccines.

Above: Part of the full page ad placed in *The Wall Street Journal* in 2007 by USA for Innovation—a lobbying group supposedly concerned with pharmaceutical trade issues

Thailand among most restrictive for foreign ownership

July 9, 2010

Categories: Property and Development

Thailand among most restrictive for foreign ownership – The Nation, July 9, 2010

Construction sign

July 9, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Construction sign – July 9, 2010

The sign reads: Bangkok in progress – Solving big problem with sustainability

Bangkok voted world's best city

July 9, 2010

Categories: Tourism

Bangkok voted world's best city - Opodo, July 9, 2010

Travel and Leisure magazine has announced the results of its World's Best Awards 2010, with Bangkok emerging as the most popular city...

Press freedom watchdog urges Thai crisis probe

July 9, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Press freedom watchdog urges Thai crisis probe</u> – Philippine Online Chronicles, July 9, 2010

An international press freedom organization called for an "exhaustive and transparent" probe into the bloody political crisis that raged through Thailand earlier this year, expressing particular concern over two issues: first, the number of journalists who were killed or injured; and second, the censorship of media under a state of emergency decree. read more...

Commodities from Cambodia prepared for sale in Thailand

July 9, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, Politics Cartoon "Chim pai Da pai", July 9, 2010

The caption in the middle reads: Commodities from Cambodia prepared for sale in Thailand

Top left: The caption reads: Or and Aii . The sign they hold reads: Free for trial

Top right: The caption reads: Ki and Ramba . The sign they hold reads: Price – a land in conflict

Bottom left: The caption reads: E-Pen . The sign he holds reads: Price – natural gas pipeline in the Gulf of Thailand

Bottom right: "Maew". The sign he holds reads: Price – the whole Thai country

Suspected murderer Van Der Sloot may have killed Thai prostitutes, says 'National Enquirer'

July 10, 2010 Categories: Crime

<u>Suspected murderer Van Der Sloot may have killed Thai prostitutes, says 'National Enquirer'</u> – AP, July 10, 2010

From Thailand's rural reaches to the Palme d'Or

July 10, 2010

Categories: Film and TV

From Thailand's rural reaches to the Palme d'Or – Newsweek, July 10, 2010

...One of the other Primitive works is an 11-minute video called Phantoms of Nabua, which won South Korea's Asia Art Award in April, just as red-shirted antigovernment protesters invaded the Thai Parliament. The film, made in 2009, shows youths kicking around a burning football at night. "The story of Nabua undeniably has echoes of the current political turmoil in Thailand," Weerasethakul wrote in his artist's note, referring to the wide-scale torture, extrajudicial killings, and rape that took place in Nabua during the Thai military's anticommunist campaign. "Institutions involved in those events of the past, along with new ones, are the key players in the ongoing chaos. Just as in the past, they manipulate the public psyche, instilling it with faith and fear...."

Thai 'emergency' cameras watch for Red Shirt uprising

July 11, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Security

<u>Thai 'emergency' cameras watch for Red Shirt uprising</u> – Washington Times, July 11, 2010 ... "Basically, we as an organization, we do not exist," said Sean Boonpracong, the UDD's international spokesman.

"What we are trying to do is trying to survive. There are 820 warrants for arrest, for Red leaders nationwide. I think just slightly over one-third have been arrested," Mr. Boonpracong, 60, said in an interview...

Military Rule 2.0

July 11, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Thai Military

Military Rule 2.0 – Boston Globe, July 11, 2010

... Two years after the coup, Thailand's top military leader at the time, Supreme Commander General Boonsrang Niumpradit, told reporters, "Under the current situation, problems in the country are too complex to be easily tackled by a coup..."

Thailand: Reporting from the 'Red zones'

July 11, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Thailand: Reporting from the 'Red zones' – Green Left Weekly, July 11, 2010

...In rural provinces, authorities have intensified royalist campaigning since the crackdown. Some village heads in the north-east (or Isan) have received two types of forms from the interior ministry.

The first one is for the collection of signatures from the population for an oath of loyalty to Thailand's monarchy.

The oath reads: "This person wants to show their willingness to worship the monarchy and to protect the monarchy with his or her life."

A village head in Kalasin province said: "I was told to collect 300 signatures in my village. But I'm afraid I couldn't because some of the 500 villagers actually reside in other areas."

The second form is for joining the 'monarchy protection group'". It instructs village heads to "organise" 20 people to "implement" the royalist oath. The idea appears to be to organise a type of royalist village militia...

Life under Abhisit's thumb

July 11, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Life under Abhisit's thumb</u> – Wall Street Journal, July 11, 2010

... There is a pronounced silence hovering over the region. Even many households have gone silent. Left without access to red-shirt radio or television, many families have chosen to listen to nothing at all. They say watching the government-controlled news or even reading the newspaper upsets them too much...

How Google got involved in a land war in Asia

July 12, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

How Google got involved in a land war in Asia – The Week, July 12, 2010

...because of Google's depiction of a disputed border with Thailand near an eleventh-century Khmer temple complex in Preah Vihear Province... Suddenly the corporation from Mountain View—which introduced its mapping platform in 2005 with the words "We think maps can be useful and fun"—was making headlines as a major party in a remote jungle conflict that has claimed at least seven lives in recent border skirmishes...

Paper hero

July 13, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Paper hero – July 13, 2010

The billboard reads: Paper man, hero saving the world – Double A – think beyond paper – reduce global warming – generating electric power – generating community income

Terrorist sorcerers

July 13, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Terrorist sorcerers – July 13, 2010

Here, here, and here

Watchdog to proceed with rally

July 13, 2010

Categories: Border Issues, Cambodia

Watchdog to proceed with rally - Phnom Penh Post, July 13, 2010

... "We will gather peacefully, not for the purpose of opposing or criticising the government, but just to express ideas for the sake of protecting our territorial integrity against the Thai invasion," he said...

Bangkok hotel 'among world's best'

July 13, 2010

Categories: Tourism

Bangkok hotel 'among world's best' – Southall Travel, July 13, 2010

Bangkok's Peninsula Hotel has broken into a list of the top ten hotels in the world, as chosen by the readers of Travel and Leisure magazine...

Bangkok buys sugar for first time in 30 years

July 13, 2010

Categories: Food and Drink

Bangkok buys sugar for first time in 30 years – Financial Times, July 13, 2010

...The Thai shortage comes after domestic prices, which are government-controlled, fell below international prices earlier this year. That meant there was little incentive for traders to sell sugar to the domestic market and led to smuggling of the domestic quota into neighbouring countries.

Prices in shops such as Big C are controlled, but on the open market sugar is selling for Bt26 per kilo, a rise of more than 20 per cent since the beginning of the year...

Partial demolition of pillars irks governor

July 13, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

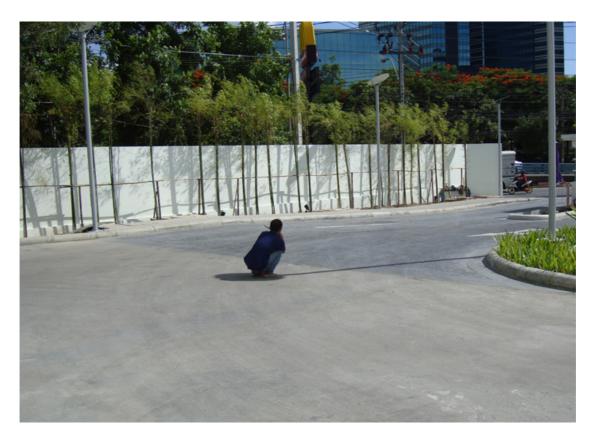
Partial demolition of pillars irks governor – Bangkok Post, July 13, 2010

...The Fine Arts Department has decided to build a station for trams which will serve tourists visiting the nearby historical site. It agreed to change the design following an uproar.

Mr Witthaya said the remaining pillars will destroy the view of the old city hall...

Shade

July 13, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Shade – July 13, 2010

"Discover the Reality of Happiness"

July 14, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

"Discover the Reality of Happiness" – July 14, 2010 A condo ad...

Reds' letter rejected by US embassy

July 14, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Reds' letter rejected by US embassy – Bangkok Post, July 14, 2010

Pornthip to testify in person at Teoh's inquest

July 14, 2010

Categories: Crime, Malaysia

<u>Pornthip to testify in person at Teoh's inquest on Aug 18</u> – *Malaysian Digest*, July 14, 2010 Thai pathologist Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand will testify in person, on Aug 18, at the Teoh Beng Hock inquest here...

Fighting Vocational Students

July 15, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Source: Matichon, July 15, 2010)

From Matichon, July 15, 2010

The caption reads: Totally damaged – The glass of public bus number 129 from Bangkhen-Bangna was damaged greatly after a student group from Bangkok Institute of Technology threw bricks to attack their counterpart, the Thai Vichit Silpa Institute of Technology, in front of the Pu Chaosamingpraii Department store in Samutprakarn's Muang district. The bus was parked at the Bangkhen bus station on July 14, 2010.

Thai Rak Thai Party poster

July 15, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thai Rak Thai Party poster – July 15, 2010

An old TRT poster still hanging in the Thonburi area. It reads: I have confidence in Thais' potential and if Thailand is under good administration, a good leader, and steps up with the world, Thais must not be poor – Police Lieutenant Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra – Thai Rak Thai Party – Think innovatively, do innovatively for Thailand

Trust the police

July 15, 2010 Categories: Thai Police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Trust the police – July 15, 2010

The sign reads: can trust the Metropolitan Police 1 – Police Major General Winai Sangprapai, Metropolitan Police 1 Commander

Can Thailand's state of emergency lead to 'reconciliation'?

July 15, 2010

elections.

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Can Thailand's state of emergency lead to 'reconciliation'? — Washington Post, July 15, 2010 …Mr. Thaksin and the red shirts have contributed to Thailand's impasse by blockading the center of Bangkok for two months last spring and for refusing the compromise Mr. Abhisit offered before the violence began and the army moved in. But the root cause of the troubles is the refusal of the traditional political class, the military and the royal court, which Mr. Abhisit's government represents, to accept the results of democratic

Repression will not solve this problem. If Mr. Abhisit really wants reconciliation, the steps he must take are clear: End the state of emergency, release the red shirt leaders and negotiate leading to elections, with a commitment by all sides to allow the winners to rule within the boundaries of a reformed constitution...

US names new Thailand envoy

July 15, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>US names new Thailand envoy</u> – AFP, July 15, 2010

...Ms Kenney, who has also served as US ambassador to Ecuador, was known in the Philippines for her public diplomacy including taking to blogs and Facebook to reach out to Filipinos.

Cambodians hold anti-Thailand protest in Phnom Penh

July 15, 2010 Categories: Cambodia

Cambodians hold anti-Thailand protest in Phnom Penh - english.ntdtv.com, July 15, 2010

Dangerous dogs

July 15, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Dangerous dogs – July 15, 2010

The billboard reads: Dangerous dog rabies – Do not leave dogs outside your home! – Get rabies vaccine for every dog and cat

A renewed US-Thai alliance for the 21st century

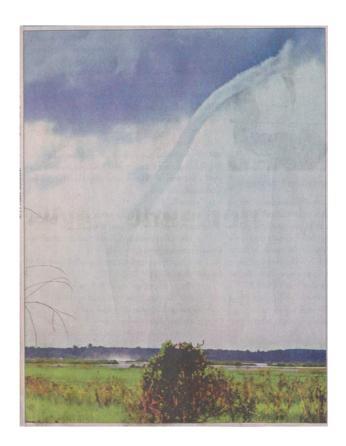
July 16, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>A renewed US-Thai alliance for the 21st century</u> – *US Department of State*, July 16, 2010Secretary of State Clinton — at about this time last year — said in Bangkok that "we are committed to a broader, stronger, and deeper relationship with Thailand." The more robust, dynamic U.S.-Thailand relationship Secretary Clinton envisions will build upon an already solid foundation...

Thai Waterspout

July 16, 2010 Categories: Weather



(Source: Daily News, July 16, 2010)

The caption reads: Nguang Chang Storm – The picture of Nguang Chang Storm or "naga playing on water" at the Bung Khonglong Reservoir in Nongkai Province, its first time appearance. The phenomena roused the public. The picture was taken by Yutthasart Hadda, mathematics teacher from Ban Tongkoakkrachae Village.

'Thailand a natural bridge between India & East Asia'

July 16, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>'Thailand a natural bridge between India & East Asia'</u> – *Press Trust of India*, July 16, 2010 *As India, an emerging global power, is steadfastly implementing its Look East Policy, a top US official has said that Thailand is a "natural bridge" between India and East Asian countries...*

Old bones yield a new age of dinosaurs in Thailand

July 16, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

Old bones yield a new age of dinosaurs in Thailand - New York Times, July, 2010

Hoops Photography

July 16, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Hoops Photography</u> – July 16, 2010 Don't miss the photo set on the <u>main page</u> (page scrolls left and right). And an amazing set of Thais <u>here</u>.

Unreported World: 2005 – Ghost warriors in the deep south

July 17, 2010

Categories: Thailand in the International Media, The Thai Deep South

<u>Unreported World: 2005 – Ghost warriors in the deep south</u> – *YouTube*, July, 2010 Sandra Jordan investigates the spate of violence in rural areas of the south of Thailand, where it is unclear who is fighting who...

The murky world of illegal Asian gambling

July 17, 2010

Categories: Crime, Thai Police

<u>Viewpoint: The murky world of illegal Asian gambling</u> – *BBC*, July 17, 2010

- ... A British gambling executive, speaking of his experiences in the Asian gambling world, told me what happened during a business trip to Thailand.
- "When I got off the plane there was a police officer at the airport with my name on a board. And when he saw me, I thought: 'Oh no, what is happening?'
- "He took me straight through customs, and my luggage had been put to the front of the plane, and we are escorted into the centre of Bangkok by a three-police-car cavalcade."

The executive said he was taken to the bookmaker's office for a meeting, and that a senior police officer then joined them for dinner. "If that is not the message: "I've got protection", I don't know what is," he added...

BBTV wins \$8mn damages over copyright violation in US

July 17, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

BBTV wins \$8mn damages over copyright violation in US – The Nation, July 17, 2010 A US district court in California earlier this month ruled in favour of Bangkok Broadcasting & TV (BBTV), one of Thailand's foremost broadcasting corporations – popularly known as "Channel 7" – awarding BBTV \$8.3 million (Bt267 million) in damages for wilful copyright and trademark infringement by IPTV Corporation (ThaiTV.tv), BKT Group and its management...

Bikes starlet of Bangkok rides high

July 17, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Bikes starlet of Bangkok rides high – The Japan Times, July 17, 2010

Will not be involved with politics directly or indirectly

July 17, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, July 17, 2010

Thaksin is saying: Abandon political precepts

Under Thaksin is says: Want to gain merit?... take only this precept

The asterisk at the bottom right: Will not be involved with politics directly or indirectly

Play brings back horror of El Monte sweatshop and slavery case

July 17, 2010 Categories: Crime

Play brings back horror of El Monte sweatshop and slavery case – sgvtribune.com, July 17, 2010

<u>Canada watching for Thai ship suspected of 'people smuggling'</u> – Vancouver Sun, July 16, 2010Authorities are monitoring a Thai cargo ship named the MV Sun Sea, which was last seen in the Gulf of Thailand and is heading for Canada.

The vessel is under the control of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, reported Sri Lanka's English newspaper, the Sunday Observer, last weekend. Several leaders of the separatist organization — considered a terrorist group by many countries, including Canada — are onboard the vessel, said the report...

Ordaining monks

July 17, 2010

Categories: Buddhism



Ordaining monks – July 17, 2010

The flyer reads: Ordaining 100,000 monks in the lent period – best part of a man's life is ordination to make merit for his parents – at least for the duration of one lent – inviting everyone to participate in a historic moment in the country for the monk ordaining project of 100,000 to be hosted nationwide and presided over by revered monks to provide preaching and training – apply from now to July 9, 2010 at district training centers nationwide – call 02 031 1234 (call Center) www.dmycenter.com – Monk teams in the land in cooperation with the parliamentary committee overseeing religion, arts and culture – no tuition

No societal confrontation because of differences

July 17, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Together we can – July 17, 2010

On the left: Thinking differently is not wrong, but no breakup

On the right: We are all Thai alike, love each other!

Words above and below the English logo: Together we can

Did you drunk too much last night?

July 17, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Did you drunk too much last night? Be aware of your drinking Warning: Drinking alcohol is prohibiting by the 5th precept of Buddhist

New sounds in Chiang Mai's ancient alleys

July 18, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

New sounds in Chiang Mai's ancient alleys – Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, July 18, 2010 ... Then again, the predominantly young posse of foreigners and natives moshing to the energetic metal, grunge and rap sets by the Thai band Nyok aren't there for the decor...

Abhisit similar to Mugabe?

July 18, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Robert Amsterdam

Abhisit similar to Mugabe? – RobertAmsterdam.com, July 18, 2010

...In Zimbabwe in particular there are a number of processes and striking parallels between the current conduct of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, the Democrat Party, and the military, and events that were taking place under Mugabe's early administration 7-9 years ago, before everything went off the rails. Early on in Mugabe's rise, we observed 1) an outsourcing of political violence, 2) the creation of a repressive legalistic apparatus, and 3) an exhibition of a "terrorism algorithm" – an inverse relationship between the state's level of democratic legitimacy and the need to taint opponents as terrorists...

