

Parliament design competition: Stately settings

March 2, 2010

Categories: Buildings

[Parliament design competition: Stately settings](#) – TAN, March 2, 2010

Muaythai as Olympic sport

March 3, 2010

Categories: Sports

Muaythai as Olympic sport – March 3, 2010

From a press release: *His Excellency General Pichitr Kullavanijaya, Privy Councillor to HM the King and President of the WMC Advisory Board and General Chettha Thanajaro, President of the WMC would like to respectfully invite you to the Muaythai Towards the Olympics presentation.*

Where: Bu-Nga Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Radisson SAS Hotel, Rama 9 Rd.

When: 10th March 2010 @ 13.00 – 16.00

...2006 was a very important year for muaythai as it was voted by overwhelming majority into the world sport community (GAISF/SportAccord) and now sits on the same table as sports such as football (FIFA), basketball (FIBA) and so on.

Muaythai also has been included into the upcoming Beijing SportAccord Combat games under patronage of the IOC.

[The World Muaythai Council \(WMC\)](#), established under the directive of the Royal Thai government and the International Federation of Muaythai Amateur (IFMA), have joined forces together with their 125 member countries to take muaythai to the highest level, the IOC.

The principles of the Olympic movement are to blend education, physical activity and culture, all of which are present in muaythai.

To take muaythai to the IOC, a campaign will be launched in the motherland of the sport, which must be jointly supported by both governmental and private sectors...

Wanted poster for ousted Thai PM Thaksin Shinawatra spurs high bidding on Ebay

March 3, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

[Wanted poster for ousted Thai PM Thaksin Shinawatra spurs high bidding on Ebay](#) – *Xomba*, March 3, 2010

[More on the wanted poster for Thaksin](#) – *thai-blogs.com*, March 5, 2010

More on the [odd ebay auction](#) for a small Thaksin poster.

Politics, scandal fuel purge of Pattaya police ranks

March 4, 2010

Categories: Thai Police

[Politics, scandal fuel purge of Pattaya police ranks](#) – PattayaMail.com, February 26-March 4, 2010

...He appears, though, to be a victim of the ongoing scandal over position-buying in the Royal Thai Police. Noppadon's critics claim he paid 10 million baht to leave his Chonburi Provincial Police command early to take over the Pattaya station. Noppadon denies the allegations, saying he was asked to head the Pattaya station due to his strong crime-suppression performance in Chonburi.

But even the country's highest-ranking police officials are now saying publicly that position-buying has long been practiced, with officers making deals with politicians to secure the most-lucrative jobs. Former Royal Thai Police Chief Sombat Amornwiwat told the media Feb. 18 it was 'more than certain' that police paid off politicians to secure their jobs and that the process 'can never be stopped' unless a reform plan proposed by current Democrat Party leaders is enacted...

ThaiBirding.com

March 4, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[ThaiBirding.com](#) – March 4, 2010

One Night In Bangkok? Perhaps with this ETF

March 4, 2010

Categories: Economy

[One Night In Bangkok? Perhaps with this ETF](#) – *benzinga.com*, March 4, 2010

...With GDP growth of 5% expected for the current quarter and a bullish look to the charts, THD may still hold opportunity for investors.

Dusit Poll: Lesson learned from the assets confiscation case

March 5, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

Dusit Poll: Lesson learned from the assets confiscation case – *Dusit Poll*, translated from Thai, March 5, 2010

The "Dusit Poll" team of the Suan Dusit Rajabhat University conducted an in-depth Interview with respondents who are residents in Bangkok and the metropolitan area and who are interested in the news about the asset confiscation of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. The poll relies on the random method that poll answerers are from various professions.

Two hundred and seventeen poll answerers, from February 27 to March 2, 2010 express that the “lesson”, learned from the asset confiscation case of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. are:

1. Lesson for politicians from the asset confiscation case


No.		Overview	Pro- Abhisit	Pro- Thaksin.	Pro- Abhisit and Thaksin equally	Do not like both Abhisit &Thaksin
1 1.	To respect and follow the law strictly is a must.	24.09%	33.35%	12.82%	17.39%	32.78%
2 2.	The case is an exemplified case and a lesson to politicians	21.41%	17.94%	23.08%	34.78%	9.84%
3 3.	People lose confidence in politicians	21.00%	19.23%	28.20%	8.70%	27.86%
4 4.	Politician must hold tight to being honest and having political ethics	17.40%	21.79%	10.26%	26.08%	11.47%
5 5.	The public and society must keep an eye on politicians	16.10%	7.69%	25.64%	13.05%	18.05%


The in-depth interviews reveals that those who prefer Prime Minister Abhisit view that what politicians learn from the asset confiscation case is they must respect and follow the law strictly.

Meanwhile, those who prefer ousted Prime Minister Thaksin view that the lesson that politicians learn from the confiscation case is they lose the public confidence.

The poll respondents who are equally Pro-Abhisit and Pro-Thaksin say that the case is an exemplified case and a lesson for politicians, whereas, poll respondents who dislike both Abhisit and Thaksin express the same as those who are Pro-Abhisit.

2. The lesson that Thais learn from the asset confiscation case


No..		Overview	Pro- Abhisit	Pro- Thaksin.	Pro- Abhisit and Thaksin equally	Do not like both Abhisit &Thaksin
1 1.	The case brings divisions and breaks unity	26.29%	 32.91%	16.28%	26.92%	29.03%

	among people in the nation					
2 2.	The case is a moral example to remind Thai people	23.29%	21.53%	 32.56%	13.27%	25.81%
3 3.	People should receive information and news about the case with good awareness	21.40%	16.45%	25.58%	29.05%	14.52%
4 4.	Concern/fear that violence and other security incidents will occur	19.04%	18.99%	18.60%	19.23%	19.35%
5 5.	Thais, regardless to their financial status, must comply with the laws strictly	9.98%	10.12%	6.98%	11.53%	11.29%

The in-depth interview reveals that the poll respondents who prefer Prime Minister Abhisit views that the lesson that Thais learn from the asset confiscation case brings divisions and breaks unity among people in the nation, whereas, the Pro-Thaksin poll respondents views that the case is an example to remind Thais about morality.

The poll respondents who like both Thaksin and Abhisit equally views that Thais should receive information and news about the case with good awareness, whereas the poll respondents who dislike both Abhisit and Thaksin express opinion in the same way as those who are Pro-Abhisit.

3. Regarding the asset confiscation case of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra., how does the public express their opinion towards Thaksin?

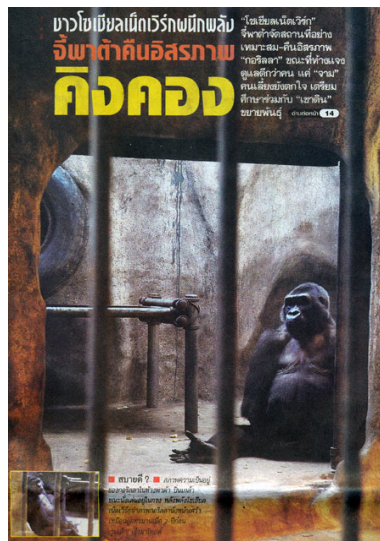
No.		Overview.	Pro-Abhisit	Pro-Thaksin.	Pro-Abhisit and Thaksin equally	Do not like both Abhisit &Thaksin
1 1.	Thaksin should accept the truth	36.98%	39.74%	19.04%	40.74%	48.38%
2 2.	Thaksin should learn that money and power are not durable	26.83%	37.19%	 21.44%	14.82%	33.89%
3 3.	The public sympathizes with the asset confiscation of Thaksin	20.16%	14.10%	30.95%	25.92%	9.67%
4 4.	Thaksin should continue to fight if he views that the judgment is unfair	16.03%	8.97%	28.57%	18.52%	8.06%

The in-depth interview reveals that the poll respondents who are Pro-Abhisit view that the benefits from the news report on the asset confiscation case is that the public gain better understanding of law, whereas, the poll respondents who are Pro-Thaksin and those who are equally like Thaksin and Abhisit view that the case is a history that people should study. The poll respondents who dislike both Abhisit and Thaksin view that the public learns about process and procedures of the court's trial.