Thai are talented at running art museums' outside Thailand

July 19, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Thai are talented at running art museum's outside Thailand</u> – eTurboNews, July 19, 2010 ... The museum was marred by controversies with UNESCO, as well as the National Museum in Phnom Penh. Relations have always been very sensitive – for the most – between Thailand and Cambodia...

Smile at Ratchaprasong

July 19, 2010

Categories: Humor, Red Shirt Protest 2010

Smile at Ratchaprasong – July, 2010

...It's high time to revive the good times at Ratchaprasong! Be prepared to celebrate one of the biggest events ever: 'Smile at Ratchaprasong', the event that will bring back the smiles for the Ratchaprasong community. In cooperation with the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Central Pattana Public Company Limited, and Ratchaprasong Square Trade Association, this event will feature 3 styles of activities representing the unique symbols of this shopping street — one of the most important trading areas in Bangkok...

This seems like *Not the Nation*'s similar parody: <u>Central Announces "Let's Pretend Nothing Ever Happened"</u> <u>Sale</u>

Constituency 6 MP election 2010

July 20, 2010

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Constituency 6 MP election – July 20, 2010

Above: The sign reads: 25 July, 2010 – Election – MP – from 8.00-15.00 o'clock – Constituency 6



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party – Return justice for Thai people – Return democracy for the land – Vote for the side of democracy, vote for Korkhaew, Pheu Thai, Number 4



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: "...the man who is known for industrious work and empathy with the people – Abhisit Vejjajiva" – Sunday, 25 July, 2010 please vote for Panit Vikitset for MP of Bungkhum, Kannayao, Klongsamwa and Nongjork – Number 1



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party inviting to join the speech – Meeting with Police Captain Chalerm Yubamrung-Jatuporn Prompan and the team of MP and Bangkok MPs, District MP of Pheu Thai Party – Date: Friday 9 July 2010 – Time 16.00-21.00 o'clock – Place: In front of Nuanchan Temple, Nawamin Road



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: New Aspiration Party – in the midst of national crisis, one voice of the righteousness is enough – vote democracy, no vote for dictatorship, vote for peace, no vote for violence, vote for the middle path, no vote for sides, vote for harmony, no vote for breakup – Chingchai Mongkoltham, New Aspiration Party leader – Anusorn Som-on – Constituency 6 candidate – Provisional administration – Solving national crisis, create democracy



Election Sunday in Constituency 6

Many posters in the area have been defaced.

Above: The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party – Return justice for Thai people – Return democracy for the land – Vote for the side of democracy, vote for Korkhaew, Pheu Thai, Number 4



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: "...the man who is known for industrious work and empathy with the people – Abhisit Vejjajiva" – Sunday, 25 July, 2010 please vote for Panit Vikitset for MP of Bungkhum, Kannayao, Klongsamwa and Nongjork – Number 1



Red Shirt sticker on this New Aspiration Party poster reads: Pleased by killing the people



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The poster reads: Stop dictatorship, stop the cheating government – Vote the democratic side, vote Korkhaew Pikulthing – No. 4 – Pheu Thai Party – Sunday 25 July 2010 8.00-15.00



Above: (at very top left) The national security is people's happiness – No.2 – Noppadon Chairitthidet – to be Bangkok Constituency 6 MP (Bungkhum, Nongchok, Kannayao, Klongsamwa)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Democrat Party – Real person, real practice, in touch with the people – Sunday 25 July 2010 please vote – Panich Vikitset – to be Constituency 6 MP for the Bungkhum, Kannayao, Klongsamwa and Nongchock district- no. 1

Thai elections main page

Change in fees – American Citizen Services and immigrant visas

July 20, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Change in fees – American Citizen Services and immigrant visas – July, 2010</u>

Some massive increases in consular charges for Americans... Even formerly free services, like simply putting extra pages in a passport, now costs \$82 (2652 baht) which is more than renewing a passport.

Together We Can Campaign

July 20, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Together We Can – July 20, 2010

Above: "Together We Can" campaign used to stop the use of Sanam Luang as a protest venue. Barriers completely prevent any access to Saman Luang—supposedly for landscaping—for 10 months. Stretching back decades, various governments have used such measures to limit protest space during critical times.

Below: "We Love Ratchaprasong" is part of an elaborate campaign to bring back shoppers to the area.



PM suggests censors review ban on TV ad

July 20, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

PM suggests censors review ban on TV ad – Bangkok Post, July 20, 2010

"He will come"

July 20, 2010

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

A sign left over from the Bangkok council elections from last month. The sign reads: Please vote for the Bangkok district candidates of Chatuckak – Damrongsak, Piya, Kanyaphak, Asa, Prayoon, Bowornsak – number 2 to 9

An additional sign pasted on the front reads: No vote for us, he will come – urging the silent power to help us – Taking care of the district office with good electric lights for the whole district

Another small notice pasted on the sign is an advertisement for selling a house.

THAILAND: Academics warned not to air political views

July 20, 2010

Categories: Censorship

THAILAND: Academics warned not to air political views — University World News, July, 2010 ...If I talk about linguistics I have to be neutral," said Suda Rangkupan, a lecturer in linguistics at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn ...

Many elderly Britons 'lack medical cover abroad'

July 20, 2010 Categories: Health

<u>Many elderly Britons 'lack medical cover abroad'</u> – *BBC News*, July, 2010*Proportionally, most Britons died in Thailand (292) Germany (563) and Cyprus (323)* ...

'I'm not going to run like Mr. Thaksin'

July 20, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

'I'm not going to run like Mr. Thaksin' – Spiegel Online, July, 2010

...Kasit: It is not an issue of two camps. The interpretation of a divided country does not reflect the real situation in Thailand. Rather, it was created only six months ago by protest leaders to incite people to take part in the anti-government demonstrations. The Red Shirts protested in order to support the former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, to bring him back to Thailand without having him serve the jail sentence he has received for corruption and conflict of interest while in office...

White Paper: The Bangkok Massacres – A Call for Accountability

July 22, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Robert Amsterdam

White Paper: The Bangkok Massacres – A Call for Accountability – robertamsterdam, com, July 22, 2010

The Ideal DSI

July 23, 2010 Categories: Analysis, Red Shirt Protest 2010

The Ideal DSI – TAN, July 23, 2010

Red Shirt Museum: 7 Days, 7 Pains of the People

July 24, 2010

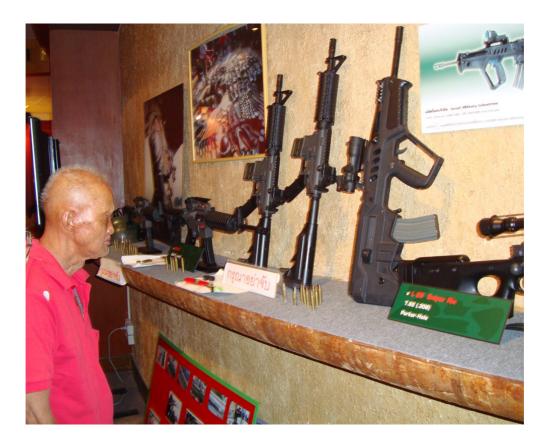
Categories: Analysis, Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Messages of defiance around a photo of detained monks.

Pheu Thai Party exhibition lauding the Red Shirts for resisting the military: "7 Days, 7 Pains of the People" – July 24,2010



Above: "War weapons" exhibit to contrast with the bamboo barricades, smoke bombs, and slingshots that the Red Shirts are claimed to have used.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Witness explaining the allegedly random and purposeful shooting of innocent people by the government.



Above: Mannequin dressed to be a Red Shirt guard shooting a slingshot at military snipers. The shirt reads: Peasant.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign reads: Taking the one who ordered killing people to be under punishment—Abhisit—Democrat—must take responsibility—The network of Dark April group for Democracy



Above: Photo of a nurse allegedly killed by snipers.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



Above: The sign reads: Blood of the people – A symbolic sign for Democracy



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Bullet casing are arranged to read: We are Thai – Why do you kill?



Above: Smoke comes out of a mockup of the Red Shirt barricades.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The infamous "Life Firing Zone" sign put up by the military.

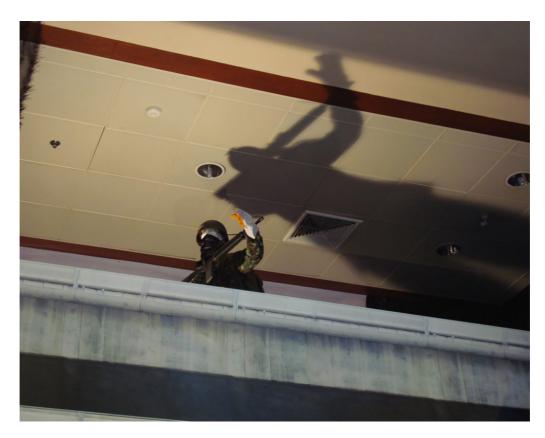




(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



Above: Pointing out the alleged graft that permeates government programs. The sign reads: The Bio-diesel producing machine for the self-sufficiency project – The price of 450,000 – The market price is 150,000 baht.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Mockup of the army snipers on the Skytrain tracks above Pathumwanaram Temple.



Above: Another easy target for the opposition. Land ownership irregularities. The sign reads: Koh Samui district – Sor-Por-Kor 4-01 part 2



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The sign in the background reads: Stop protecting the cheater



Above: The sign reads: The truth... will appear...

Who? torched the city... the covered face... or...? The soldiers controlled the area 100%. Who? Staged the

torching... covered up!!



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The words in the background read: Tools to ask for the return of the life space



Above: Another view of a Red Guard wielding a slingshot. His shirt reads: Peasant

Reds and Lenin?/Reds and the KNU?

July 24, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Red Shirt Protest 2010

Reds and Lenin?/Reds and the KNU? – July 24, 2010

KNU and the Red Shirts – serithai.net, July, 2010

...(The Thai army officer) warns the KNU not to involved with the reds. It is said that the group who want to step into power in Thailand and the internal breakup in the Thai Army benefits to the KNU and the ill-will group against Thailand...

On the forum: Nitiphoom's article "Don't pressure the people to create the Siamese version of V.I. Lenin"

Hmong Refugees Live in Fear in Laos and Thailand

July 24, 2010

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

Hmong Refugees Live in Fear in Laos and Thailand – Time, July 24, 2010

...According to Kraisak Choonhavan, MP of the Democrat Party, Thailand has never signed an international refugee treaty so it is not bound by UNHCR rules, but even Choonhavan didn't know why Thailand wasn't letting the Hmong families invited by third countries leave. "There is something strange going on here," he says.

Scots tourist paraded by cops alongside prostitutes in Thailand

July 24, 2010 Categories: Crime

Scots tourist paraded by cops alongside prostitutes in Thailand – Scottish Daily Record, July 24, 2010

Military shopping list grows

July 24, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

<u>Military shopping list grows</u> – Bangkok Post, July 24, 2010 Govt eager to okay big-ticket items ahead of army chief's retirement, despite controversies...

Speak the lingo if you get wed

July 24, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Speak the lingo if you get wed</u> – *Bangkok Post*, July 24, 2010 *Thais face new hurdle getting visas to UK, Germany...*

Vanessa-Mae to represent Thailand at the 2014 Winter Games

July 25, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Vanessa-Mae to represent Thailand at the 2014 Winter Games</u> – Bangkok Post, July 25, 2010 The Thai Olympic committee has given the green light for famous violinist Vanessa-Mae to represent Thailand at the 2014 Winter Games...

The adversity of blanket travel advisories

July 25, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Tourism

Open letter to ambassadors of nations represented in Thailand: The adversity of blanket travel advisories – eturbonews.com, July 25, 2010

...I feel it is important to remember that while the global media at times unfairly portrayed Thailand—the entire country—as being unsafe for tourists, in actual fact outside of Bangkok, and specifically the Rajprasong area, life remained peaceful and unaffected by the events which took place...

A better way forward for Bangkok

July 25, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

A better way forward for Bangkok - WSJ, July 25, 2010

...Sunday's poll didn't go off without incident; a bomb exploded at a bus station, killing an innocent bystander. As we went to press no one had claimed responsibility. If Mr. Abhisit wants to avoid this kind of random chaos and strengthen Thailand's national security, he can strengthen its democratic institutions as well.

Ron Fanelli was my friend. How did he go on to be a murderer?

July 25, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Ron Fanelli was my friend. How did he go on to be a murderer? - Guardian, July 25, 2010

...No amount of hookers, no manner of kinky activity, could fill the hole where Ron's self-esteem used to be. He knew, now, that the women's obliging, flattering manners were just a pretense. That's just what women do to get what they want. He despised them for it...

Rajaprasong bomb

July 26, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Security, Terrorism



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Sign in front of the burned out Zen Department Store on the other side of the street from the bombing site.

Rajaprasong bombing – July 26, 2010

<u>Thaksin urges supporters not to use violence</u> – *The Nation*, July 26, 2010

Thaksin tells supporters to persevere – Bangkok Post, July 26, 2010

Big C bomb explosion claims first fatality – The Nation, July 26, 2010

Nine wounded in bombing at Ratchaprasong bus stop – MCOT, July 26, 2010

City bomb blast kills one – Bangkok Post, July 26, 2010

Bomb spoils Panich win - The Nation, July 26, 2010

Blast kills 1, injures 10 in first attack since May turmoil – The Nation, July 26, 2010



Above: A reporter speaks to a lady. The site of the blast is in the center of the photo. Shrapnel poked many tiny holes in the bus stop shelter and the metal fence behind it.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Guards at Big-C watch passersby.

Say goodbye to dentures, dentures implants available

July 26, 2010 Categories: Health

Say goodbye to dentures, dentures implants available in Thailand – businesswire.com, July 26, 2010

Bombing attack challenging the emergency decree in front of the Big-C Ratchadamri

July 26, 2010

Categories: Security, Terrorism



From Komchadluek, July 26, 2010

The headlines read: Challenging the state of emergency – a bomb object hidden in the garbage – people waiting for public bus scattered – Bombing attack at Ratchadamri!

Very cruel -1 died and 8 injured – Government claims that the emergency decree is necessary – Bombing attack challenging the emergency decree in front of the Big-C Ratchadamri – hidden in the garbage – 1 person waiting for public bus died and 8 others injured – PM says that canceling the emergency decree needs proper time – Meanwhile "Amsterdam" complains his about his blacklist status and country visit ban – "Maew's" birthday celebration today under close watch

In the Philippines, the Next Phuket?

July 26, 2010

Categories: The Philippines, Tourism

In the Philippines, the Next Phuket? – NYT, July, 2010

...They're going crazy on Boracay because they want it to become the next Thailand, said Margaux Palau, 34, a local diving and yoga instructor originally from Spain, referring to Thailand's touristy shores. "Boracay is much nicer, if you ask me, but it's also much farther for most people, which is why it's still unknown...

Thailand's legitimacy deficit

July 26, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

Thailand's legitimacy deficit – huffingtonpost.com, July 26, 2010

... Allow me to state very clearly here that I am not an objective party and have never pretended to be – we have been appointed to defend the rights of the victims of a violent repression. The debate is about who says what, but rather whether or not the Thai authorities have violated the law in the violent crackdown, and whether they hold anyone accountable for the deaths of 90 civilians. Everything else is prevarication and distraction...

Slight increase in number of failed projects in Bangkok

July 27, 2010

Categories: Property and Development

Slight increase in number of failed projects in Bangkok – property-report.com, July 27, 2010

... "These developers are new and they don't have much experience in property business. Some don't even know the real demands of buyers, so they launch projects that they think will make money, but they fail in the end. For one example look at projects in the Bang Bua Thong area. If you launch a single detached house project with the price starting at THB5 million (US\$155,250) while the real demand is at THB3 million (US\$93,000) you will not be able to sell."

Apart from loan failure and inappropriate products, 22 per cent of suspended projects failed to pass an Environment Impact Assessment, nine per cent ceased as developers wanted to adjust the selling price or location, while 5 per cent wanted to change the entire concept of the project...

Why did you stage a bombing at Rajaprasong?

July 27, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



(Source: Manager, July 27, 2010)

From Manager, July 27, 2010

Man at left: Nobody ordered... then why did you stage a bombing at Rajaprasong?

Man at right: Korkaew lost, then I was frightened.

The words on the wall in the background read: The new Thai State

The caption reads: At the underground operations office

Ukrainian carding king 'Maksik' was lured to arrest

July 28, 2010 Categories: Scams

<u>Ukrainian carding king 'Maksik' was lured to arrest</u> – *Wired*, July 28, 2010

...The Secret Service engaged in a number of undercover online transactions with "Maksik" involving the purchase of stolen credit card data, which led to face-to-face undercover meetings with Yastremskiy in Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, and Turkey. It was during his visits to these countries, the report says, that authorities obtained enough evidence to secure an indictment for Yastremskiy, which was filed in California...

World's largest fish under threat of extinction

July 28, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

World's largest fish under threat of extinction – Telegraph, July 28, 2010

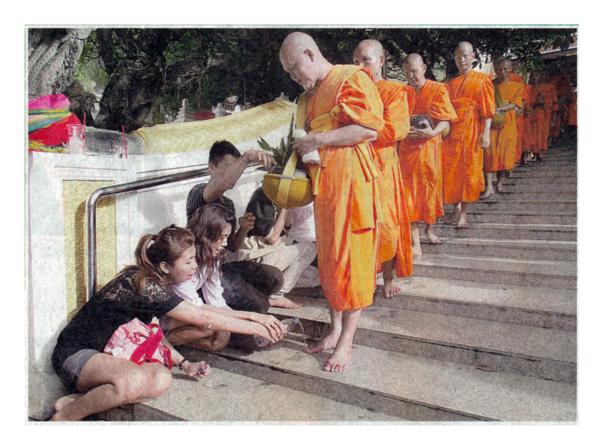
... "A fish the size of a Mekong giant catfish simply will not be able to swim across a large barrier like a dam to reach its spawning grounds upstream," said Roger Mollot, a freshwater biologist for WWF in Laos. Yet the river plays also host to a many unique fish including the vast stingray—the world's biggest freshwater fish—a giant barb and dog-eating catfish, so-called because of its pension for dog carcasses. "More giant fish live in the Mekong than any other river on earth," said Dang Thuy Trang, co-ordinator for

WWF's Greater Mekong Programme...