The Pata Gorilla

March 5, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature



The Pata gorilla – *Komchadluek*, March 5, 2010

The headline reads: The Social Network people muster up – pushing ahead PATA to return freedom King Kong – The Social Network pushes PATA to prepare a proper place and to return freedom to the guerilla, whereas the department store says it take better care , adding that the guerilla’s sneezing even worried the staff and prepares to discuss with the ‘Khao din’ about reproduction – page 14

The Nation had a story about the gorilla-keeper defending the conditions the gorilla is kept in: [BUA NOI, THE GORILLA – I love the gorillas more than my children, says zoo carer](#)

Scam News from Pattaya

March 5, 2010

Categories: Pattaya, Scams

News from Pattaya

[Wily Sunisa and The Grand Property Scam in Jomtien Soi 7](#)

[Scam Alert: Condo Stealing on the Rise](#)

['The Beaches' an Ongoing Quandary](#)

Somali pirates free Thai fishing boat for ransom

March 7, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Somali pirates free Thai fishing boat for ransom](#) – *People's Daily*, March 7, 2010

... "EU NAVFOR can confirm that early this morning a Thailand flagged fishing vessel was released by pirates from the port of Heradeere after the payment of a ransom," it said in a statement without revealing the amount of the ransom...

Thailand's blue diamond heist: Still a sore point

March 7, 2010

Categories: Crime

[Thailand's blue diamond heist: Still a sore point](#) – Time, March 7, 2010

...Despite the deaths, the police tried to return the gems that weren't yet sold by Kriangkrai in an official visit to Saudi Arabia, hoping this would end the scandal. It didn't take long, however, for Saudi Arabia to claim that most of the returned goods were imitation baubles. To add insult to injury, local press reported rumors of photos of the wives of bureaucrats wearing new diamond necklaces at a charity gala, ones awfully similar to ones taken from the Saudi royalty...

Police arrest Youtuber K Thong

March 7, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Police arrest Youtuber K Thong](#) – *The Nation*, March 7, 2010

Police yesterday arrested a man whose YouTube video had warned of bomb attacks and armed struggle in Bangkok...

Khattiya was giving an interview to reporters and was about to leave the CSD compound when CSD deputy commander Colonel Sanit Mahathaworn, backed by commandos, asked to search the van, which carried a military licence plate, while acting on a tip-off that Phornwat was inside.

Phornwat was found sitting on the back row holding a newspaper up to cover his face, along with four pistols and more than 50 bullets and a knife...

Migrant worker law hits hurdle as 500,000 ‘disappear’

March 8, 2010

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[THAILAND: Migrant worker law hits hurdle as 500,000 ‘disappear’](#) – IPS, March 8, 2010

Thailand's labour ministry is on the hunt for half a million migrant workers from neighbouring Burma who have gone underground rather than join a new foreign workers' programme, one that some critics have described as a “confusing” initiative...

Drug use in Thailand increases alarmingly

March 9, 2010

Categories: Drugs

[Drug use in Thailand increases alarmingly](#) – *thai-blogs.com*, March 9, 2010

With the cheap and easy availability of yaba drugs (amphetamines), Thailand is starting to see a rapid increase of drug addicts. Helping to fuel this addiction are large numbers of young small time drug dealers who are in it for the quick financial awards. This blog is an inside look at the life of Thai drug dealers...

Phuket's big puzzle: Where are the boatpeople?

March 9, 2010

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Phuket's big puzzle: Where are the boatpeople?](#) – *Phuket Wan*, March 9, 2010

Thai boxing champion fights blindness for glory

March 10, 2010

Categories: Sports

[Thai boxing champion fights blindness for glory](#) – *China Daily*, March 10, 2010

Sujet Salee is a Thai boxing champion with an impressive fight record, but the 29-year-old also stands out among his peers for another reason: he's blind...

This revolt is brought to you by green-7 ASTV toothpaste

March 11, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

[This revolt is brought to you by green-7 ASTV toothpaste](#) – *WSJ*, March 11, 2010

In Thailand, a new political group sells a line of products to finance the 'yellow family'...

Thais, Hollywood stars go crazy for ‘super-human’ tattoos

March 11, 2010

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thais, Hollywood stars go crazy for ‘super-human’ tattoos](#) – *CNN*, March 11, 2010

Win a Bangkok trip to celebrate birthday

March 11, 2010

Categories: Tourism

[Win a Bangkok trip to celebrate birthday](#) – Times Online, March 11, 2010

...Bangkok is such a vibrant city full of contrasts, and, of course the winners may even want to explore further by visiting some of our wonderful beach resorts. But if they opt to remain just in Bangkok, I am sure they will have a wonderful time...

Jessica Simpson shocked Thai women want to be white

March 16, 2010

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Jessica Simpson shocked Thai women want to be white](#) – *dimewars.com*, March 16, 2010

Mahakan Fort News

March 16, 2010

Categories: The Mahakan Fort Community

[Mahakan Fort News](#) – Amnesty International, March 16, 2010

...In addition to being an integral piece of the architectural landscape of the Ratanakosin area, the fort is also a key site today in a community's struggle for survival. The countdown has begun: in another 17 months the people living behind the fort will be forced to leave and their homes destroyed. Where is the justice in this? And have the authorities given any thought to the dignity of the people living there?...

Corruption cases that rocked Dubai

March 19, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

[Corruption cases that rocked Dubai](#) – Kipp Report, March 2010

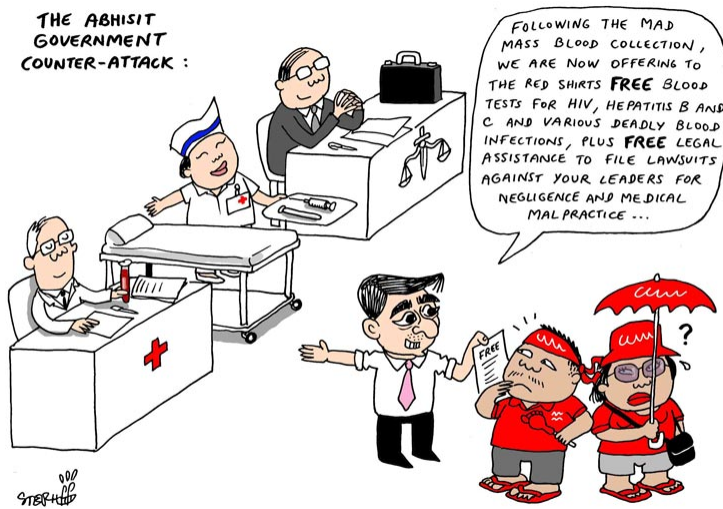
...Commenting on his decision to proceed with Smith's extradition, the judge commented that 'the UAE has expressed willingness to do favors if Thailand asks in the future,' according to a report by the Times newspaper in the UK.