Monk's flower offering

July 28, 2010

Categories: Local Beliefs



(Source: ThaiRath, July 28, 2010)

Above: Monk's flower offering – Buddhists participate in a merit making ceremony where they offer flowers to the monks and wash monks' feet. The tradition is unique during the Buddhist Lent at the Buddhabatra Voramahaviharn in the Phra Phuttabat district in Saraburi province. Donators flock to participate in the candle donating ceremony at the temple.

Korea firm courts Harrah's for Cambodia Angkor casino

July 28, 2010

Categories: Cambodia

<u>Korea firm courts Harrah's for Cambodia Angkor casino</u> – *Business Week*, July 28, 2010 South Korean developer Intercity Group plans to start construction in October on a \$400 million casino resort complex near Cambodia's Angkor Wat temples that aims to draw high rollers from Macau and Singapore...

Indonesia overtakes Thailand in car sales

July 28, 2010

Categories: Business

<u>Indonesia overtakes Thailand in car sales</u> – *Hindustan Times*, July 28, 2010 *Indonesia has hit the fast lane in terms of auto sales and has overtaken Southeast Asian pace-setter Thailand for the first time, according to a Nikkei survey from the first six months of the year...*

Thai catch reports

July 29, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thai catch reports - FISHINGmagic, July 29, 2010

Foreign companies tired of Thai telecom mess

July 29, 2010

Categories: Business

Foreign companies tired of Thai telecom mess - Scandasia, July 29, 2010

... "There is nothing so different about Thailand which makes universal global experience inapplicable here. The only thing exceptional is that basic reforms of the telecoms industry were never put in place — the industry is handcuffed to a business model nearly 20 years old (concession-based) and does not even reflect what the legislated changes (about a decade old) contemplated..."

Thai doctors protest proposed malpractice law

July 29, 2010 Categories: Health

Thai doctors protest proposed malpractice law – AP, July 29, 2010

... "It means our staff would have to be extra careful during work, which would decrease efficiency," said Somkid Auapisithwong of Thai Federation of Doctors, Main Hospitals and General Hospitals, which looks after the interests of medical practitioners in state hospitals. "We're already very stretched. Some of our nurses have to work almost 365 days. This would add more stress to our staff. They would have to be extra careful with all sorts of risks and this will hinder their work..."

John West sold for 566m in Thai takeaway

July 29, 2010

Categories: Business

John West sold for 566m in Thai takeaway – Telegraph, July 29, 2010
Trilantic, formerly the private equity arm of Lehman Brothers, agreed to sell MW Brands, which owns John West and French canned fish brands Petit Navire and Mareblu, to Thai Union Frozen Products...

China will invest in Thai high-speed train, better rail links

July 29, 2010

Categories: Thai Railroads

China will invest in Thai high-speed train, better rail links – Bernama, July 29, 2010

...The line is expected to also link to Sungai Kolok in Thailand's southern province of Narathiwat to Malaysia and will upgrade the quality of Thai rail links so that in future it could link via the north to Europe and in the south to Singapore, TNA reported.

The project will be built as a standard-gauge rail link and is expected to cover transport in all countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

Concerning the high-speed train, the deputy premier said China will cooperate with Thailand to build the country's first high-speed rail line from Bangkok to the eastern province of Rayong, which will also connect to Laos...

Increasing close circuit cameras by more than 20,000

July 29, 2010

Categories: Security, Signs and Billboards



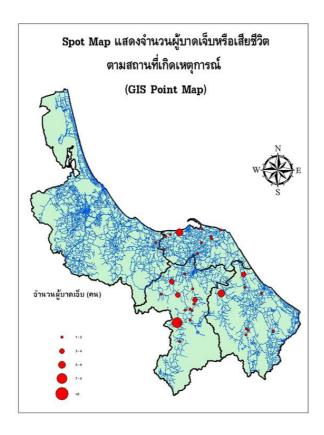
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: The billboard reads: Your safety is under our watch – increasing close circuit cameras by more than 20,000 – Number 1 policy of safety of the Bangkok Governor M.L. Sukhumbhand Paribatra – The whole life, we care

Southern Violence Statistics – July 2010

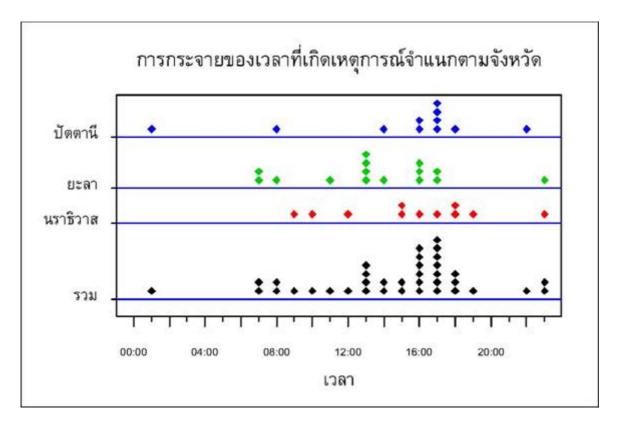
July 30, 2010

Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics

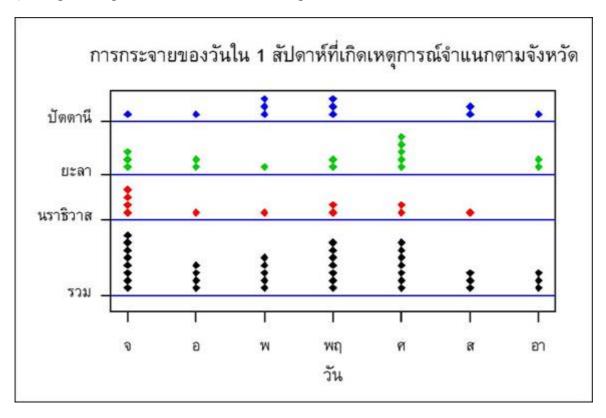


Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

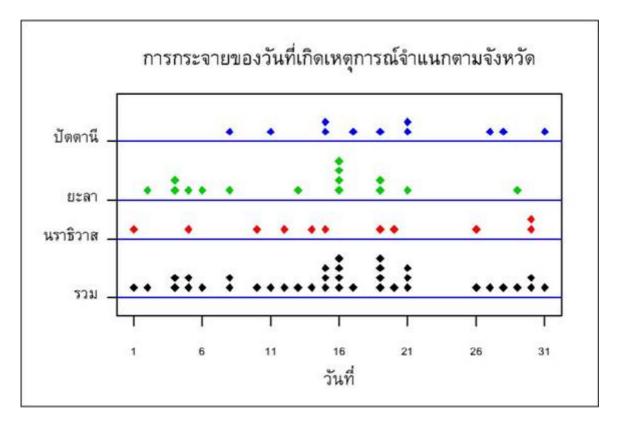
Southern Violence Statistics – July 2010 Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South



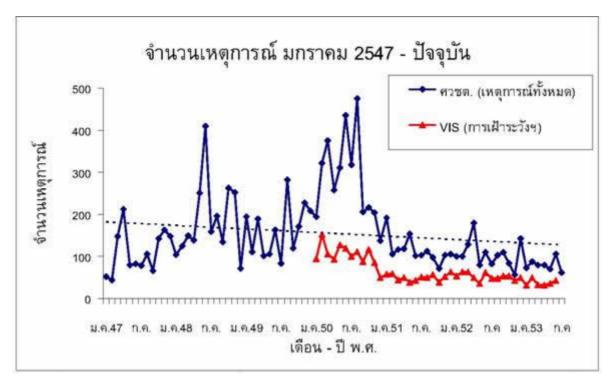
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



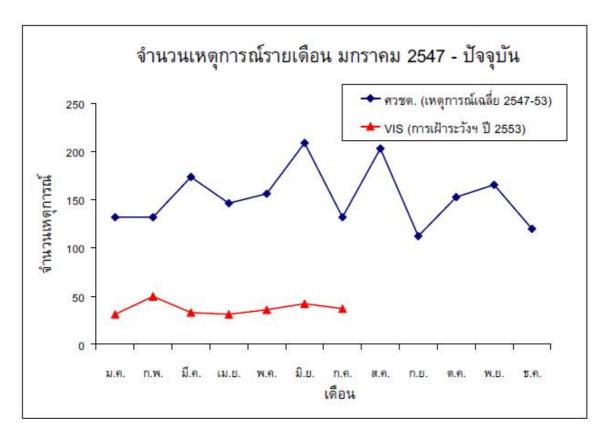
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the week (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). The days of the week start with Monday on the left. Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



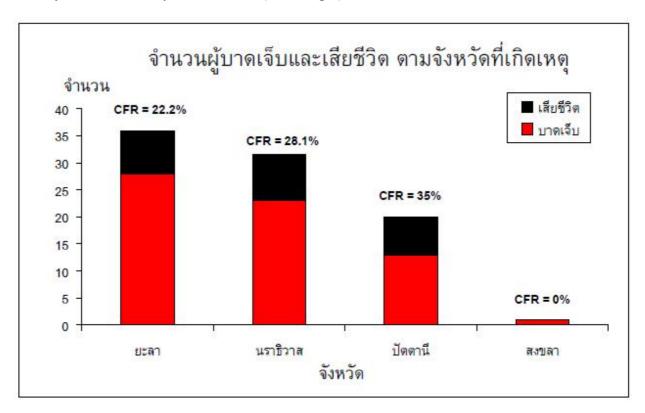
This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



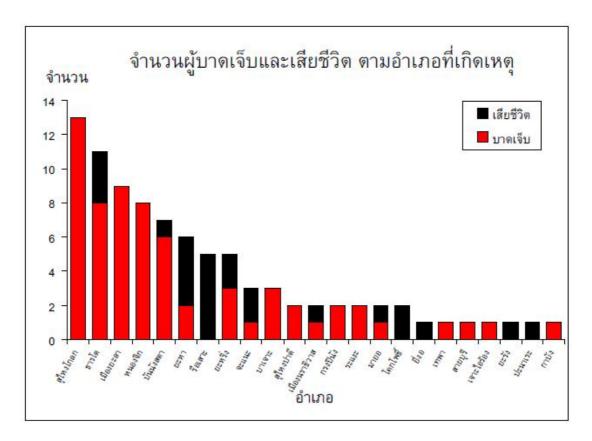
Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009, 2553 is 2010). The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (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).



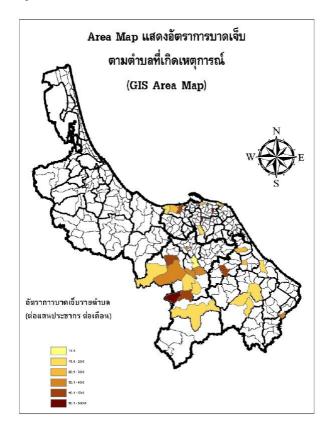
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from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



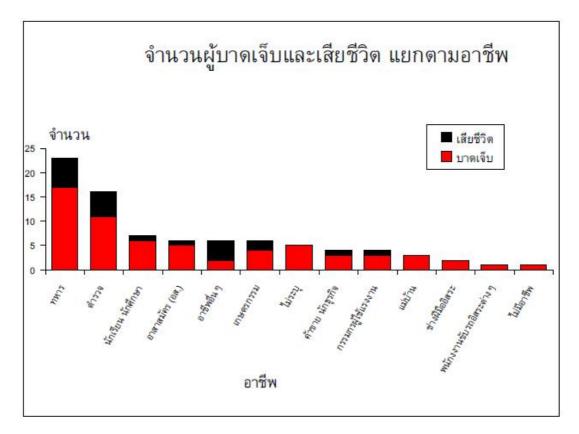
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, red=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



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

From left to right: Soldiers, students and college students, defense guard volunteers, others, agriculture, unknown, merchants and businessmen, laborers, housewives, self-employed craftsmen, self-employed drivers, non-employed

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

Aftermath of the Red Shirts: Various Links

July 30, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Odds and ends – July 30, 2010

As mentioned on the forum: A parody of *ThaiRath*

An interesting critique of something from 2Bangkok: Anti-red shirt/pro-yellow shirt

Someone going after Robert Amsterdam (thanks to Matt for pointing this out)

Not quite sure what this is about: Thailand's Thaksin Shinwatra, Marxists, and the NWO

Brazil's sex tourism boom

July 30, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Brazil's sex tourism boom – BBC, July 30, 2010

...Every week specialist holiday operators bring in thousands of European singles on charted flights looking for cheap sex. Now Brazil is overtaking Thailand as the world's most popular sex-tourist destination...

Thai stocks to increase 5% to be Asia's next bull market

July 30, 2010 Categories: Economy

Thai stocks to increase 5% to be Asia's next bull market, Julius Baer says – Bloomberg, July 30, 2010

Red Shirts now coordinated from outside Thailand

July 30, 2010

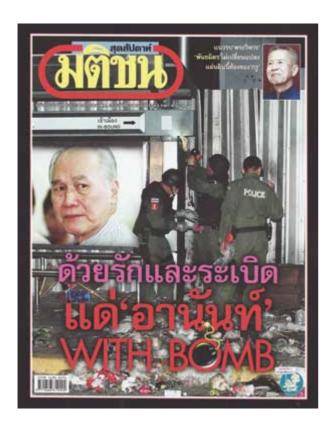
Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Red Shirts now coordinated from outside Thailand – Lateline, July 30, 2010

...Senior Red Shirts figure Jakrapob Penkair says international donors are now funding the campaign for a change of Thai government...

With love and bomb for 'Anand'

July 30, 2010 Categories: Analysis, Security



From Matichon Weekly, July 30, 2010

The Thai part reads: With love and bomb for 'Anand'

Blast hit Bangkok early Friday morning, injuring a man

July 30, 2010 Categories: Security



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Site of the bomb blast on Soi Rangnam across from the King Power complex

Blast hit Bangkok early Friday morning, injuring a man – The Nation, July 30, 2010

Below: Technicians repair equipment for phone lines damaged by the explosion.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Website Censorship in Thailand – 2008-2011

July 31, 2010

Categories: Censorship



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Report improper websites – July 31, 2010

The billboard: All together creating an online world for a qualified learning society – If you find an improper website, call 1212

This page: Website censorship in Thailand – 2008-2011 Also: Website censorship in Thailand – 2002-2007

Thai web editor may face 70 years in jail – AFP, November 23, 2010

Chiranuch Premchaiporn's air of cheerful optimism crumpled briefly as she contemplated the threat of 70 years in prison — for remarks about the Thai monarchy that other people posted on her website...

<u>Thailand: Prachatai director</u> – *Scoop*, November 13, 2010

... "That she has to criss-cross the country to answer charges in whatever provinces they were lodged against her over website contents that she herself did not author is sheer nonsense, deserving of the strongest condemnation by right-minded people everywhere," Fernando said.

Pointing out that whereas in Thailand there are no criminal offences defining torture or enforced disappearance, the policy director of the Hong Kong based-regional rights group remarked that for Internet crimes to carry lengthy prison terms illustrates how authoritarian and militarized governments use law with increasing cynicism...

New video clip posted, blocked – Bangkok Post, November 9, 2010

<u>Silence of the dissenters: How south-east Asia keeps web users in line</u> – *Guardian Unlimited*, October 25, 2010

...In Thailand, website moderators can face decades in jail for a posted comment they did not even write, if the government deems it injurious to the monarchy...

Thailand blocking WikiLeaks, says official – Bangkok Post, August 18, 2010

<u>Thai groups denounce Web censorship</u> – WSJ, August, 2010

...Human Rights Watch has called Thailand's censorship a "broad-brush clampdown" that "violated Thailand's obligations to respect media freedom and freedom of expression."

Thai officials say the country remains open to public debate, and that the curbs are in place to prevent antigovernment groups from inciting violence or otherwise threatening the nation's stability.

Political analysts note that previous administrations—including one supported by Thailand's current crop of antigovernment protesters—moved to clamp down on the media...

Govt cracks down on social networking forums – Bangkok Post, July, 2010 Facebook users urged to safeguard their privacy, after one Thai member is arrested on lese majeste charges...

Thailand sets up unit to tackle websites insulting royals – AFP, June 16, 2010

The Thai cabinet Tuesday approved the creation of a new cyber crime agency to stamp out online criticism of the revered monarchy...

US citizen interrogated by Thai officials for his online activities – IFEX, May 14, 2010

..."Chai's case seems to show that American authorities do not object to foreign officials interrogating US citizens on American soil. Even more scandalous, Thai officials can require American firms to comply with Thai laws even when operating in the US. This is contradictory to U.S. law and protection of national business. We are urging the Department of Justice to take action regarding this case", Reporters Without Borders and Human Rights USA declared...

Thailand censors more websites as protests persist – AP, May 8, 2010

George Orwell's "1984" had its Big Brother, and Thailand has Ranongrak Suwanchawee. The country's information minister stares down from billboards along Bangkok's expressways, warning that "Bad websites are detrimental to society" and should be reported to a special hot line...