The reference to 'favors' may signal a significant shift in the prospects for former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who is wanted by the Thai government and reportedly spends a considerable amount of time in Dubai...

Stephff's 2010 Red Shirt Protest series

March 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons



(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – The Nation)

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Stephff's 2010 Red Shirt Protest series

March 20, 2010

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(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – *The Nation*)

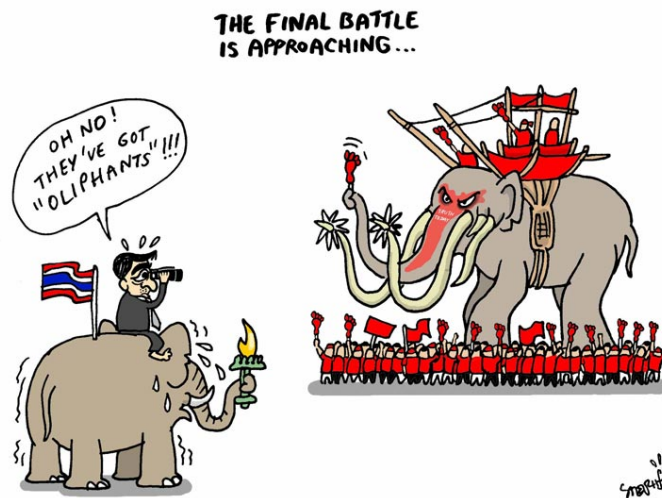
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(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – *The Nation*)

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Cartoon by Stephff

March 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons

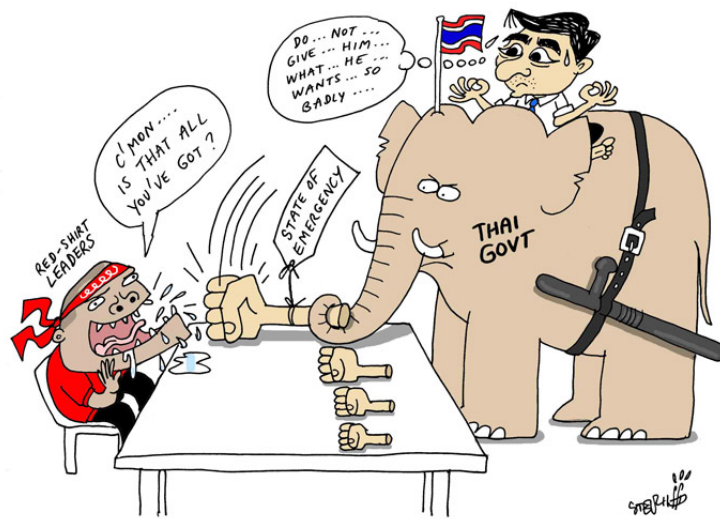


(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – The Nation)

Cartoon by Stephff

March 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons



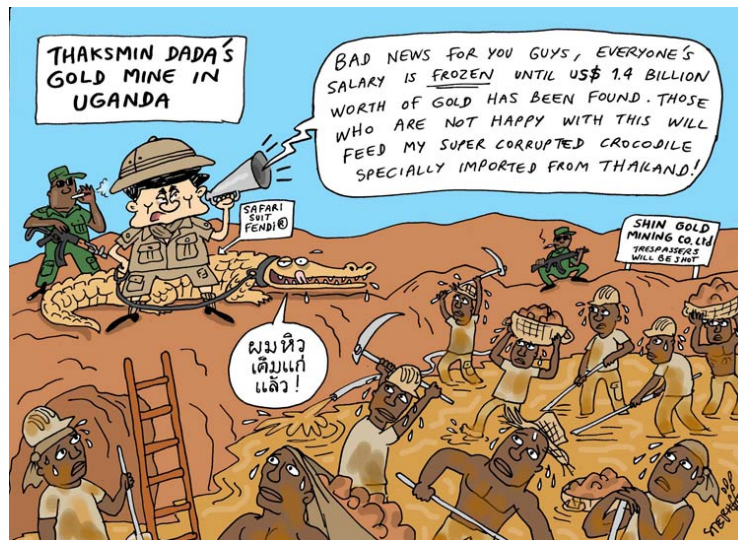
(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – *The Nation*)

Stephff's 2010 Red Shirt Protest series

March 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons

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(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – The Nation)

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Stephff's 2010 Red Shirt Protest series

March 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons

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(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – The Nation)

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Bussing in the Red Shirts

March 20, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

From March, 2010 – Red Shirts being bussed around Bangkok on the expressway

Secret oil deal between Hun Sen and Thaksin Shinawatra

March 21, 2010

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Politics

[Secret oil deal between Hun Sen and Thaksin Shinawatra](#) – Khmer Intelligence, March 21, 2010

Secret oil deal between Hun Sen and Thaksin Shinawatra (2)

In early 2006 Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen and Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra concluded a secret oil deal to personally share "under the table" a portion of royalties to be paid by oil exploitation companies. Those companies had been exploring very promising offshore oil and gas deposits in the Gulf of Thailand, including in the overlapping zones claimed by both Cambodia and Thailand.

For revenue stemming from these overlapping zones, a tentative agreement has been reached whereby:

– Revenue from zones closest to Cambodia's shores will be shared as follows: 70 percent to Cambodia; 30 percent to Thailand.

– Revenue from zones closest to Thailand's shores: 70 percent to Thailand; 30 percent to Cambodia.

However, the two prime ministers mutually agreed to mislead their respective public opinions by accepting to "recognize" that some of the zones closest to Cambodia be instead considered as closest to Thailand, and vice versa.

Therefore, in the case of Cambodia, instead of receiving 70 percent, the country would receive only 30 percent of the royalties paid by the concerned oil companies, the remaining 40 percent would be split fifty-fifty between Hun Sen and Thaksin, meaning twenty percent each for the two leaders on a personal base.

The same sharing scheme would apply to the overlapping zones closest to Thailand, with Thaksin and Hun Sen also secretly receiving 20 percent each of the royalties.

Interrelation between secret oil agreement and Preah Vihear Temple issue (2)

In order to ensure a smooth implementation of the above-exposed secret oil agreement, Thaksin promised Hun Sen to let the Cambodian government deal, as it pleases, with the Preah Vihear Temple, including registering the Temple as a World Heritage site with UNESCO.

However, Thailand's new governments following Thaksin's fall from power in late 2006, decided they were not bound by the secret and personal deal between Thaksin and Hun Sen. Border incidents started in 2008 when Hun Sen tried to exacerbate Khmer nationalistic fervor a few weeks before the July general elections in Cambodia, prompting Thailand's authorities to react by also asserting their own nationalistic stance.

Cambodian citizenship to protect and reassure "ex-foreign" investors (2)

Because Cambodia's law does not allow foreigners to own land in our country, the Hun Sen government has granted Cambodian citizenship to countless investors (from China, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan but also some European countries) who are willing to invest large amounts of money to buy land and engage in "development projects." Among the most prominent "ex-foreign" investors is Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra from Thailand who was given Khmer citizenship in March 2009. Mr. Thaksin has reportedly bought large chunks of land in Cambodia's maritime Koh Kong province bordering Thailand for economic, financial and possibly other reasons.

Army generals amass fortune from standoff with Thailand (2)

The ongoing military tension on the border between Cambodia and Thailand brings about a windfall for Army generals close to Prime Minister Hun Sen. Tens of millions of dollars have been collected every month by the corrupt military brass from systemic diversion of financial support officially intended for "soldiers fighting on the frontline to defend the Motherland." The Generals are also collecting ghost soldiers' salaries (about one third of the whole Army staff) while selling on the market food and equipment earmarked for the Army. Last but not least, illegal logging (deforestation) has resumed on a large scale since 2008 thanks to the security reasons invoked to justify the secrecy surrounding any military initiative and movement.

Another Thai-themed Nigerian scam letter

March 22, 2010
Categories: Scams

Another Thai-themed Nigerian scam letter – March 22, 2010

Text of the letter: Ref, <http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/politics/26113/suchart-69-dies-of-cancer>

Dear CEO,,,

My name is Mrs, Suchart Chaovisith wife of the former Thailand Finance minister, during the (PM Thaksins) regime who was forced out from power by the military.

In view of the recent death of my husband as you can read from the bangkokpost news website confirming his death to the public. and Thailand Government. I am very very worry over the political crises, and i have decided to contact you, to help me to move some funds to your country. as my family hope to relocate to your country and go into investment with you in your country.

My daughter or my son will call you , to know when you will fly to meet us in bangkok, for us to conclude on the futher arrangement to transfer the funds to your account in your country for safety investment reasons

My warm regards to you and your family,as i wait to read from you. Please remember to send me a text message ..

Sincerely,

Mrs ,Suchart Chaovisith,

Email:mrssuchart01@gmail.com

+ 66- 829-720- 225.

Thailand bamboo plants cultivated in Uttarakhand

March 23, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thailand bamboo plants cultivated in Uttarakhand](#) – *ANI*, March 23, 2010

Opium smokers in Siam, 1930

March 23, 2010

Categories: Drugs, Old photos and films



(Source: vintage photo)

Opium smokers – March 23, 2010

According to the handwritten caption on the back of this photo: “Opium smokers in Siam, 1930”

Tanayong to buy Bangkok Mass Transit

March 23, 2010

Categories: Mass Transit

[Tanayong to buy Bangkok Mass Transit](#) – Wall Street Journal, March 23, 2010

...The deal, if completed, will be considered as a backdoor listing by BTS, whose listing has been pushed back by almost a decade because of unfavorable economic conditions and its own complicated debt structure...

Monk charged with inappropriate touching of temple-goer

March 24, 2010

Categories: Buddhism, Crime

[Monk charged with inappropriate touching of temple-goer](#) – *Chicago Sun-Times*, March 24, 2010

...*Chaliaw Chetawan, 27, of Thailand, was charged with one count of battery, a Class A misdemeanor...*

Daimler escapes US criminal charges in foreign bribery case

March 25, 2010

Categories: Crime

[Daimler escapes US criminal charges in foreign bribery case](#) – *AFP*, March 25, 2010

...The kickbacks of cash and gifts of luxury armored cars, golf clubs and vacations helped secure government contracts worth millions of dollars in China, Russia, Thailand, Greece, Iraq and other countries...

Westerners follow Thai brides to live in hard-up northeast

March 25, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Westerners follow Thai brides to live in hard-up northeast](#) – AFP, March 25, 2010

On what the locals jokingly call “Westerners street”, Australian Justin Raines is laughing over a beer with his pregnant Thai fiancée Eve — who at 21 is half his age.

“It doesn’t matter whether you’re fat, you’re ugly, you’ve got spew hanging out of your mouth or whatever else, there’s some lady here who will want to take care of you,” Justin says with a grin...

Venerating HM The King – Promoting harmony – Thailand will be peaceful

March 26, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards, The Monarchy



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Expressway sign – March 26, 2010

The sign reads: Venerating HM The King – Promoting harmony – Thailand will be peaceful

The smaller sign at the bottom left reads: The Inspector Police 2, Commanding Unit 1, Traffic Police Division, Tel 02-252-1321

Saudi government urges citizens to leave Thailand

March 26, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Saudi government urges citizens to leave Thailand](#) – *Arab News*, March 26, 2010

High rates of midazolam injection among drug users in Bangkok

March 26, 2010

Categories: Drugs

[High rates of midazolam injection among drug users in Bangkok, Thailand](#) – *7thspace.com*, March 26, 2010

A touch of Thailand – Ottawa entrepreneur takes on the skincare giants

March 27, 2010

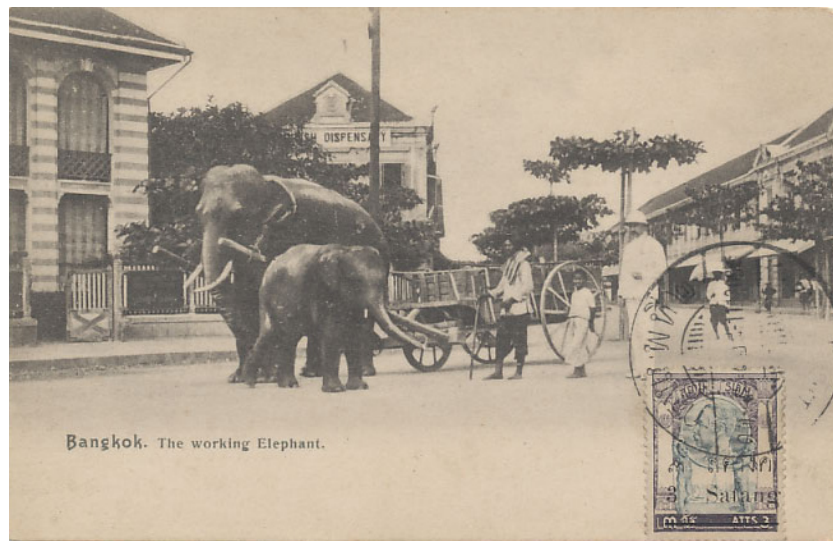
Categories: 2Bangkok News

[A touch of Thailand – Ottawa entrepreneur takes on the skincare giants](#) – *The Ottawa Citizen*, March 27, 2010

“Bangkok. The working Elephant”

March 27, 2010

Categories: Old photos and films



(Source: undated postcard)

“Bangkok. The working Elephant” – March 27, 2010

March 27, 2010
Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons

March 27, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Stephff's Cartoons



(Source: Courtesy of Stephff – *The Nation*)

Thailand's environment minister wins prestigious Getty Award for efforts to wipe out wildlife trade

March 28, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thailand's environment minister wins prestigious Getty Award for efforts to wipe out wildlife trade](#) – *World Sentinel*, March 28, 2010

...He is being honored for his efforts to eliminate illegal wildlife trade, save tigers, elephants and sea turtles, and create wildlife corridors and sanctuaries in Thailand.

The annual J. Paul Getty Award for Conservation Leadership is one of the world's most prestigious international conservation awards and includes a \$200,000 prize...

Thailand moves from greed to GREET

March 28, 2010

Categories: Tourism

[Thailand moves from greed to GREET](#) – ETN, March 28, 2010

...*GREET* booklet, an acronym for 'Go Responsible Ecotourism and Enjoy Thailand' ...