Web block adds controversies to laws – Bangkok Post, May 6, 2010



Above: Page blocking www.AsiaSentinel.com

Online censorship amid mounting political tension – IFEX, April 1, 2010

...Reporters Without Borders also condemns the government's censorship of the Internet. More than 50,000 websites and web pages are currently blocked in Thailand. The latest to join the list is Asia Sentinel (http://www.asiasentinel.com/), an independent news website that is apparently being punished for posting a long and detailed series of analyses of the political situation since the 2006 military coup...

Incredibly this block is only in place for www.AsiaSentinel.com and not AsiaSentinel.com. Also, all the inner pages are not blocked, such as: Lèse-Majesté Charges in Thailand

The "BAN" page is an unusually aggressive-looking block page. That censors have tended to use fake "Not Found" pages such as the one used for the Wikipedia page on the King.

Bhumibol Adulyadej - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
In 1935 his elder brother, Phra Ong Chao Ananda Mahidol, became King of Thailand, and elevated Bhumibol and his sister to Chao Fa status, the most senior ...

Early life - Succession and marriage - Coronation and titles en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhumibol_Adulyadej - Cached - Similar

Listed here on Google:

When accessing the Wikipedia page from within Thailand:

Not Found

The requested URL was not found on this server.

Google has censorship balancing act outside China – AP, March 31, 2010

...For instance, local laws prodded Google to help shield Turkey's founder and Thailand's monarch from public ridicule by blocking unflattering videos of them in their home countries...

<u>Prachatia webmaster granted bail</u> – Bangkok Post, March 31, 2010

...Ms Chiranuch had to wait nearly four hours before bail was approved with a 300,000 baht bond, calculated on her salary as a nursing sister, for not removing commens posted on a web-board deemed offensive to the monarchy fast enough to satisfy the government censors...

She is accused of allowing lese majeste in comments posted on Prachatai's online discussion board.. If convicted she faces up to 50 years imprisonment...

Government directions on "rumor-mongering" growing out of proportion, says SEAPA – SEAPA/IFEX, November 6, 2009

... "The ICT Minister's statement itself is a concern because MICT has no authority to close down any website or take actions against ISPs," said Chavarong Limpattamapanee, vice president of the Thai Journalists Association (TJA) and a SEAPA board member...

Arresting the two citizens, Theeranan Vipuchanin and Katha Pajariyapong, on charges of spreading rumors online when in fact they merely posted Thai translation of articles from respected media outlet Bloomberg, was already a concern...

<u>Use of Computer Act questioned</u> – *The Nation*, November 3, 2009

...Sarinee said the charge against Thiranan was unreasonable, because it was just a translation of Bloomberg news piece, which has millions of readers.

"We should start from the question: what kind of information is really "damaging" enough to warrant arrest?,... so if someone is just copying news from reliable sources which adhere to professional standards, e.g. identifying rumors as such, not claiming them to be truth, then it is really up the readers themselves to consider the news carefully" Sarinee said...



Wikipedia page on the Thai king blocked? – October 6, 2009 At least through local ISP KSC, searching for "Bhumibol Adulyadej" brings up one of the <u>fake "file not found" pages</u> that Thai censors employ.

Update: Nils reports that ISP True is blocking it too, but admits it, redirecting to http://58.97.5.29/court.html (below).



Thailand does its best to break the internet – Irish Times, August, 2009

...As well as making hacking and computer fraud crimes, Thailand's new cybercrime law insists that intermediaries are responsible for what happens on their corners of the internet. So if a person posts a defamatory comment on your website, you can be prosecuted and face jail. If a person connects to their local ISP to post an offensive video to YouTube, the ISP is criminally liable for this act...

As part of new government regulations to control and track internet usage (mainly related to porn, gambling and anti-monarchy websites and posts about these subjects on forums), internet traffic data must be archived for 90 days.

Here is an offer from KSC to handle the archiving-yet another financial burden for local businesses.





ขออภัยในความไม่สะดวก เนื่องจากมีคำสั่งศาลให้ปิดกั้นเว็บไซต์ดังกล่าว

สอบถามข้อมูลเพิ่มเดิมได้ที่
" กระทรวงเทคโนโลยีสารสนเทศและการสื่อสาร "
อาคาร 9 บริษัท ที่โอที จำกัด (มหาชน) ถนแจ้งวัฒนะ เขตหลักสี กรุงเทพฯ 10210
โทร 0-2505-7147,0-2568-2498

Sorry for your inconvenience,
The web site you are accessing has been blocked by the Order of the Criminal Courts

For more information please contact: Ministry of Information an Communication Technology Building 9, TOT PCL Chaeng Wattana Rd. Laksi Bangkok 10210 Tel. 0-2505-7147,0-2568-2498

Thai censors blocking certain Google searches – July 10, 2009

For instance, searching these words together in Google returns a block page (above) on KSC: "translated country names"

A variety of words like "translated" in combination with "thai" are also blocked. However, searches on other search providers are not being blocked.

Censorship lifted on some websites – RSF, April 27, 2009

Thai website to protect the king – BBC News, February 5, 2009

The government in Thailand has set up a special website urging people to inform on anyone criticising the monarchy...

ProtecttheKing.net

<u>Threats worry Thai Internet community</u> – *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, February 2009

<u>Is Thailand a new enemy of the Internet?</u> – Reporters Without Borders, January 12, 2009

<u>And then they came for me</u> – *The Sunday Leader*, January 11, 2009 Interesting editorial from a Sri Lankan newspaper...

Censorship and madness in Thailand – UPI, January 8, 2009

... Then there are opinion pieces like the one in Matichon Daily last month urging friends or relatives of someone showing signs of listening to the king's critics to take the person promptly for psychological treatment...

<u>Sacrava website officially blocked in Thailand for lèse-majesté: Thai DemoCRAZY?</u> – KI, January 7, 2009 ...It is quite a feat indeed for our Cambodian born artist!...

It appears that on many of the blocked sites, ICT is using the dishonest method of returning a 404 error instead of informing the user the site is blocked.

Right: Result of trying to access the Sacrava site via ISP KSC.





(Source: ICT website intro)

<u>Thailand have blocked 2,300 websites for insulting monarchy: ICT</u> – The Nation, January 6, 2009 Thai authorities have blocked 2,300 websites for allegedly insulting monarchy and are waiting for court approval to take action on another 400 websites....

On the forum: <u>ICT Tentacles</u>

ICT website

New government plans to step up online censorship – RSF, December 31, 2008

... "By trying to protect the king's image, the government is actually doing it harm and in some cases the charge of lese-majeste has been entirely inappropriate and unjustified," Reporters Without Borders said. "Australian author Harry Nicolaides was arrested exactly four months ago today and has been held in a Bangkok jail ever since on a lese-majeste charge for writing just two lines about a close relative of the king without even naming him. We reiterate our call for his release..."

New ICT minister vows to curb rogue websites – Bangkok Post, December 29, 2008

... The new Information and Communications Technology (ICT) minister has vowed to make it a priority to block websites insulting the monarchy.

Ranongrak Suwanchawee told senior ICT officials that most of the websites originated outside the country and would be blocked, as would sites considered obscene and those offering online games and gambling. She said her predecessor in the post mistakenly believed that little could be done to control sites originating overseas...

2008 Thailand Blocklist Analysis – 1,303 new websites censored! – FACT, December 20, 2008

...While we may never learn the real extent of government Internet censorship, these blocklists provide us some perspective for analysis in the current ultra-Royalist social climate.

Typically, web censorship in Thailand is conducted in secret. We think there is a right to know inherent in a free society. We call for transparency and accountability in government and freedom of expression, freedom of communication and freedom of association as fundamental human rights.

Government reinforces online censorship in name of protecting king's reputation – Reporters Without Borders, November 18, 2008

Reporters Without Borders condemns the Thai information ministry's decision at the start of the month to spend up to 12 million euros on creating an Internet firewall to filter out websites deemed guilty of lesemajeste.

"The Thai government's desire to control online content is indicative of the difficulties it is encountering in recovering some support," Reporters Without Borders said. "As King Bhumipol Adulajey is very popular, being over-protective of his image is one of the ways the government is using to win over those calling for its overthrow..."

Govt to spend Bt100 mln to block offensive websites - Bangkok Post, October 28, 2008

The Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) plans to spend about 100 million to 500 million baht to build a gateway to block websites with contents defaming the royal institution...

According to the minister, thousands of the websites have been found to have information offending the monarchy, but they could not be revealed because internet users would visit them once they are known...

Reader Reports: PI banned in Thailand – Seattle Post Intelligencer, October, 2008

<u>400 websites shut down</u> – *Bangkok Post*, September 2, 2008

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Ministry has detected more than 1,200 websites that violated the Computer Crime Act – of which 344 had content deemed insulting to the monarchy...

Internet data law goes into force Aug 23 – Bangkok Post, August 13, 2008

...Cyber offences, ranging from email forwarding of pornographic pictures to posting libellous messages on forums, are on the rise, Pol Col Yannapol said, but police agencies find it hard to gather the evidence to bring the perpetrators to justice.

He said internet cafes will also be required to collect information to identify computer users, such as ID cards, time of logging in and sites visited. Shops that fail to heed the rules will face fines up to 500,000 baht, he said.

<u>Web-board user accused of lèse majesté for allegedly posting comments about Phufa shops</u> – *Prachatai*, August 6, 2008

...The charge was filed by Monthani Tantisuk, a DJ/writer/translator, after both of them argued in the forum about her books on November 12, 2007. According to Phisek, police came to see him at work on June 25, but refused to show him the alleged passages. They just referred to the argument between an alias

'Krobkrua Mafia (Mafia family)', who made criticisms of Monthani's translation works, and Monthani who claimed that her books were on sale at the Phufa outlets...

<u>Thailand's computer cops</u> – gregtodiffer, August 1, 2008

Hi-Thaksin back as Thai-Grassroots.com – June 10, 2008

It seems that much of the content and graphics of the closed website Hi-Thaksin.com is back online at <u>Thai-Grassroots.com</u>. Hi-Thaksin.com voluntarily closed in the wake of the <u>bad publicity</u> following the <u>April 25 PAD gathering</u> at Thammasat University.

BBC reporter faces legal harassment in Thailand – CPJ, June 6, 2008

The Committee to Protect Journalists is concerned by the legal harassment of BBC correspondent Jonathan Head in Thailand. A high-ranking police official, Lt. Col. Wattanasak Mungkandee, has filed two separate criminal complaints alleging that the journalist insulted the monarchy—charges that Head and the BBC have called unfounded...

<u>Lese-majeste accusations used to restrict freedom of expression</u> – RSF, June 5, 2008

...In an interview for the "Khao Den Praden Ron" news programme on radio 96.5 MHz six days before, the minister was asked about bringing legal action against websites over content constituting lese-majeste. He replied: "Doing so will become a big scandal. We'd better suppress the news. Someone higher than me is of this opinion..."

Media rights group condemns Thai censorship in name of king – AFP, June 5, 2008

...Reporters Without Borders accused politicians of manipulating the law for their own protection while claiming that they are defending the king.

"The targeted websites have not insulted the monarchy, they have criticised the (opposition) Democrat Party. Political parties are using the monarchy to legitimise their activities," the group said in a statement...

<u>Tradition versus modernity keep Thai politics in turmoil</u> – Vancouver Sun, June 6, 2008

...The reality of the succession is that it will be decided by the royal Privy Council and the senior military officers. Parliament will only be called in later to approve what has been arranged. The 2006 coup was launched after Thaksin started appointing his own loyalists to senior military positions and thus manoeuvring to influence the royal succession...

Exploring 29 websites alleged by Democrat Party to have lese majeste content – Prachatai, May 30, 2008

Two websites illegally blocked; twenty nine banned for discussion on monarchy – Prachatai/AHRC, May 28, 2008

On the forum: The 29 websites that could be blocked

Webmasters get warning – Bangkok Post, May 28, 2008

...Mr Chalerm said his ministry had worked closely with police to inspect the sites and found that 29 websites currently posted improper information. The sites would be shut down or blocked shortly. He said 22 were based in Thailand while the others were overseas-based.

He said so far he has tracked down the webmasters of 27 sites and had talks with them to make them understand that releasing such inappropriate information via their websites was a legal offence, regardless of its origin.

Violators would be charged with conspiracy and punished under security-related laws, he said.

ICT Minister assures ISPs – no punishment for blocking offensive websites – Prachatai, May 22, 2008 ...ICT Minister said that there had been an order from 'high above' not to block the websites and to allow the free flow of information, on the grounds that foreigners do not understand the blocking and may form negative perceptions.

Chalerm to invoke the security law to shut down 29 controversial websites – The Nation, May 20, 2008

<u>Websites under police scrutiny – Content deemed to be critical of monarchy</u> – Bangkok Post, May 20, 2008 ...Pol Lt-Gen Rapipat was responding to a demand yesterday by the Democrat party that the government investigate and shut down 29 websites which allegedly published comments deemed unpleasant to the monarchy.

The party's assistant secretary-general, Thepthai Senpong, said an investigation found at least 29 websites with content insulting to the institution.

Censoring Free Speech in Thailand - Global Voices Online, May 17, 2008

...The first draft of this cybercrime law included the death penalty, though, on final passage, the strictures were reduced to "only" 20 years for some computer crimes...

ICT and TOT deny blocking Prachatai, saying possibly a technical error – Prachatai, May 15, 2008 ... Today, TOT customers have also not been able to access <u>www.sameskybooks.org</u>. An employee of TOT later told Prachatai that the Same Sky website had lese majeste contents, but he did not know whether the ICT or the TOT had ordered the blocking...

"Prachatai" website is made inaccessible in several areas – Prachatai, May 15, 2008

<u>DSI 'powerless' over YouTube's content</u> – *Bangkok Post*, April 26, 2008 ... *The Department of Special Investigation (DSI)*

has conceded it can do nothing about some of the content of the YouTube website considered as lese majeste and against the Thai monarchy, apart from seeking cooperation from the webmaster. Speaking at a seminar between the DSI and webmasters, Pol Col Yarnpol Yangyuen, the chief of the DSI's office of technology cases and examination centre, said YouTube is an international website based in another country, so the DSI cannot take legal action against it for lese majeste...

Hi-Thaksin website says 'bye' Thaksin – Bangkok Post, April 29, 2008

Finland police unblock Thai website – Facthai, February 22, 2008

YouTube and the rise of geolocational filtering – Opennet.net, March, 2008

ICT to 'hack & crack' foreign websites offensive to Thai supreme institution – Prachatai, March 17, 2008

A March 15 report in Krungthep Turakij newspaper quoted a source at the ICT that the ministry could pursue legal proceedings only with websites registered in Thailand, and is now planning a 'hack and crack' programme to hack offensive websites hosted abroad and delete their contents, because the legal process would take too long.

"This approach may be somewhat illegal, but sometimes it might be worth it, if are really unacceptable," the source said.

One website registered abroad has been found to advertise merchandise including calendars, dolls, bags, hats, glasses, watches, trousers and underwear, all with a logo of the Buddha meditating on a lotus, with the face of a dog. It was reported to have upset many Buddhists...

Fah Diew Kan website shut down

Website shut down over royal content – The Nation, January 6, 2008

... "Such censorship must be by court order only, and no application was made for one. This must be preceded by a letter of inquiry, not immediate closure. Furthermore, should an entire business be shut down because of private-individual posts to its site? Are the other websites hosted on the same server merely unimportant collateral damage?" the group said...

More cyberterrorism greets new year in Thailand – FACT, January 5, 2008

Thai free press needs your help! - visions.cz, January 5, 2008

Fah Diew Kan website shut down; lèse majesté alleged – Prachatai, January 5, 2008

From 2004: Survey of Fah Diaw Kan



Website censorship in Thailand – 2002-2007

What the Thailand editorial omitted

July 31, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

What the Thailand editorial omitted – Washington Post, July 31, 2010

...Second, it's regrettable that the editorial accused our government — which tolerated a two-month-long demonstration that damaged businesses, hospitals and the livelihoods of our people — of "repression." We tried in good faith to negotiate a settlement with a definitive early election date and a road map for national reconciliation, but the opposition rejected it...

AoT promises to get tough with rogue taxis and guides

July 31, 2010 Categories: Scams

AoT promises to get tough with rogue taxis and guides – Bangkok Post, July 31, 2010

...The state-controlled airport operator said it would pursue legal proceedings against culprits found to have committed the same offence for a second time. They will be charged with trespassing on AoT property which carries a maximum penalty of one year in jail and/or a fine up to 2,000 baht.

For the year to date, police have imposed fines of 500 to 1,000 baht in cases involving 5,454 taxi drivers and 9,142 tour guides operating illegally at the airport. The fines are so small that they are no deterrent at all and simply considered a cost of doing business...

Thai dancers

July 31, 2010 Categories: Old photos and films



(Source: Undated postcard)

Thai dancers – July 31, 2010

From Not the Nation

August 1, 2010 Categories: Humor

From Not the Nation

"Manager" Prints Entire September Issue By Replacing "Thaksin" With "Abhisit"

...The special election issue accuses Abhisit of corruption, dishonesty, failed leadership, leading a party guilty of criminal malfeasance, disrespecting Thailand's culture, and selling out Thai sovereignty to a foreign power. Additionally, it makes broad suggestions that Abhisit is not "really Thai..."