Shinawatras withdraw B1bn cash – Accounts siphoned ‘to avoid tax levy’

March 29, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Shinawatras withdraw B1bn cash – Accounts siphoned ‘to avoid tax levy’](#) – Bangkok Post, March 29, 2010

Almost one billion baht has been withdrawn from several commercial bank accounts held by the Shinawatra family since the Feb 26 Supreme Court verdict on the assets seizure case, Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij says...

Also: [Before Red Shirt rally, Thaksin children withdraw more than 10 billion baht in cash](#)

Also: [The World's Worst Daughters: Pinthongta Shinawatra](#)

Shinawatra clan withdraw 1 billion baht in cash

Bangkok Post: 29 Mar 2010

Accounts siphoned ‘to avoid tax levy’

Almost one billion baht has been withdrawn from several commercial bank accounts held by the Shinawatra family since the Feb 26 Supreme Court verdict on the assets seizure case, Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij says.

The family of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra began withdrawing their money in parcels of 10 million to 100 million baht a time after the court's Criminal Division for Holders of Political Positions ordered the state to seize 46.37 billion baht in assets owned by the family, Mr Korn said on Sunday. The state had earlier frozen 76.6 billion baht in assets.

Between 800 million baht and one billion baht has been withdrawn from the share of assets which the court had decided could be returned to the Shinawatra family.

The Revenue Department intended to freeze this money as part of a retroactive tax levy. But it might have a problem getting its hands on the money now some has been withdrawn.

The department wants the son and eldest daughter of Thaksin to pay 12 billion baht in income tax and fines.

It wants to tax Panthongtae and Pinthongta Shinawatra on proceeds from the sale of shares in Shin Corp in 2006.

Although the withdrawn money had yet to be taken out of the country, Mr Korn said, he was worried the balance left would not be enough for future confiscations.

In the end, the Revenue Department might not be able to confiscate the remaining assets of Mr Panthongtae and Ms Pinthongta because these assets were now mostly shares, jointly held with third parties who were not involved in the alleged tax evasion case, Mr Korn said.

A certain number of shares held by the two had also been sold in what could be an attempt to avoid the possible retroactive tax charge, he said.

Following the Feb 26 verdict, the government encouraged state agencies such as the Revenue Department to file civil suits to demand the Shinawatras pay for damages done to the state in relation to the same criminal case, he said.

Those agencies were still assessing the amount of damages.

No cases had been filed to date, although Mr Korn fears it may be too late for them, too.

The court ruled that Thaksin and his former wife had concealed their declarable assets and that Thaksin abused his position as premier to enrich their Shin Corp business empire.

“I’m wondering if the withdrawals are an attempt to leave the least amount of money in the accounts to avoid a future confiscation,” the minister said.

“The bank account owners have every right to withdraw their money, but will those banks be able to explain later why they did not try to withhold the money in question?”

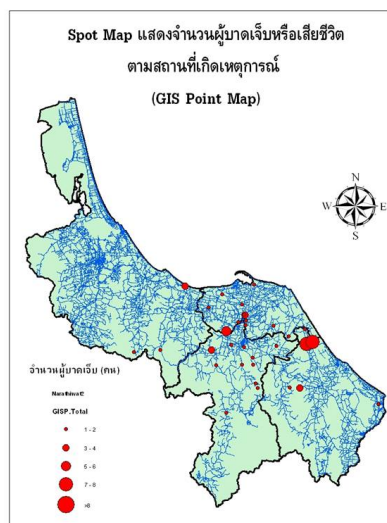
The Revenue Department had notified the banks about the bank accounts of the Shinawatra family which it was considering confiscating, Mr Korn said.

The Finance Ministry had also sent a letter to notify Mr Panthongtae and Ms Pinthongta and the concerned banks that withdrawals from those accounts could be deemed a violation of the Criminal Code, Mr Korn said.

Southern Violence Statistics – March 2010

March 30, 2010

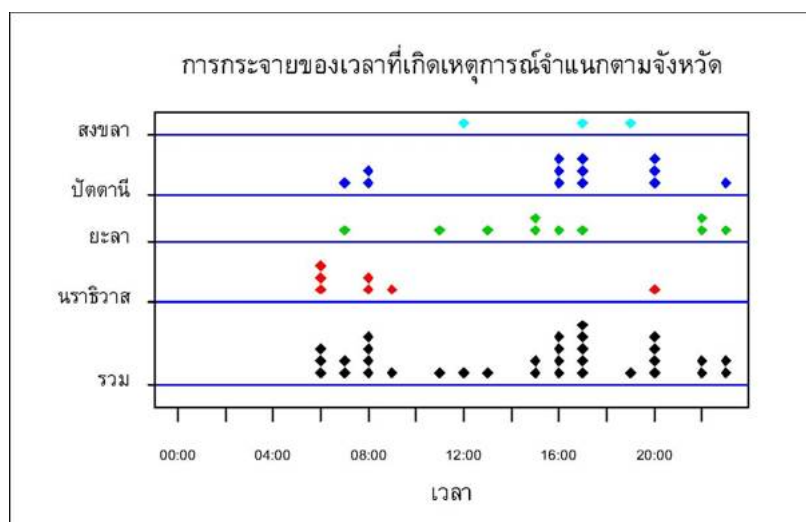
Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics



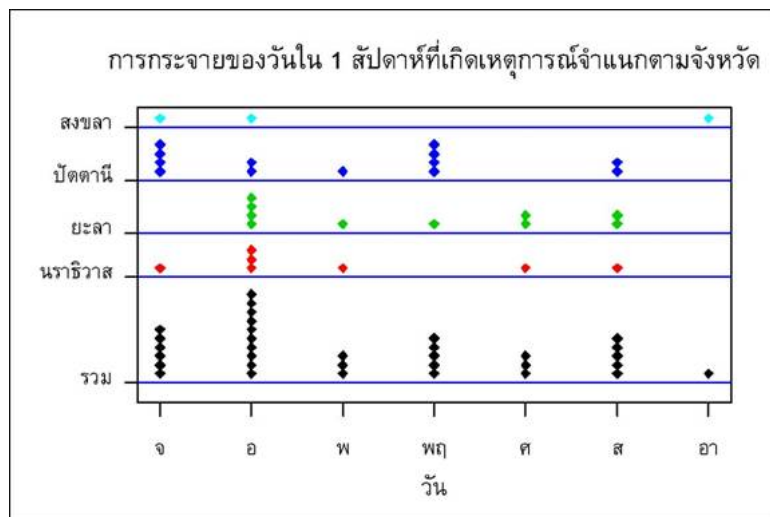
Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.

Southern Violence Statistics – March 2010

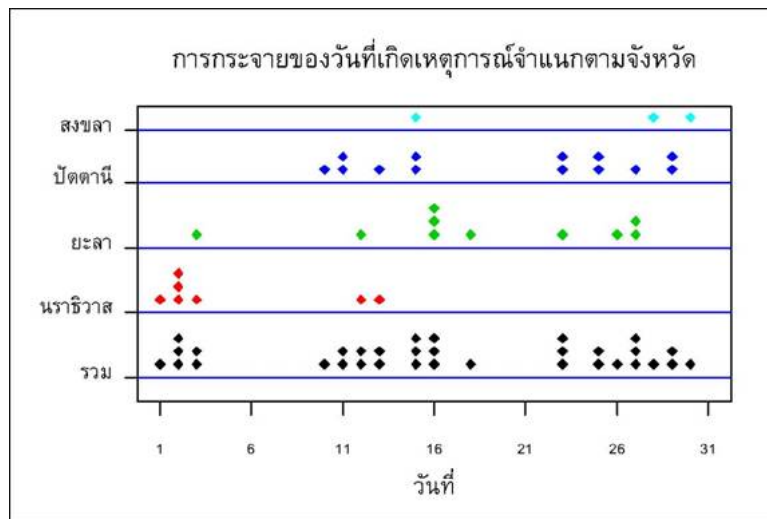
[Index of violence statistics for the Thai Deep South](#)



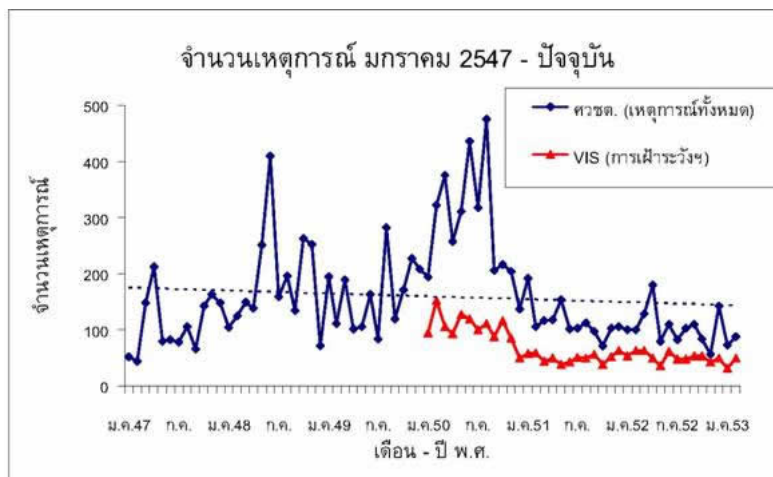
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



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

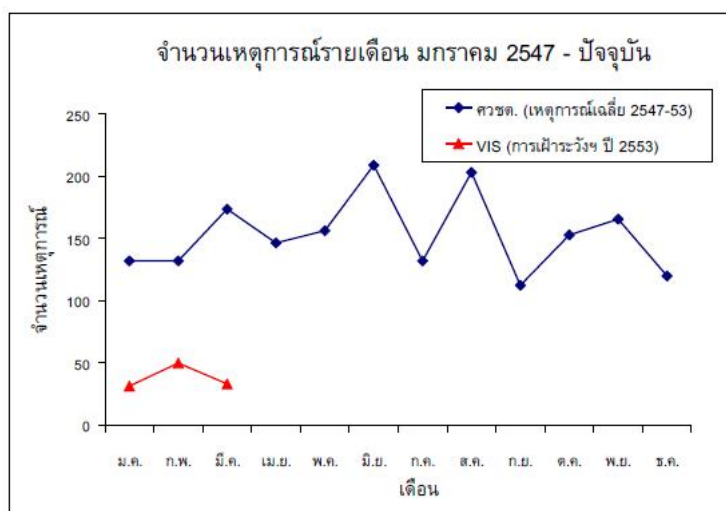


This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black

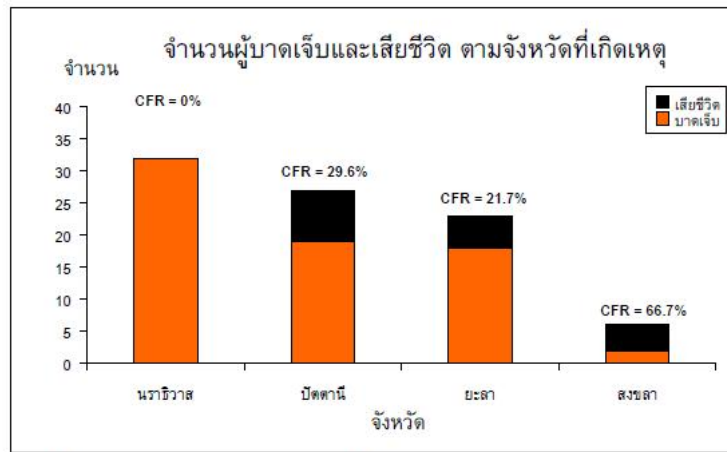


Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009, 2553 is 2010).

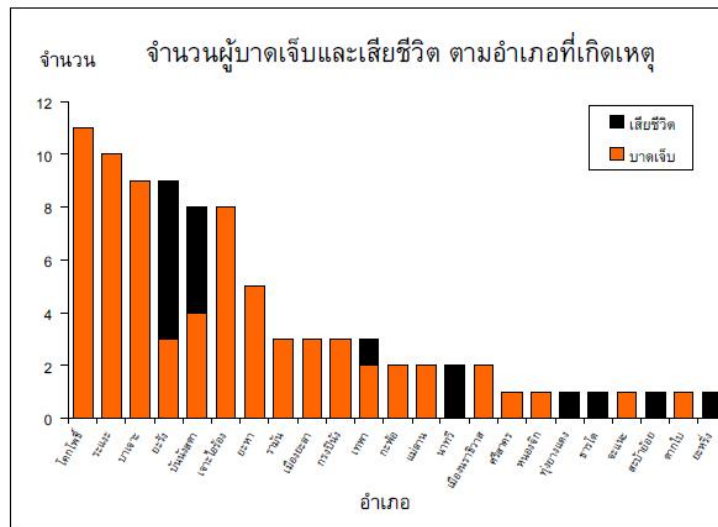
The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are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



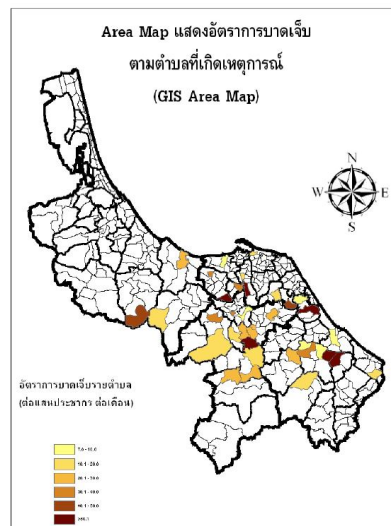
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from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



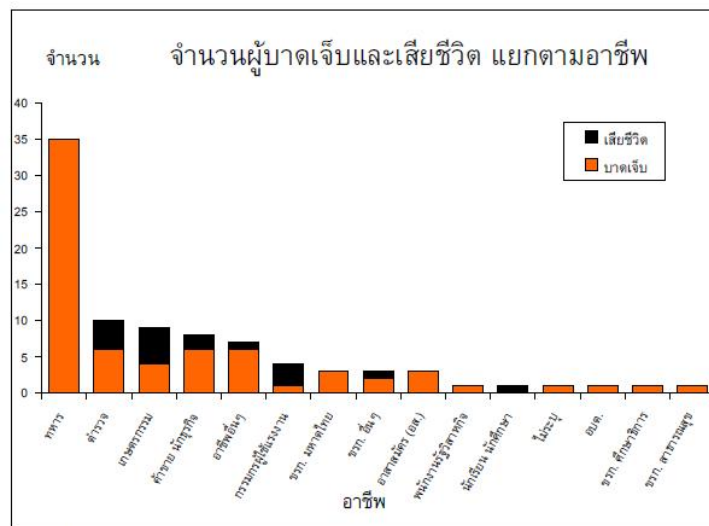
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, orange=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



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



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



The numbers of dead and injured, classified by the victims' profession. Black= dead, orange=injured.