Obese, Diabetic, Smoking Sex Tourist Is Appalled At Lack Of Nana Plaza Fire Exits

...Mott, who smokes 3 packs of Khrong Tip a day and has Type 2 obesity-related diabetes, claimed that a fire exit was a basic standard of safety that even a third-world country should be able to manage. While eating a cheeseburger and smoking, both of which his physician has begged him to quit, Mott railed against what he perceived as Thailand's basic disregard for the sanctity of life...

Tourists to face closer monitoring

August 1, 2010 Categories: Tourism

Tourists to face closer monitoring – Bangkok Post, August 1, 2010

... "We will now request from the managers of those places information on each guest, by computer, every day," he said. "We are now receiving information from about 60% of them. This should rise to 70% next month, and more in the following weeks."

Lt Gen Wuthi said about 80,000 people arrive in Thailand daily through several entry points, "but we don't know exactly where these foreign tourists stay, how long they will stay, for example, in Bangkok, Chiang Mai or in other places"...

Thai women told to stop mosquitoes with jeans

August 1, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thai women told to stop mosquitoes with jeans – This is London, August, 2010

Getting 4000 NGV buses

August 1, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons









From Manager, August 1, 2010

Left: Oh man! That is the Thai Tiger Air's plane. Keep watching closely.

Middle left: How about now... Mr. Supot, come with me fast.

Middle right:

Where to go Mr. Minister? Where to go... how could you ask?...

Right: ...go to help me bring 4000 NGV buses out for running... during the time that people have to look up into the sky to watch the plane, nobody will notice.

Are Thailand's Buddhists more heretical than the heretics?

August 2, 2010 Categories: Buddhism

Are Thailand's Buddhists more heretical than the heretics? – The Nation, August 2, 2010

Vendor eyesore imperils heritage

August 2, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Vendor eyesore imperils heritage</u> – Bangkok Post, August 2, 2010 ...In the old capital of Ayutthaya, which holds world heritage status, unlicensed vendors cause an eyesore and resist attempts by authorities to move them...

Singapore and Bangkok-A Tale of Two Cities

August 2, 2010 Categories: Tourism

<u>Singapore and Bangkok–A Tale of Two Cities</u> – traveltrends.biz, August 2, 2010 ... The latest STR Global stats show Singapore hotels in strong recovery mode (REVpar up 40%) while Bangkok hotels–endlessly hurt by civil unrest–are still scraping the bottom of what has been a brutal cycle...

General Motors plans ten-fold production rise in Thailand

August 2, 2010 Categories: Business

General Motors plans ten-fold production rise in Thailand – Bernama, August 2, 2010

Tit for tat

August 2, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

Tit for tat – August 2, 2010

From Thaksin's perspective one would have to wonder what possible advantage would it serve for Amsterdam to be responding tit for tat to a blog post.

Sowtow's blog: Don't Shoot the Shyster!

... You did a lot of good things for this country, but you got greedy. You got careless. But the Thai people are actually pretty good at reconciliation — it's built into their culture. Put away your wallet and start trusting them...

And Amsterdam's reply: Somtow's Fantasy World

Also Amsterdam chimes in on the Preah Vihear issue: ... Starting a war with Cambodia, destabilizing the region and causing a major international incident, just to suit the agenda of extremists in the PAD, a relatively tiny organization with very few supporters beyond a rump in the Bangkok middle classes, will bring much unwanted attention on Abhisit's regime. The question he will ultimately have to answer is who is the dog and who is doing the wagging?...

Book Review: Thaksin and Thailand's contentious foreign policy

August 3, 2010

Categories: Books, The Thaksin Years

Book Review: Thaksin and Thailand's contentious foreign policy — Asia Sentinel, August 3, 2010 ... And how that the dust apparently has finally settled, with the elite firmly back in charge, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and the Democrat Party having put down the Red Shirt insurrection, what did Thaksin leave behind him?

"Abhisit has reinstated Asean as the cornerstone of Thai foreign policy," Pavin writes. "Democracy and respect of human rights, long-claimed trademarks of the Democrat Party, feature prominently in Abhisit's foreign policy." Abhisit, Pavin continues, also learned from Thaksin's mistakes, "especially in turning foreign policy into a machine that promoted private interests, and in making an unrealistic and unsustainable foreign policy that focused solely on Thai domination..."

Amsterdam's ghost bloggers don't want to credit 2Bangkok?

August 3, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam



(Source: RobertAmsterdam.com)

Amsterdam's ghost bloggers don't want to credit 2Bangkok? – August 3, 2010 We posted this photo for the first time on Saturday (July 31). We just noted that the <u>ghost bloggers</u> for Robert Amsterdam posted it on their <u>Thailand blog</u> August 2, but without any photo credit or link...

The image on 2B is <u>here</u>.

Update: The <u>blog post has been updated</u> with a photo credit for 2Bangkok.

Thailand becomes Asia's second bull market on foreign buying

August 3, 2010 Categories: Economy

<u>Thailand becomes Asia's second bull market on foreign buying</u> – BusinessWeek, August 3, 2010 Thailand's stocks became the second in Asia to enter a bull market this year as the end of deadly political protests and rising corporate earnings encourage overseas investors to return...

Travel warnings: Thaksin's lawyer misuses Aussie alert

August 4, 2010 Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Travel warnings: Thaksin's lawyer misuses Aussie alert</u> – phuketwan.com, August 4, 2010

Stop biting neighborhood dogs or dogs living the same house

August 4, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager





From Manager, August 4, 2010

Left: Deputy PM Suthep Tuagsuban is saying to the dogs: Stop barking... stop biting neighborhood dogs or dogs living the same house.

The caption on the left reads: This is hard.

Left: Deputy PM Suthep Tuagsuban is saying to the men (who are the leaders of the government coalition parties): Stop blaming friends inside and outside the parliament.

The caption on the right reads: This is harder.

Bangkok's Art Museum

August 5, 2010

Categories: Art, Buildings



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok's Art Museum – August 5, 2010

Above:

Museum visitors viewing Somsak Raksuwan's Pull Game

Right:

Chatchaval Khonkajee's We are 'the zip'

The art museum is actually three stories of gallery space on top of four stories of coffee shops. There does not appear to be any permanent exhibits at this point.

Museum website



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Management shake-up for the BACC - Bangkok Post, July 23, 2009

Artists demand that the BMA cede control of the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre to an independent foundation...

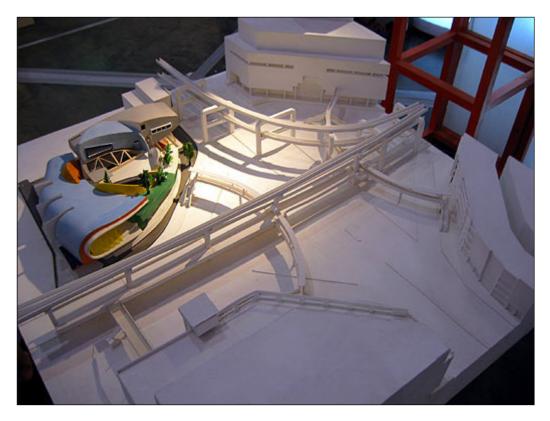
Arts centre will open with a bang, but what then? - The Nation, June 21, 2008

<u>Art</u>

centre to open at end of 2006 – The Nation,

July 5, 2005

..."The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration will launch the Bt438-million Bangkok Art & Culture Centre on July 28 at Benjasiri Park on Sukhumvit Road with a series of activities related to art and culture," Bangkok Governor Apirak Kosayodhin announced yesterday at the city hall. ...The governor said the new centre is planned to open in December 2006 to celebrate His Majesty the King's 80th birthday. The BMA has decided to stick with the model designed by the architectural firm Robert G Boughey & Associates, which won the bid when Bhichit Rattakul was governor seven years ago...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Visions of Bangkok from Architect 2004 Above

is a model of a design for the Bangkok Art Museum.

Apirak

<u>vows to complete arts centre</u> – *The Nation*,

February 3, 2005

Bangkok Governor Apirak Kosayodhin yesterday vowed to complete construction of the capital's arts centre by December next year – in time for His Majesty the King's 80th birthday...

Fortuitous

omen for city arts centre – The Nation, November 09, 2004

...The inspired idea of creating a city arts centre at the bustling Pathumwan intersection, where contemporary art, popular culture and consumerism converge, has been long in the pipeline. The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), under the guidance of Governor Apirak Kosayodhin, should be commended for giving priority to this on-again-off-again project and getting things moving early in his tenure. The city has already approved the project, which will now cost an estimated Bt504 million, compared to an earlier projection of Bt300 million. According to the BMA, the central government is expected to absorb 70 per cent of the costs, while the city will cough up the rest. ... The city has decided to stick with the design submitted by architectural

firm Robert G Boughey & Associates, which also designed SCB Park on Ratchayothin Road. According to the plans, the 11-storey arts centre will have total floor space of 23,203 square metres...

Briefing

held at city hall fails to attract new bidders for contract –

The Bangkok Post, September 25, 2002

Quotes and proposed building designs must be submitted by Nov 26....
The joint venture said small changes would be made to their successful design which included 30,000 square metres of utility space and parking for 800 cars _ to better suit the criteria set by the city administration. The design allocated 16,000sq/m for the art gallery and the rest for commercial use. The height of the original design was reported to violate the building act.

Controversial

<u>design gets city hall nod</u> – *The Bangkok Post*, April 26, 2002 The shopping center/art museum is approved.

Website to promote original museum plan – April 19, 2002

Anyone know the address of the website

in question?: The Network for Contemporary Arts Museum will open a website to detail alleged irregularities behind the BMA's decision to provide a concession to a private company to build and operate the museum, said the network's secretary-general, Jumpol Apisuk.... "This is very weird. The ground to seventh floor will be a parking lot while the museum will be on the eighth floor. This is not a museum but a car-park building," Wasant said. (Details

of alleged irregularities in revised project to be exposed online, The Nation, April 19, 2002)

What happened to our art museum? – March 28, 2002

From a Bangkok Post article on an upcoming exhibit to support an art museum in Bangkok: The concept of the museum was conceived by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) under governor Pichit Rattakul to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of His Majesty the King's accession to the throne in 1996. The architectural design was approved, the construction bid process completed, and the foundation stone laid on May 7, 2000. And yet everything has come to a standstill with the arrival of new BMA governor Samak Sundaravej, who felt that the BMA did not have enough money to finance the project, despite the fact that his predecessor had already allocated a budget for it. Governor Samak reviewed the project, turning it around into a long-term concession, which would allow the private sector to invest in, and profit from, the construction of a shopping centre and car-park.

Four companies to bid for Bangkok art center – Bangkok Post, February 6, 2002 Charnchai Panasutthikarn, deputy chief of the Social Welfare Department, said the four were Design and Development, Ruam Nakhon Construction, Infinite Engineering and Construction, and Wora Nithat.

They were among 17 companies eligible for the original bidding on Nov 5 which was cancelled because no bidders turned up amid protests by artists opposed to the project....

The winning bidder would develop the 2.3 rai of land opposite Mahboon-krong shopping mall and allocate half of the usable area, with a minimum of 16,000sqm, for an art gallery, parking lots, library and a museum administration office....

Jumpol Aphisuk, of the Artists Network for Bangkok Metropolitan Art Centre, warned would-be developers about uncertainties surrounding the project, as the group was about to file a complaint with the Administrative Court.

The artist network accused the city administration, under Governor Samak Sundaravej, of irregularities in favouring private investors by altering the museum's original design to a shopping mall-style museum. (excerpted from the Bangkok Post, February 6, 2002)

Singha, race cars, and Thai drivers

August 5, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Singha, race cars, and Thai drivers – August 5, 2010

The banner reads: Learning true experience from a professional team – with only one driving school with curriculum guaranteed by the Royal Automobile Association of Thailand, under royal patronage

Over 1 mln dollars offered to Thai opposition MPs for defecting

August 5, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

Over 1 mln dollars offered to Thai opposition MPs for defecting – Thailandnews.net, August 5, 2010

Leading opposition Pheu Thai Party key member Colonel Apiwan Wiriyachai Thursday confirmed reports that some 50 million baht (1.55 million U.S. dollars) have been offered to some Pheu Thai lawmakers to defect from the party, the Thai News Agency (TNA) reported.

Colonel Apiwan said some 20 million baht (622,280 U.S. dollars) are for defecting Pheu Thai lawmakers.

However, he did not disclose to whom the 50 million baht has been offered in the Pheu Thai Party.

"The party does not stop the party's lawmakers from defecting to join other political parties. The move is on a voluntary basis," the Pheu Thai Party's key figure said.

In a related development, the Nation online Wednesday quoted a source from the major coalition Bhum Jai Thai Party as saying the party has expected many lawmakers from other political parties to join it ahead of the next general election.

Lawmakers from opposition Pheu Thai and Pracharaj, as well as coalition parties such as Ruam Chart Pattana, Chart Thai Pattana, and Puea Pandin, are likely to join the Bhum Jai Thai Party, the source said.

Their defection will help boost the number of the Bhum Jai Thai Party's lawmakers from 32 at present to 56, the source said.

Thai opposition regroups

August 6, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Thai opposition regroups</u> – Reuters, August 6, 2010

On a stage in a muddy soccer field in Thailand's rural heartlands, an opposition leader declared to thousands he would bring back toppled premier Thaksin Shinawatra from exile if his party is voted back into power...

Thailand's Minister of Transport is a true Thai politician

August 6, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

<u>Thailand's Minister of Transport is a true Thai politician</u> – etn, August 6, 2010

...However, the Minister of Transport does not seem to agree completely on both Mr Vejjajiva and Mr Amranand's vision of business at Thai Airways. Mr. Zarum comes indeed from a different political party than Mr. Abhisit, and this party has obviously other priorities. Mr Zamrun's party is under the influence of Thai politician Newin Chudchob. According to local newspapers and even some sources at Thai Airways, Mr. Chudchob is "keener" on Thai AirAsia, which could lose out some business from renewed competition by Thai Airways In 2009, Newin Chudchob acquired a soccer club in Isaan and he concluded then with TAA a deal to transport the fans of the club in Bangkok at discount prices.

So far, both Prime Minister and Ministry of Finances have been supportive of Thai Airways decision to ink the deal with Tiger Airways, forcing Mr. Zarum to make a spectacular u-turn and to acknowledge that he would not meddle into Thai Airways' decision as it was already to late. Mr Zamrun declared also that he does not want to be accused of political collusion. But Mr Zarum's first reaction shows once again that he obviously belongs to Thailand old politicians cast. The one, which thinks that its own interest has a higher priority than the general public interest...

Travel to Bangkok by rail from Penang

August 7, 2010

Categories: Old photos and films



(Photo: undated postcard)

Travel to Bangkok by rail from Penang – August 7, 2010

Caption on the postcard reads: Marketing – Land and Water – Travel to Bangkok by Rail from Penang – Bangkok, Siam – "Staterails" Series F 8 – Gravure Braun & Cie, Paris

Rival Graffiti

August 7, 2010 Categories: Local Beliefs



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Rivals – August 7, 2010 The blue graffiti reads: 18 February 2010 Thaivichitsilp Mafia The yellow graffiti is a word for penis, meant as an insult or curse

Siam Cement Group and the MRT

August 7, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons









(Source: Manager, August 7, 2010)

From *Manager*, August 7, 2010 Left: Mr. Karn... where is he going?

Middle left: He went down to the spot that they are running the MRT project

Middle right: Why does he go there? – To pressure against...

Right: That those people expropriate the large piece of land... must use our cement product ... our architect

for design... must use our product for material

Abhisit-nokkhio

August 7, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics



From Manager/ASTV Weekend Edition, August 7-13, 2010

The red word that is crossed out reads: Abhisit-Thattha

The blue word underneath reads: Abhi-nokkhio

The red word under the magnifying glass reads: Thailand that is missing

Ghost Story Performance

August 8, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Horror show – August 8, 2010

The billboard reads: Koh Tee Cafe on stage – 6 Ways Crossroads – Cafe on stage, Koh Tee 6 Ways Crossroads – on stage 17-18 July, 2010 at Royal Paragon Hall, Siam Paragon – ticket price, 2,000/1,500/1,200/900 baht – Tickets available today at Thai ticketing, every branch

Road safety

August 8, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Safe transportation, happiness in society – check your car before using roads – check yourself before driving – Transport Ministry – 2010, the year of safety

Popeye encourages children to eat more vegetables, claims study

August 8, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Popeye encourages children to eat more vegetables, claims study</u> – Telegraph, August 8, 2010Professor Chutima Sirikulchayanonta, who led the research at Mahidol University in Bangkok, said: "We got the children planting vegetable seeds, taking part in fruit and vegetable tasting parties, cooking vegetable soup, and watching Popeye cartoons..."

Beware of the Newin Pipe!

August 8, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 8, 2010

The sign at the far right reads: Pheu Thai Party

The man on the left is saying: Beware of that pipe. Four of our MPs walked pass and they were pulled inside and disappeared!!!

The man at right is saying: The shape of the intake looks awry and accustomed

Thailand Anxious: Adam Kahane

August 8, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

<u>Thailand Anxious: Adam Kahane</u> – Straits Times, August, 2010

...He said, "I get the feeling in Thailand, that people believe themselves to be in violent and dangerous disagreement. What surprises me is not the disagreement because I'm used to being in places where people disagree. What surprises me is the Thais consider their disagreement so unusual and so difficult to deal with..."

London cabbies 'world's friendliest'

August 9, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

London cabbies 'world's friendliest' - Times of Malta, August 9, 2010

...Based on a number of categories, including cleanliness and quality of driving, the top 10 list of best cities for taxis saw New York in second place, followed by Tokyo, Berlin and Bangkok...