From left to right: Soldiers, police, agriculture, merchants and businessman, others, laborers, Interior Ministry officials, other officials, defense guard volunteers, state-enterprise employees, students and college students, unknown, tambon administrative officials, Education Ministry officials, unknown, public health officials

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

Cambodia: The 30 March 1997 grenade attack

March 30, 2010

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia: The 30 March 1997 grenade attack](#) – *KI Media*, October 3, 2010

Red Shirt Protests – March 1-31, 2010

March 31, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

Also: [Red Shirt Protests 2010 main page](#)

[Thai government courts farmers at heart of protests](#) – AP, March 31, 2010

[Sweden did not ask Thaksin to leave](#) – ScandAsia.com, March 31, 2010

[Reds to resume pressure](#) – The Nation, March 31, 2010

...He said Thaksin asked him to retain the 4,000 people at the protest site for five more days, adding that the ex-leader wanted an “end game” before Chakri Day next Tuesday. “I have to postpone the Kon Rak Udon’s function until April 15. About 3,000 more people from the group will come on 100 buses and it will cost another Bt800,000,” Kwanchai said.

...Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban told a Democratic Party meeting that a roadmap had been completed for the next general elections, to be held on January 23, according to a source.

A senior military officer said the government would try to stay in power for as long as possible to be able to pass the budget bill to improve its popularity and to have a say in the annual transfers of state officials, particularly senior military officers.

In the meantime, Thaksin would “go all out and spent a lot” in a bid to force the government out of power as soon as possible in order not to allow the government an advantage in the next general elections.

[‘I’m in Russia,’ taunts Thaksin](#) – Bangkok Post, March 31, 2010

... “I tell you , I’m in Russia now,” he said, speaking via video link. “I came from Sweden. But I wasn’t kicked out of Sweden, contrary to what the Foreign Ministry said...”

[Thaksin stayed in Sweden several days](#) – ScandAsia.com, March 30, 2010

...The ministry’s spokesperson Ander Jörle declined, however, to comment on information from Thailand, that he left Sweden on Monday night after Thailand had requested Sweden to ask him to leave.

“We cannot comment on the information from Thailand,” Ander Jörle of the foreign ministry said to the Swedish daily Aftonbladet...

[Siam Samakkhi condemns Thaksin](#) – Bangkok Post, March 30, 2010

...In its statement, the group said Thaksin’s speeches with repeated mentioning of “amart” or the aristocratic elite caused the people to believe he was referring to the monarchy, not Privy Council chairman Prem Tinsulanonda.

The group said it could not tolerate such action of “a criminal convict” and called for the people throughout the country to condemn Thaksin and the network of his underlings...



From Daily News, March 30, 2010

The headline reads: UDD announces game ending – After the first meeting of the second talk, fails to reach solution



From *Komchadluek*, March 30, 2010

The headline reads: The first talk fails declares the red shirts – The 2nd meeting must end

Maew criticizes that an advance order was involved in the avoidance of a parliament dissolution – Academics say parliament is to be dissolved within 3 months

Bomb attack in front of Banharn's residence, injuring 1 bystander

Grenade attack at the Bangkok Bank – Bombing attack at phone booth in Chiang Mai

[Thaksin flies out of Sweden](#) – *The Nation*, March 30, 2010



Manager/ASTV, March 29, 2010

Left: Lighting candles in the yellow color style

Right: Lighting candles in the red color style

[Thaksin: PM insincere at talk with DAAD leaders](#) – *TAN*, March 29, 2010

[Red Shirts announce today as last day for talks](#) – *TAN*, March 29, 2010



From *Matichon Weekend*, March 19-25, 2010

The headline reads: M79 is the signal blood



From *Matichon Weekend*, March 19-25, 2010

At the bottom right of the cover is a small cartoon. The boy says: Sok lek delicious



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Thaksin thank you note in a taxi – March 26, 2010

To the right of the photo of Thaksin offering a tray of sweets it reads: Sawasdee New Year 2010 –

I would like to deliver all happiness from the far land to every Thai and thank you for your wishes for me and my family. I would like to thank you for your support in submitting the petition to HM King. I will never forget your merits for me and Thailand –

Thaksin Shinawatra

[A royalist speaks in Thailand](#) – *Asia Times*, March 24, 2010

...They must be bankrupt of ideas. And there's no leadership. These three or four guys (UDD leaders Jatuporn Promphan, Nattawut Saikua, Veera Musikhapong) use rhetoric all the time. They have no credibility. Some of the more credible figures in Thaksin's camp never came out. Chavalit disappeared. General Panlop is where? Nobody came out. I think in Chavalit's mind he knew it was a lost cause, these demonstrations. And they must have spent a fortune...

[Fantastic translations of Red Shirt head bands and banners](#) – *womenlearnthai.com*, March 22, 2010

From forum.thailandtip.de: [photos](#) and [video](#)

[B-41 shell exploded in Bangkok did not come from Cambodia: PQRU](#) – *Radio France Internationale*, March 22, 2010

[Biased TV stations intensify divides in Thailand protests](#) – *CSM*, March 22, 2010

...Police estimated that 65,000 people had joined the convoy, which stretched for several miles.

But viewers of Thailand's TV stations, the most popular source of news, were told that 25,000 attended. As usual, pictures of protesters were bracketed by statements from government officials. No airtime was given to ordinary protesters...

[Defence Ministry attacked by grenade](#) – *The Nation*, March 21, 2010

2Bangkok presents: [Red Shirts on Ratchadapeisek Road](#) – *YouTube*, March 20, 2010

[Abhisit questions Thaksin's role as leader of 'class war'](#) – *The Nation*, March 20, 2010

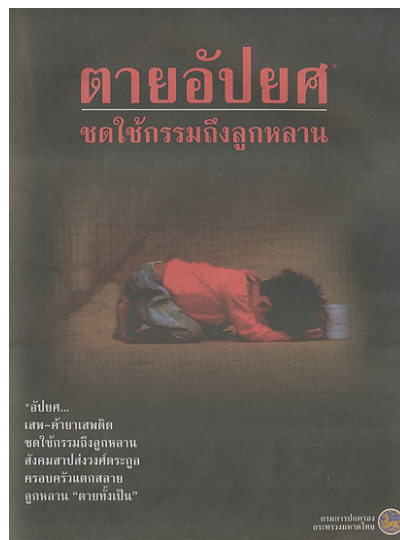
[General Chaovalit Yongjaiyuth takes red shirt stage](#) – *TAN*, March 20, 2010

[Bomb attack on National Anti-Corruption Commission in Nontaburi](#) – *TAN*, March 20, 2010

[Bottle bombs, M16 attack on Thursday night](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 19, 2010

[Taxi throws Molotov cocktail into army barracks](#) – *TAN*, March 19, 2010

And on [Manager](#)



From *Matichon*, March 19-25, 2010

The advertisement reads: Die disgracefully—to compensate for actions until the next generation

Disgrace... drug taking-drug trafficking must compensate action until your next generation – Society will curse your family and the family will break down – The next generation will endure “life with suffering” – Provincial Administration Department, Interior Ministry



(Source: CNN International screen grab)

CNN's sloppy contrast of "Thailand leaders" – March 19, 2010

In the past year, CNN International has veered heavily to an informal style with anchors chuckling at each other's folksy jokes and expressing their opinions of each story in a style formerly reserved for small-town regional broadcasts in the U.S. This includes breezy analysis of news events heavy on simplistic graphics.