Rice yields falling under global warming

August 9, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Rice yields falling under global warming – BBC, August 9, 2010

...The group of mainly US-based scientists studied records from 227 farms in six important rice-producing countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, India and China...

Pattaya looks to Iran for next tourist invasion

August 9, 2010

Categories: Pattaya, Tourism

Pattaya looks to Iran for next tourist invasion - Thailandnews.net, August 9, 2010

^{...&}quot;Firstly, they are rich," said TAT Pattaya director Niti Kongrut, explaining his Iranian offensive.
"Secondly, they are sanctioned by Europe and the US because of their nuclear program, so we see this as a good chance to welcome them..."

Have a safe trip, with concern from the Central Traffic Police

August 9, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Have a safe trip, with concern from the Central Traffic Police – traffic problem, please inform – Tel. 02-222-0497, 02-223-8206 or 1197 – Police Colonel Veeravit Vachanapukka, Police superintendent 1 (inspection) Traffic Police – Tel. 081-616-8558 – Police Major Prasobchoke Eiumpinit, Police inspector 5, Traffic Police Division 1 – Tel. 081-353-4152

Phetkasem tops Bangkok's list of most deadly roads

August 10, 2010

Categories: Highways and Roads

<u>Phetkasem tops Bangkok's list of most deadly roads</u> – *Bangkok Post*, August 10, 2010*About one person is killed in a road accident in Bangkok every day on average and most of the fatalities involve motorcycles and pedestrians, city police said...*

Wichean as National Police Chief

August 10, 2010

Categories: Thai Police



From Komchadluek, August 10, 2010

The headline reads: PM's promotion achieved – Time for police reform – Resolution reached – Wichean as National Police Chief – to work immediately after royal endorsement – Friends and subordinates send welcome greetings – "Mark" presided over the board of National Police for 15 minutes – The resolution reached by 8:0 – "Wichean" as new National Police Chief revealing to work immediately after royal endorsement – "Priewpan" in discouragement ends the petition against the Supreme Administrative Court – The path to the stars – Wichean Potpohsri – page 14

All about Thai whiskey

August 10, 2010 Categories: Food and Drink

All about Thai whiskey - HubPages, August, 2010

The World's Best Countries

August 10, 2010 Categories: Thailand in the International Media

<u>The World's Best Countries</u> – *Newsweek*, August, 2010 Thailand is 58...

Bangkok Downtown upscale Ratchadamri Road's last plot sold

August 10, 2010

Categories: Property and Development

Bangkok Downtown upscale Ratchadamri Road's last plot sold – Sunday Sun, August, 2010 Views over the Royal Bangkok Sports Club from Ratchadamri Road Scene of some of the fiercest fighting in May's bloody crackdown and home to some of Bangkok's finest establishments, including hotels the Hyatt Erawan and Four Seasons and the soon to be completed St Regis Residences, Ratchadamri Road in the centre of Bangkok, is set for a new six-star entrant...

The Cambodian has seized the 4,000 NGV buses already

August 11, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, August 11, 2010

The man on the left is saying: Dear Prime Minister... the Cambodian has seized the conflicted land of 4.6 square kilometers already!

The man on the right is saying: Dear Prime Minister... the Cambodian has seized the 4,000 NGV buses already!

The caption at the bottom reads: Cambodia is in every direction

Do you think Mark dare to send troops to take back area the 4.6 square kilometers of land?

August 11, 2010

Categories: Uncategorized



(Source: From Manager, August 11, 2010)

From Manager, August 11, 2010

In the cartoon, Hun Sen says: Ki ... Ramba ... Do you think Mark dare to send troops to take back area the 4.6 square kilometers of land?

The word inside the black box reads: Hun Sen must ask the experienced

Far from Bangkok, rebel Red Shirts prepare for a comeback

August 11, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Far from Bangkok, rebel Red Shirts prepare for a comeback – The Irish Times, August 11, 2010 ... "When you push people down, they come back violently," he warns. At the rally in a vast warehouse here last week, thousands of supporters pledged to fight back. "The struggle won't end until the government allows free elections and listens to us," said one, who identified herself as Dao. "We're showing today that we'll still alive..."

Police General Wichean Potpohsri is new man appointed for the National Police chief position

August 11, 2010 Categories: Thai Police



From Daily News, August 11, 2010

The headline reads: Police Cadet Alumni 28 altogether greets "Wichean" who is taking the position of National Police Chief. The resolution passed unanimously, passed for royal endorsement – The expected name remain unchanged – Police General Wichean Potpohsri is new man appointed for the National Police chief position. The National Police board voted 8:0 in resolution after his name was proposed by PM – "Abhisit" is presenting his name for royal endorsement further to be official appointed as 7th National Police Chief

Cars contain more than 3 passengers can use the public vehicle lane

August 12, 2010

Categories: Buses, Mass Transit



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Cars contain more than 3 passengers can use the public vehicle lane – First BRT route – Sathorn-Ratchapruek ready – under trial

Net Worth: Bootleg DVDs appear ridiculously lost in translation

August 12, 2010 Categories: Humor

Net Worth: Bootleg DVDs appear ridiculously lost in translation – Lawrence Journal-World, August 12, 2010

You never know what an illegally made video from Thailand might contain...

Thailand's perfect solution

August 12, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Thailand's perfect solution</u> – SMH, August 12, 2010

...So Thailand's Finance Minister, Korn Chatikavanij, has come up with a very big idea, albeit a simple one – raise workers' salaries. "What's the cost to the country to significantly increase this minimum wage?" he posits during our recent interview.

In Bangkok, this is a shocking notion. There's a lot at stake, and not just for Thailand. A defining factor in Asia's economic success so far has been a cheap and docile labour force...

Is it the end for the Mekong giant catfish?

August 12, 2010 Categories: Wildlife and Nature

<u>Is it the end for the Mekong giant catfish?</u> – KI, August 12, 2010

Thai activists call for treatment for hepatitis C for people with HIV

August 13, 2010 Categories: Health

<u>Thai activists call for treatment for hepatitis C for people with HIV</u> – *Aidsmap*, August 13, 2010 ... While Thailand boasts a universal health care system that claims healthcare for all without discrimination, people living with HIV who are co-infected with HCV, notably current or former drug injectors, face unique barriers to effective treatment, notes the author...

Thai Airways confirms order for seven A330s

August 13, 2010 Categories: Business

<u>Thai Airways confirms order for seven A330s</u> – The Aero-News Network, August 13, 2010 Formalizes Commitment Made At Farnborough Air Show Thai Airways International (THAI) has finalized a purchase agreement with Airbus for the firm order of seven A330-300s...

Airport Rail Link Website

August 13, 2010

Categories: Mass Transit

Airport Rail Link – August, 2010

Nice notes: I hope you manage to go for a free trial ride at the Suvarnabhumi Airport Link train before the 23/08/2010 (this is when the services opens officially and they started to charge people for using it). This is the website of the State Railway of Thailand Suvarnabhumi Airport Link.

Thailand sets a poor example to Burma

August 13, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

Thailand sets a poor example to Burma – Huffington Post, August, 2010

...Thus far, President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton have failed to utter a single word about the destruction of democracy in Thailand, while the US House of Representatives passed a bland resolution praising the government's fraudulent "reconciliation" plan. Having failed to do anything to stop Thailand's transformation into a rogue regime, it is time that the US government re-assess its stance and use its leverage to persuade the authorities in Bangkok to end emergency rule, end the systematic repression of opposition voices, and eventually hold elections. While history has shown repeatedly just how important Southeast Asia is to the United States' national interest, letting the Thai regime get away with murder further threatens to compromise regional peace and stability. What is more, a little pressure might go a long way towards promoting democratic values in a country where democracy is now in a state of complete disrepair.

Art Deco Thailand – Preserve Them!

August 14, 2010 Categories: Buildings

Art Deco Thailand - Preserve Them! - Facebook, August, 2010

Siriwat writes: I am a great fan of your 2bangkok.com site. I have been visiting it nearly everyday since i was sixteen, the days the most of the posts on your site were all about infrastructure such as skytrain and motorway.

Anyhow, I have recently set up a group on facebook.com — <u>'Art Deco Thailand — Preserve Them'</u> — I would suspect that many of your readers might also be interested in joining the group and contribute much to the preservations of there 'rare' buildings in Thailand. The styles, I presume, was popular when most of Thai people didn't have much, so only a few of them were build and nowadays forgotten. I do hope that they will not be lost forever since there are so many careless people with authority in this country. I would be so kind if you could post a link to the group from your website.

Leicester bought by Thai-led consortium

August 14, 2010 Categories: Sports

<u>Leicester bought by Thai-led consortium</u> – USA Today, August, 2010

Thais must have equal opportunity – Ministry of Finance

August 14, 2010 Categories: Signs and Billboards



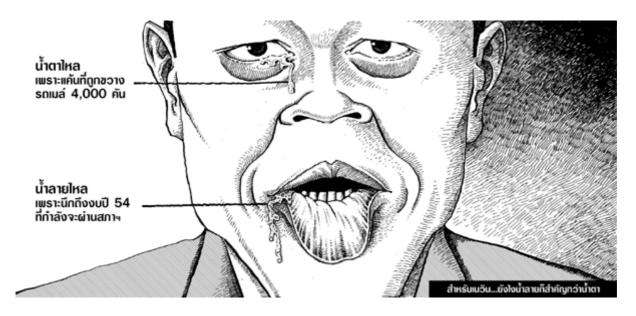
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Thais must have equal opportunity – Ministry of Finance

Newin's Tears and Drool

August 16, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 16, 2010

Top left: Tears coming out because of being begrudged by the pause in the 4,000 public bus project. Bottom left: Drool is running because of the thought that the 2011 budget is going to be passed by the cabinet

At the bottom it reads: For Newin, the drool is anyhow more important than the tear.

Trampling the dead... slandering the injured...

August 16, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thai Rath, cartoon by Zia, August 16, 2010

The tied up man is saying: Trampling the dead... slandering the injured... the order man still has his graceful face ... the killer is still not arrested

On the tombstone: UDD

The papers in the grave read: Applying the terrorist charge – Applying the arson charge- Applying the murderer charge in 90 deaths – Applying the charge of sabotage

The word on the man's back: CRES – The Center of Resolutions for Emergency Situations

The word close to three men watching read: Justice – Human Rights Watch – Media

The tiny boy at lower right is holding a sign that reads: Tragedy

At top right, a puppeteer's hand representing the Privy Council again insinuates that all of this is being overseen, if not planned, at very high levels.

Hard Core Reds Invade Cambodia

August 16, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 16, 2010

Hun Sen is pointing to fugitive Red Shirt leaders hiding out in Cambodia and saying: That's it, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, the evidence that Thais invade Cambodia.

The words in the caption at the bottom read: Suspicion of the state of being unable to escape Thailand

2 opposition activists escape to Thailand

August 16, 2010 Categories: Cambodia

2 opposition activists escape to Thailand – Radio Free Asia, August 16, 2010

...On 11 August, the Phnom Penh cops arrested a suspect and confiscated leaflets criticizing the government leaders, accusing these leaders' cooperation led to the lost of Cambodian territories to Vietnam...

Dancing Thai police star in new YouTube video

August 17, 2010 Categories: Humor, Thai Police

<u>Dancing Thai police star in new YouTube video</u> – AP, August 17, 2010

Miss Thailand Universe 2010 poses garners criticisms; Takes anger out on Facebook

August 17, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

<u>Miss Thailand Universe 2010 poses garners criticisms; Takes anger out on Facebook</u> – *dirtii-laundry.net*, August 17, 2010

North's most wanted found in Bangkok bar

August 17, 2010 Categories: Crime

North's most wanted found in Bangkok bar – Sunday Sun, August, 2010 Hoolahan was tracked down by the Sunday Sun to the Thai capital of Bangkok where he has been living since fleeing justice more than 10 years ago...

The slave who is honestly loyal

August 18, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, Cartoon by Zia, August 18, 2010

The cartoon headline at top: The slave who is honestly loyal

The road sign reads: The intersection of putting blame for the dead and slandering the living

The letters on the man's coat—DSI—refers to the Department of Special Investigations. The DSI is a special law enforcement agency set up to enforce and prosecute a number of crimes, but in this case is being used to take action against Red Shirt agitators as the regular police were ineffective or unwilling to do so.

The paper on the ground reads: Responds to politicians

The tiny man at bottom right holds a sign that reads: Blood thirsty

At top right, a puppeteer's hand representing the Privy Council again insinuates that all of this is being overseen, if not planned, at very high levels. The words above the arrow read "Soi Dao Mountain" referring to claims of illegal land holdings of Privy Council members.

Feeding the Budget

August 18, 2010 Categories: Editorial Cartoons



(Source: Khaosod, August 18, 2010)

From Khaosod, August 18, 2010

The word under the Prime Minister owl reads: Budget

Asia Times editor killed by bargirl in Hua Hin

August 18, 2010 Categories: Crime

Asia Times editor killed by bargirl in Hua Hin – phuketwan, August 18, 2010

Thai girl in Britain 'to bed 600 punters to pay off her debt'

August 18, 2010 Categories: Crime

Thai girl in Britain 'to bed 600 punters to pay off her debt' – sify, August, 2010

Meet the most trusted person in Thailand

August 19, 2010

Categories: Crime, Malaysia

Pornthip: It wasn't suicide - AsiaOne, August 19, 2010

Thai forensic pathologist Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand reiterated that pathology findings showed that political aide Teoh Beng Hock did not commit suicide...

Meet the most trusted person in Thailand – Malaysia Today, August 20, 2010

While minister in the prime minister's department Nazri Aziz had once called Thai forensic expert Dr Pornthip Rojanasunan a "liar", a Reader's Digest survey published earlier this year found that Pornthip was the most trusted individual in all of Thailand...

Thailand: Leniency on Thaksin a relief for foreign investors

August 19, 2010

Categories: Economy, Red Shirt Protest 2010

Thailand: leniency on Thaksin a relief for foreign investors – FT, August 19, 2010

... The Thai authorities' decision shows rare restraint towards Thaksin. The self-exiled former prime minister is the only politician to have been prosecuted for corruption in the last four years – and he has been done twice, first for allowing his now ex-wife Potjaman to bid for government property and then for profiting from his office...

Why do so many ignore official travel warnings?

August 19, 2010 Categories: Tourism

Why do so many ignore official travel warnings? – SMH, August, 2010

... A spokesman for the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Pongsak Kanittanon, says: "One can assume that Australians don't pay a whole lot of attention to DFAT advisories..."

Do not get drunk yet brother

August 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



(Source: Khaosod, August 20, 2010)

From Khaosod, August 20, 2010

The words at top: Do not get drunk yet brother The words above the glass: Card to reduce debt

Nils suggests: Had to think about this for a while, but I think the meaning is as follows: Note that Abhisit is drawn as a (short-haired) woman or katoey. He offers the man (= the poor people of Thailand) his populist debt relief drug. Thus, being drunk (with the monetary benefits from this program), they don't realize Abhisit's (alleged) true nature. The warning in the headline ("Do not get drunk yet brother") refers to this.

As for the man's eyes, I am not sure – he could either be not drunk yet, suddenly realizing that the person he's been flirting with is actually not a woman, so it is an expression of shock. Or the artist simply tried to indicate the man is indeed already drunk from Abhisit's policies – but this would slightly conflict with the headline.

Does this make sense?

Thank you for every vote

August 20, 2010 Categories: Elections



Left: The poster reads: Democrat Party – Urai Anantasin – MP Ornanong Kanchanachusak – Thank you for every vote, we will return with our work

(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The person who has a "mouth" as a weapon

August 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



(Source: *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Zia, August 20, 2010)

From Thai Rath, Cartoon by Zia, August 20, 2010

The cartoon title is: The person who has a "mouth" as a weapon

The man at top left is saying: Is this "Mr. Bout," extradited weapon trafficker that Thailand will hand into the United States?

The other man is saying: No, but this is "Mr. Wallpaper," the stubborn offender that we ask you to take on the plane and leave at sea!



(Source: heraldsun.com.au)

Bangkok bounces back

August 21, 2010 Categories: Economy

Bangkok bounces back - Malaysia Star, August 21, 2010

..."Only four items? There are no 'Sale' signs, so how would anyone know?" I queried.
"The prices are displayed clearly and Chanel customers immediately know these are discounted as they are, ahem, lower than what they expect to pay," replied the languid one...

Thailand bull-market stocks rally to double on consumption, Kasikorn says

August 21, 2010 Categories: Economy

<u>Thailand bull-market stocks rally to double on consumption, Kasikorn says</u> – Bloomberg, August, 2010 ... "The coalition government is expected to stay in power until next year after surviving the political unrest with strengthened public support," said Kavee. "That should encourage foreigners to return to the market as politics is their biggest concern..."

Nana has facelift to stay young

August 22, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Nana has facelift to stay young - Bangkok Post, August 22, 2010

...A tall foreigner, who some of the bar girls called "boss", has been directing workers at the construction site.

He was reluctant to talk, as was a Thai manager of the construction firm doing the work...

Miss Mexico is Miss Universe 2010

August 23, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Miss Mexico is Miss Universe 2010 – The Nation, August 23, 2010

Jimena Navarrete, 22, of Mexico was crowned Miss Universe 2010 on Tuesday in Las Vegas, Nevada, the U.S. Australia's Jesinta Campbell took the title of Miss Congeniality, while Thailand's Fonthip Watcharatrakul was named Miss Photogenic and won for Best National Costume...

Financier from Thailand's boom years goes on trial

August 23, 2010 Categories: Crime

Financier from Thailand's boom years goes on trial — EARTHtimes.org, August 23, 2010 ...In addition, Saxena faces up to 20 counts of fraud and embezzlement in the BBC case. Among the charges he faces is that he embezzled 1.6 billion baht (82 million dollars) from the BBC through a fraudulent loan to Citi Trading Company, a Saxena proxy firm. Thai authorities have traced about 65 million dollars in offshore bank accounts belonging to Saxena, including 4 million dollars in Britain, 6.4 million dollars in bank accounts on the island of Guernsey, a British dependency, and 54 million dollars in accounts in Switzerland...

Dreams of Being Prime Minister

August 23, 2010

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



(Source: Manager, August 23, 2010)

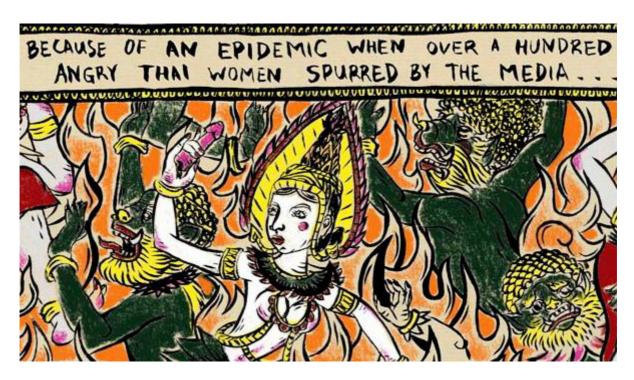
Dreams -

from *Manager*, August 23, 2010 At the top of the chair: Prime Minister

The caption at the bottom reads: The dream of Lerm begins to face an obstacle

Thai "Castration epidemic"

August 23, 2010 Categories: Crime



(Source: feed-ariyana.com)

<u>Thai "Castration epidemic"</u> – August, 2010 The artist has a misunderstanding of the definition of "castration."



Drinking alcoholic drink = wasting labor

August 23, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Drinking alcoholic drink = wasting labor – Stop drinking alcoholic drink in this coming Buddhist Lent period – by Thai Health Organization

Red Shirt Human Shield Baby

August 24, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



Above: The caption reads: Our children deserve better

Red Shirt human shield baby on Christian Children's Fund flyer - August, 2010



The flyer reads: Why do adults do something like this? – Report from witnesses of the event – Dr. Kanchada Piriyarangsan, CCF Foundation Director – from the clash zone in Pratunam area – "When I walked to the clash zone in Pratunam area to survey the impact of the situation on children who are under patronage of the foundation, it was a shocking experience that I cannot easily forget. The carcass of the burnt car and dark smoke that covered the area, the traces of the M79 bomb and bullets were clear. The thing that most disturbed my mind is fear of the children who faced the nightmare clash and their frank question that "Why do adult do something like this? Why were people killed?" as citizens of the country. We need to show them that there is better way than this...

You guys choose by yourselves... which side you want?

August 24, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



(Source: Manager, August 24, 2010)

From Manager, August 24, 2010

Prime Minister Abhisit is saying: You guys choose by yourselves... which side you want? The caption at the bottom right: The problem solving in the style of Victor Bout, to be radically neutral

Populist Policy – Bhumjaithai Party – Happy Society

August 24, 2010 Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Altogether protect the institute – Amnesty – Bringing the city back to peace – Populist policy – Bhumjaithai Party – Happy society

Bt63 billion expansion of Suvarnabhumi Airport approved: Sophon

August 24, 2010

Categories: Airports and Airlines

Bt63 billion expansion of Suvarnabhumi Airport approved: Sophon – The Nation, August 24, 2010

Cambodia informs Thailand that "Maew" resigns from his economic advisor position

August 25, 2010

Categories: Cambodia, Red Shirt Protest 2010



From Komchadluek, August 25, 2010

The headlines read: Thailand reinstates ambassador to Phnom Penh – Cambodia changes to depose Maew from economic advisor position stating a personal problem involved – Cambodia informs Thailand that "Maew" resigns from his economic advisor position, revealing the deposition behind the scene involves the loss of the Red Shirts, no expectation for dragging the case further – Meanwhile Abhisit announces to reinstate the relationship – Kasit reinstates ambassador to Phnom Penh, to meet three Thais in Siem Reap on August 26

Thai Stocks: Will they ever fall?

August 25, 2010 Categories: Economy

Thai Stocks: Will they ever fall? - Daily Markets, August, 2010

The Thai stock market has finished higher now in 12 straight sessions, collecting more than 50 points or 6 percent en route to a fresh 26-month closing high...

1893 – The River Menam was forced by the French ships

August 26, 2010

Categories: Old photos and films



(Source: The Graphic, August 26, 1893)

Above: From *The Graphic*, August 26, 1893 – The caption reads: "The River Menam was forced by the French ships *L'Inconstant* and *Comete*, and a sharp engagement took place off the Lower Fort, at Paknam. The Siamese torpedoes were exploded freely in the channel, but without damaging the French ships. Three French sailors and about fifty of the Siamese in the forts were killed."

<u>The Franco-Siamese War</u> – Wikipedia

Drink and drive - Sleeping forever - No waking up

August 26, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Drink and drive - Sleeping forever - No waking up - No way to escape - with concern from the Interior Ministry - Mr. Chavarat Charnweerakul, Interior Minister

Japanese Died Here

August 26, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, Cartoon by Zia, August 26, 2010

The caption at top reads: Japanese died here

The street sign in the background reads: Kok Wua Intersection

The event of laying flowers at the spot was recently conducted by a Japanese representative.

At bottom left the sign being held reads: Here people have died too.

The mouse says: Thai PM neither knows nor sees

The figure on the far right has a box on its head that reads: Neither know nor see

On the figure's robe it reads: Order to disperse the people

The countries with the biggest 'shadow economies'

August 26, 2010

Categories: Crime, Economy

The countries with the biggest 'shadow economies' – Business Week, August, 2010

No. 7 Biggest Shadow Economy: Thailand Percent of GDP in Shadow Economy: 57.2

Official GDP: \$538.6 billion

Arisman's Two Escapes

August 27, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons





(Source: Manager, August 27, 2010)

From Manager, August 27, 2010

Left: The sign on the building reads: SC Park Hotel

The caption reads: Ki's first show

Right: The sign on the building reads: City Angkor Hotel

The caption reads: ...possibly another round soon

Bout says MP asked how to take down Thaksin plane

August 28, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

Bout says MP asked how to take down Thaksin plane – The Nation, August 28, 2010

Secret prison for Viktor Bout? - Voice of Russia, August 26, 2010

<u>Viktor Bout Won't Go to Trial</u> – robertamsterdam.com, August 27, 2010

Her whirlwind life was one big binge

August 28, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Her whirlwind life was one big binge – NY Post, August 28, 2010

...But rather than launch a lucrative career in her two passions, modeling and photography, Nicole John—the foxy, flirty, 17-year-old daughter of the US ambassador to Thailand—plunged to her death in Midtown after a final night of extreme partying.

John had a butler at her disposal. She traveled on a whim, and hobnobbed with the most influential people in the world with her diplomat dad and strikingly gorgeous Korean-born mother, a chef and linguist...

Bangkok City and District Council Election – Part 4

August 29, 2010 Categories: Elections

Thai elections main page

August 29 elections for Bangkok city and district council members – 2010 Page 4

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Democrat Party – Please vote Bangkok Council member candidate No. 1 Bangrak district – P Larbprathana – close service – accustomed like a cousin – Bangkok district representative Number 1-7 – Sun 29 August 2010

The sign reads: Why? to choose –

Kawee Na Lampang and MP team of the Pheu Thai



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



The sign at left reads: Meet the sincere man – Please vote for Chavalit Tiendet, candidate for Bangkok Counc member Number 1, to be Bangkok council member for Dindaeng district – 29 August, the card for Bangkok Council member is with green strip, cross X for one number

The sign at right reads: Bangkok Council member number 4 – Bangkok – Acknowledge and change – Bangk council member 15-21 – New Politics Party – honest, devoted, brave and skilled



The sign reads: Democrat – Please vote Chatuchak area 1 for Bangkok Council candidate – Yothin Saduakch Number 3 – Yothin Paoin- 29 August 2010 8.00-15.00 o'clock

Yes, we can! – August, 2010

The sign reads: Democrat Party – Yes, we can – Please vote Pussadee Wongkamhaeng number 1 to be Bangkok council member for Ratchathewi district – Thanawit, Wichean, Jirapion, Nimit, Assawin, Anand, Sunan – Please vote Bangkok district representatives for Ratchathewi district, the whole team, Sunday 29 September 2010, 8.00-15.00 o' clock



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com

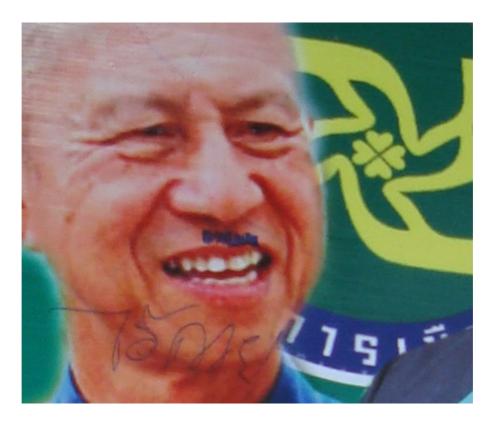


The sign reads: Corruption or transparency? – The government is Democrat – The governor from the Democrat – Pheu Thai asks for Bangkok Council members and Bangkok district representatives for checking on behalf the Bangkok people – Pheu Thai



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The New Politics Party – I consider and found that the Bangkok Council and Bangkok distric representative for Dindaeng district to be honest, devoted, brave and skilled. Please gives opportunity for candidates to serve for Dindaeng people – Team led by leaders opposing the destruction of Dindaeng Flats, please vote Dindaeng district representative – Number 15 to 21, the whole team



The graffiti reads: Fuck you



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The Democrat Party – Please vote Prasit Raksalam – 1 – the whole team 8-14

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Thai elections main page

Bangkok City and District Council Election – Part 2

August 29, 2010 Categories: Elections

Thai elections main page

August 29 elections for Bangkok city and district council members – 2010 Page 2

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The Democrat Party – we are ready for hard work for the Bangkorlaem villagers – please vot Bangkok Council representative – 3 – Bangkorlaem district – "Soodkanung", "Niramon", "Sawaeng", "Chair "Prasong", "Samitha", "Yuppadee" – number 1-7 – Sunday 29 August 2010 Time 8.00-15.00 o' clock



The sign reads: The Democrat Party – please vote Bangkok Council representative for Yannawa District – Amornthep Setapram – 2 – local man knows the area, creating work – Sunday, 29 August 2010, Time 8.00-1: o' clock – Please vote Bangkok district representative of Yannawa district, the whole team – Number 1-7 – L man knows the area, creating work – Sunday 29 August 2010 Time 8.00-15.00 o' clock



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: New Politics Party – Bangkok – acknowledge – then – change – the Bangkok Council member and date of Phyathai district number 8-14 – Suchart Viriyanuharbong – Honest – devoted – brave and know how to work – Sunday 29 August 2010, enter election booth X for the whole team



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party – it is time to change our Ban Tawaii – choose new man and energetic man – choose Pheu Thai team, the whole team – vote for Bangkok Council representative of Yanawa district – Naro Kongpanya, No. 3 – Sunday 29 August 2010 – Kasem, Patarawarin, Chadaporn, Noraset, Pisith, Suteera, Uppatham – Please vote Bangkok district representative of Yannawa district – Numbers 8-14, the whole team



The sign reads: The Democrat Party – Ekkasak – Wattana – Supot – Sompong – Thammanoon – Uthai – Som – Please vote Bangkok district representative of Yannawa district – Numbers 1-7 – local man knows the area, creating work – Sunday 29 August 2010 Time 8.00-15.00 o' clock



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The signs reads:

Puea Thai – I and my team ask for the opportunity to change the Bangkolaem district to be better – 1 – please vote Bangkok Council representative Jutrhapetch (Moo) Jintasophon – "Chayodom", "Udomlak", "Chanin", "Chanisara", "Mongkol", "Kanchana", "Sikawas" – Please vote Bangkok district representative 15 to 20 – Sunday 29 August 2010 Time 8.00-15.00 o clock



The sign reads: Bangkok acknowledges – then change – New Politics Party – honest, devoted, brave, and known to work



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The Democrat Party – Please vote Bangkok Council representative number 1 – Bangrak distr Pipat Larbprathana – Bangkok district representative number 1 to 7, the whole team



The sign reads: The Democrat Party – work from the past – improve roads and drainage – Pipat Larbprathana Bangkok Council representative number 1 – Bangkok district representative number 1 to 7, the whole team



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok elections

The sign reads: Bangkok Council representative number 4 – Peerayan Laddaklom – Knows Bangkok and – Bangkok district representative numbers 15-21, the whole team – New Politics Party – honest – devoted – bra – skilled

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Thai elections main page

Bangkok City and District Council Election – Part 3

August 29, 2010 Categories: Elections

Thai elections main page

August 29 elections for Bangkok city and district council members – 2010 Page 3

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Bangkok elections

The sign reads: The Democrat Party – Please vote Bangkok Council representative number 1 – Bangrak distr Pipat Larbprathana – Bangkok district representative number 1 to 7, the whole team National Children Day y 2010 – 8 January 2010 at Kaew Chaem Fah Temple



The sign reads: The Democrat Party – acknowledge the problem – coordinate with the governor – develop Phyatha – Bangkok Council member" – please vote – Peerapon



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Walking Bangkok, walking Thailand – Sitthiwat Cheeravinit (Kaew) – Bangkok council men candidate of Dindaeng district – Bangkok district representative 1-7 (the whole team)



The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party – Pheu Thai, for Thailand's future – asking opportunity for team – Kawee Na Lampang – Puea Thai for our Phyathai people – Bangkok council member Kawee Na Lampang number – 3 – Bangkok representative number 1 to 7 – Sunday 29 August 2010 – vote for the whole team



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Pheu Thai – Please vote Anong Petchtad – X No. 3 – to be *BMA Council member* of Dindaen district

Narongsak Sithiprom – Orapin Petchtad (Kai) – Jarupak Limtong – Karnsab Raviya (Lek) – Bancha Suthin – Somsak Tungboon – Vichien Rangsart (Jah)

Please vote no. 8-14 – the local people – working people – sincere people – easy to utilize people – as Bangk district MP for the whole team – Dindaeng district... government city officials – needs someone who take calclosely – give a chance and everyone vote again



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Democrat Party – Please vote Phyathai district representative – Number 15 to 21 – fast – patient – know the tasks – Sunday August 29, 2010

The sign reads: Pheu Thai Party – Kawee Na Lampang and Pheu Thai Party team – checking – debate against – collusion in 16 projects valued at 20 thousand million baht – until Apirak Kosayothin has to order halt to the project



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com



(Photo: Nils)

The sign reads: Democrats –

Advance Bangkok, advance Thailand –

Prawit Phromthong –

Candidate for BMA City Council, Huai Khwang District –

District Council no. 1-7 (elect the whole team)



(Photo: Nils)

The sign reads: Pheu Thai: A worker –

Pradermchai Boonchuailuea

Candidate for BMA City Council, no. 1 – Local problems are a matter that is close to me – If you want to go sure*, use "people who know the tasks" – Please vote for city councilor and district councilors as one team



(Photo: Nils)

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Thai elections main page

Bangkok City and District Council Election – Part 1

August 29, 2010 Categories: Elections

Thai elections main page

Page 1

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(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Two defaced Democrat Party campaign posters



Left: The sign reads: Moving ahead Bangkok, moving ahead Thailand – Sithiwat Cheeravinit (Khaew) – Bangkok council candidate of Dindaeng district – Vote for number 1-7 (the whole team)

The sign pasted on Abhisit's face reads: Pathumwanaram temple 6 dead

The spray-painted words: 91 dead bodies

(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Right: The sign reads: New Politics Party – Sathorn District – Please vote 1 – Mrs. Kannika

(Areesaman) Witchulada – (Bangkok Council candidate) Chulalongkorn, Faculty of Education, BA – Bangkok acknowledges and changes – Bangkok district representative candidate 15-21 – Honest, devoted, brave, team working



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Democrat Party – Please vote Bangkok Council candidate Tawatchai Pinonthaya no.2 – Satho district – please exercise your right on 29 August 2010



The sign reads: News Politics Party – honest, devoted, brave and skilled – Come out come out!! – \$\Section \text{the old politics}\$ – asking for chance to begin – new politics – new Bangkok – 29 August 2010 vote Bangkok Council candidate and Bangkok district representative candidate the whole team – Bangkok acknowledge and change



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Corruption involving with 16 projects – Solving traffic problem – Bangkok people to lose opportunity – Pheu Thai asks for Bangkok council candidate and Bangkok district representative to check on behalf of Bangkok people – Pheu Thai Party



The sign reads: Spending more than 7 billion – Trash full everywhere in town – Dirty smelling water – Mosquitoes everywhere in the city – Pheu Thai asks for Bangkok council candidate and Bangkok district representative to check on behalf of Bangkok people – Pheu Thai Party



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Spending more than 4 billion the flood occurs every time it rains – Pheu Thai asks for Bangko council candidate and Bangkok district representative to check on behalf of Bangkok people – Pheu Thai Par



The sign reads: Pheu Thai – Choose the new generation to develop Sathorn – BRT traffic jam—is this the presented work? Bangkok Council candidate 3 – Bangkok district representative the whole team 1 to 7 – Pair Piwanrai – Chaiyod, Sawaeng, Supachai, Punnapat, Thanomsin, Bandit, Charn



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: New Politics Party – Sathorn District – Please vote 1 – Mrs. Kannika (Areesaman) Witchulad (Bangkok Council candidate) Chulalongkorn, Faculty of Education, BA – Bangkok acknowledges and chang

Bangkok district representative candidate 15-21 – Honest, devoted, brave, team working



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The left sign reads: Bangkok Council candidate for Sathorn district 1 – Bangkok acknowledges and changes - Bangkok district representative 15-21 – The new politics party – honest, devoted, brave and skilled

The right sign reads: 16 year have passed, what do Sathorn people get? Are you bored? – Bangkok Council candidate 3 – Bangkok district representative number 1-7



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The New Politics Party – honest, devoted, brave and skilled – 29 August 2010, enter the boot for the whole team – Phra Nakorn district people acknowledge and change – Ratchayurh Sirayothinpakdee (Amornthep Amornrattananon) – Gather heart to exercise the right to vote for Bangkok Council member and Bangkok district representatives of the New Politics Party for Phra Nakorn district



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: No. 1 – Prapon (Toon) Netrangsee – Today moral support is a full 100%, the missing thing is your vote support – 29 August 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Change! For Bangrak – Pheu Thai Party – Piyawat – Khunawut – Kanachoke – Siwakorn – Thanawat – Sudarat – Thani – Porntiwa – Bangkok Council member No. 2 – Thani Boopawes – and team Bangkok district representative Number 8-14 – box for public opinion – Sunday 29 August 2010 8.00-15.00 o'clock



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This is a close up of the "box for public opinion" part of the above sign.

It reads: Box for the public opinion – Help get rid of the cheating people, eating (taking possession of) the cit The forest... everything is gone... get rid of them!

May you win the election

Pheu Thai please maintain goodness like the people of Satupradit love Thailand

People from Kanchanaburi want the good country to be returned... Will your whole team win?

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Thai elections main page

Thai Elections Main Page

August 29, 2010 Categories: Elections



<u>August 29, 2010 elections for Bangkok city and district council members</u>

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Constituency 6 MP election – July 20, 2010

Bangkok Governor election posters – 2009

Bangkok Governor elections – 2008 Election posters in the deep south – June 2008 Senate elections – 2008

<u>Election posters – December 2007</u>

Elections – December 2007

A few pre-election day photos – December 15, 2007

Early voting in Chiang Mai - December 15, 2007

Introducing the People Power Party – October 12, 2007

Election-related editorial cartoon and selected news items

"Elect one, get one free" – December 15, 2007

On the 2Bangkok.com YouTube channel: Election posters

Elections – July, 2006

Senate elections – 2006

Elections – April 2006

Election posters – 2006

For more background on the 2006 elections see High Tension in Thailand

General election – 2005

Bangkok Governor election – 2004

<u>Articles on the 2004 Bangkok Governor campaign</u>

<u>The Bangkok Governor candidates</u>

<u>Bangkok Governor polls</u>

<u>Photoshoppers parody the campaign posters</u>

How I wish Malaysia had such a pathologist

August 29, 2010

Categories: Crime, Malaysia

<u>How I wish Malaysia had such a pathologist</u> – Free Malaysia Today, August 29, 2010 From Lawrence Sii, via e-mail In Malaysia, we have lots of big-mouth politicians but suffer a dearth of professionals like Ms Pornthrip, the real and precious chilli-padi of Thailand...

Bangkok's 'cigarette police'

August 29, 2010 Categories: Scams

Bangkok's 'cigarette police' – Bangkok Post, August 29, 2010

...Commonly known as the "cigarette police", the BMA's inspectors, known in Thai as thetsakij, appear to ignore most of the city's litterbugs—a look down any of Bangkok's main roads will reveal piles of garbage—and only catch foreign tourists who drop cigarette butts.

Even the Spectrum team was harassed by the thetsakij as they gathered evidence and conducted interviews with people who had been caught and fined for littering.

In fact, the author if this story had a brush with the thetsakij outside Benjasiri Park—one of the many downtown areas they operate in—which could only be described as an act of intimidation and harassment...

Red's seminar attendance kept to 500

August 29, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Red's seminar attendance kept to 500 - The Nation, August 29, 2010

...Jatuporn claimed a "special power" was interfering with the government, Parliament and courts of justice. He alleged the government had been ordered to massacre the people. He also claimed some MPs had siphoned taxpayers' money to buy MPs so they would defect to their parties. He claimed two Samut Prakan MPs accepted Bt80 million to defect from their party...

Joran van der Sloot faces more legal battles: Sex trafficking charges in Thailand

August 29, 2010 Categories: Crime

Joran van der Sloot faces more legal battles: Sex trafficking charges in Thailand – Examiner, August, 2010

Thailand's youth troubles

August 29, 2010

Categories: Culture and Society

<u>Thailand's youth troubles</u> – New York Times News Service, August 29, 2010

...Fighting between young people is so common here that the police are called about 10 times a day, said Chalerm Phuttaisong, a police officer, who lists alcohol, gambling, teenage sex and a general disrespect for the law as the village's main problems...

Wolfhound 'sniffs out' ten contraband cell phones in less than thirty minutes in Thailand high security prison

August 29, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

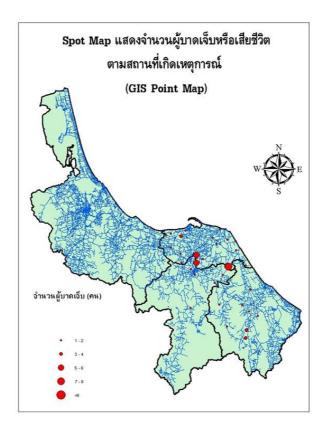
Wolfhound 'sniffs out' ten contraband cell phones in less than thirty minutes in Thailand high security prison – redOrbit, August 29, 2010

... Safeguarding this maximum-security prison is considered especially critical to correction officials due to the nature of the population ranging from convicted murders and major narcotics dealers to high-level members of the 'red shirt' protesters...

Southern Violence Statistics – August 2010

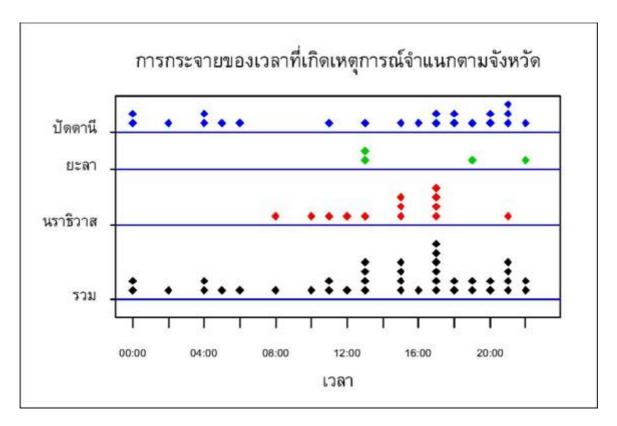
August 30, 2010

Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics

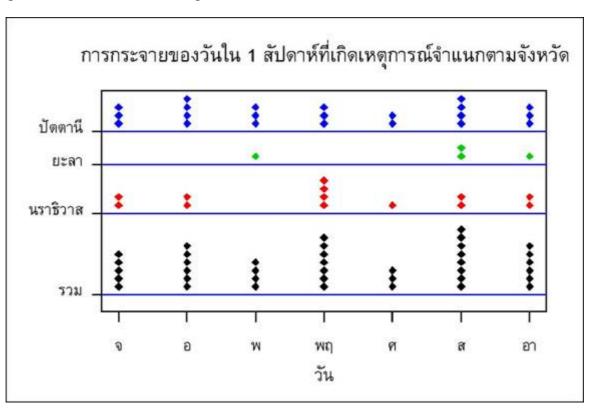


Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the injured by location.

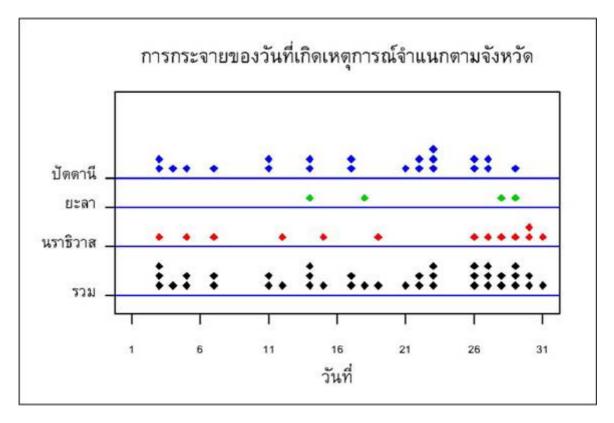
Southern Violence Statistics – August 2010 Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South



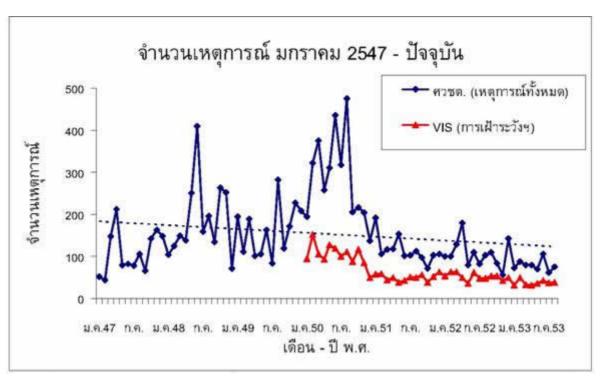
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



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

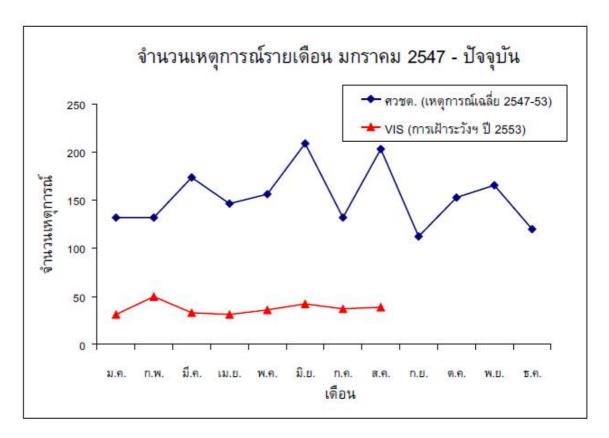


This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black

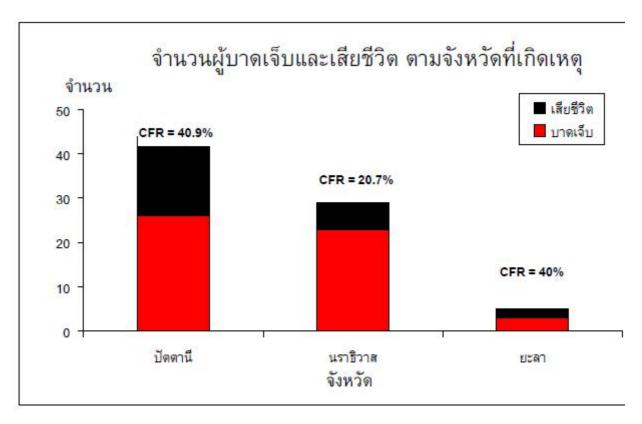


Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009, 2553 is 2010).

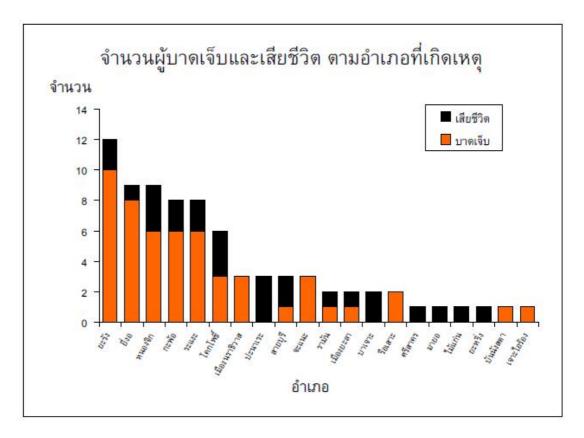
The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data accord Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are supposed to fill out t violent incidents).



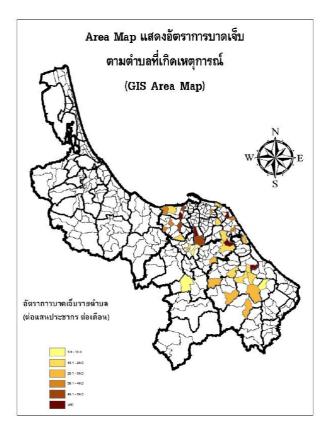
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The rec shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-a the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from January to December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



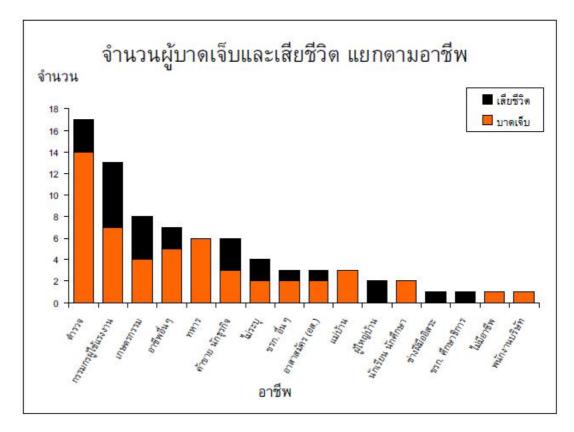
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, red=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is each bar.



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



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



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, red=injured. From left to right: Police, laborers, agriculture, others, soldiers, merchants and businessmen, unidentific officials, defense guard volunteers, housewives, village chief, students and college students, self-emplo craftsmen, Education Ministry officials, non-employed, company employees

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

Thai government to issue how-to guide for parents aimed at curbing kids gambling on soccer

August 30, 2010

Categories: Crime, Sports

<u>Thai government to issue how-to guide for parents aimed at curbing kids gambling on soccer</u> – *Times & Transcript*, August 30, 2010

The Thai government is publishing a new series of parenting brochures that instructs families how to keep their children from gambling on soccer matches, after kids as young as 7 were found betting on the World Cup...

Thailand: bad records on forced disappearance

August 30, 2010 Categories: Human Rights

<u>Thailand: bad records on forced disappearance</u> – *The Nation*, August 30, 2010

Beng Hock inquest video transcript

August 30, 2010

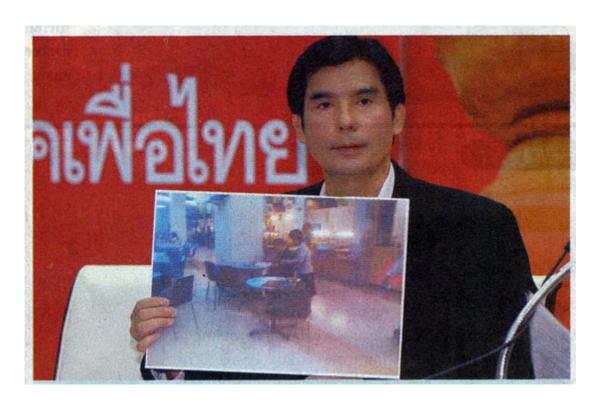
Categories: Crime, Malaysia

Beng Hock inquest video transcript – Aliran Online, August 30, 2010 The lawyer for the MACC questions Thai pathologist Dr Pornthip during the inquest into the sudden death of DAP aide Teoh Beng Hock.

Constitutional Court Collusion with Democrats Claim

August 30, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: Komchadluek, August 30, 2010)

The caption reads: Evidence revelation – Pheu Thai Spokesperson Prompong Nopparit shows photos claimed to be the event when Constitutional Court officials brought documents related to the Democrat Party dissolution to Nonthaburi MP Tossapol Pengsom, member of the team to fight the party dissolution case, on August 29th, 2010.

Grenade attack on Channel 11

August 31, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Terrorism



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Grenade attack on Channel 11 – August 31, 2010

A few scenes from the aftermath of the attack on government TV channel 11.

A grenade, apparently launched from Don Muang Tollway, came down through a tree and damaged a car in the parking lot.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thai baht is back in vogue

August 31, 2010 Categories: Economy

<u>Thai baht is back in vogue</u> – WSJ, August 31, 2010 The Thai baht, one of Asia's worst-performing currencies in the decade after the 1997-1998 Asian crisis, is making a comeback...

Health experts warn of 'stem cell tourism' dangers

August 31, 2010 Categories: Health

<u>Health experts warn of 'stem cell tourism' dangers</u> – *MSNBC*, August 31, 2010 ...In another case, they said, a 46-year-old woman was treated in Thailand for the autoimmune disease lupus. She later developed kidney failure and died from sepsis...

Thai teacher caught caning students

August 31, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News

Thai teacher caught caning students – UKPA, August 31, 2010

Paris Hilton's arrest in Las Vegas

August 31, 2010 Categories: 2Bangkok News



Paris Hilton – August 31, 2010

The front page of Komchadleuk, August 30, 2010 noting Paris Hilton's arrest in Las Vegas. There is no escape from news about Paris Hilton-even in Thailand.

The temple dogs get a new friend

August 31, 2010 Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 31, 2010

The dog at far left: This one is accustomed.

The other dog: The one that often takes photograph with the Prime Minister.

The caption at bottom left reads: The temple dogs get a new friend