At 18:20 Bangkok time, CNN International's Kristie Lu Stout had an insultingly simplistic comparison of Thai prime ministers. For instance, Abhisit's supporters are royalists who wear yellow shirts and Thaksin's supporters are populists who wear red shirts. Abhisit roots for Newcastle and Thaksin once owned Manchester United (which is an error as Thaksin actually once had an ownership stake in Manchester City).

[Thaksin, Thailand's Gandhi](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 19, 2010

Bangkokians offer mixed reactions to the UDD; Thaksin promises traffic congestions until victory



From *Daily News*, March 18, 2010

The headline reads: Red blood all over – in front of Government House – the Democrat Party HQ – in front of Mark’s residence – Suthep reveals sabotage is likely – Arisman announces they will absolutely take the blood of Abhisit and aristocrats to wash their feet unless parliament is dissolved – Meanwhile the Red Shirts splash blood

From *Thai Rath*, March 17, 2010

The headline reads: Blood splashing at Government House and Democrat Party

The UDD performs a ritual to curse the government – Moving to the PM’s house today – Chiang Mai splashing soldiers – Thaksin warns to be prudent



From *Komchadluek*, March 18, 2010

The headline reads: Plan of the 3 comrades does not hit the target

Thaksin orders to flip the game fast and tough! – Focusing on hardcore members – Opposing the MP’s resignation

Investors shrug off ‘reds’ –

The share index soars by 17 points

Targeting – Shooting to threaten Akarakarn – M79 attack close to his residence

Police Colonel Pien’s death related to ‘news leakage’

At the bottom right: Sabotage

Pressing the advantage

[PM Abhisit to file charges against claim he ordered violence to be used on Reds](#) – *TAN*, March 18, 2010

PM Abhisit Vejjajiva will file charges against former Thaksin Shinawatra, red-shirt key leader and Phau Thai MP Jatuporn Phrompan and another red-shirt leader Arisman Pongruengrong for showing doctored audio clip to red-shirts and comparing him to Hitler.

The audio clip featured the voice of PM Abhisit allegedly ordering security officials to use force to crackdown on the red-shirt protesters during April 2009 riot. The clip has been proved to have been doctored using PM Abhisit’s voice.

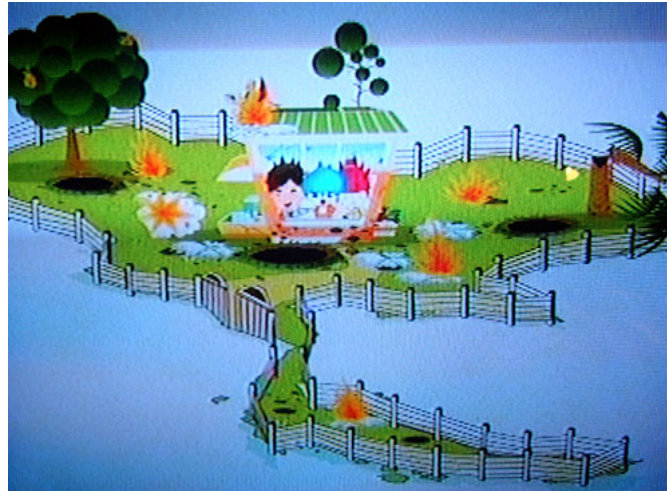
[Thonglor Police press charges against Red Shirts](#) – *TAN*, March 18, 2010

Thonglor Police are pressing charges against red shirts protesters for throwing blood and feces into the prime minister’s house. Reports suggest they could possibly seek arrest warrants today.

Soldiers stationed at Kavila Monument in Chiang Mai province have filed a charge against an abbot of Sri Boonrueng Temple who poured blood on them on Wednesday...

Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva on Thursday agreed to go to the negotiable table with the red shirts if they agreed to the conditions that the government set to ensure that the red-shirt rallies would be held peacefully...

...Mr Prompan said the UDD is ready for talks but the government must not set pre-conditions. Moreover, the UDD would talk only with Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, not his representatives...



Above and below are screen captures from a public service announcement playing often on Thai TV. It shows people inside a fenced-off Thailand (above). From outside of the fence, bombs are being thrown in. As more damage is being done, the people start to cry (below). Viewers are asking to call 1555 if they see bombs or suspicious items that are meant to hurt Thailand.



[Thaksin calls on Red Shirts to review their plan to draw blood](#) – *The Nation*, March 16, 2010

3/ก 12 - 15 มิถุนายน 2553



ฉบับที่ ๖๖๖๖
เลขที่ ๖๖๖๖

‘พ.ร.บ.มั่นคง’ กฎหมายฮิตเลอร์?!

เครื่องมือ...รัฐอำมาตย์

กฎหมายอาชญากรรม...
สมการฮิตเลอร์ เมื่อความกลัว

พิถีพิถัน จัดตั้งกรรมาธิการศึกษา
เพราะฉะนั้น เมื่อถูกพยายาม
หยอดคน เป็นอันต้องปฏิบัติตามโดย
ไม่เหลียวหลังและหันหน้าไป ท้าทายการ
ทำขึ้นตามความเชื่อ “รัฐอำมาตย์” ที่
ใช้ ความกลัว, ความกลัวกันไว้กว่า?

จากนั้น “พลังรัฐสภา” ที่ร่วม
อุดมการณ์ ต่อสู้เพื่อประชาธิปไตย
และยึดมั่นความตั้งใจ เพื่อที่จะคืน
ความถูกต้องธรรม กลับจากการใช้ “2
มาตรา” ของรัฐบาลอำมาตย์มา
จนจบการ ได้ถูกใส่ร้ายอย่างไม่มีมูล
ให้ “พลังรัฐสภา” ของคนทำประเว
ศนิยม คือความใน ผู้ก่อความชั่วและ
ดังที่กล่าว

ความชั่วร้ายตามความคิด **ฮิตเลอร์**

ประกาศใช้ พ.ร.บ.ฮิตเลอร์ ที่
กล่าวกันว่า กฎหมายฉบับนี้
“ใช้ตามฮิตเลอร์” แบบฉบับฮิตเลอร์
“อำนาจ” อันเป็นอำนาจของรัฐบาล
โดยมีการตรวจสอบ-ถ่วงดุล และให้
กำหนดโดยหลักการในการใช้ภาษา จึงเป็น
อันเป็นความผิดอย่างใหญ่ หากใช้ภาษา
ไม่เหมาะสมก็ผิดอยู่แล้ว

เป็นที่น่าสังเกต เมื่อทาง พ.ร.บ.
ความมั่นคง” ที่ถูกกฎหมายฮิตเลอร์
ฉบับนั้นมาแต่ จะให้รัฐบาลใช้มัน
โดยไม่มี...โดยคนเห็นผิด? จาก
12 มาตรา 23 มีนาคม

คำถามที่ว่า... แล้วมัน เมื่อ
แต่เมื่อฮิตเลอร์ ระดมทำอำนาจอย่าง
โดยที่จะทำอย่างไร? 12 มาตรา

คำถามที่ ... 12 มาตรา 12
มีอำนาจ... เมื่อเมื่อ เมื่อ และ
อันเป็นลักษณะอย่างใหญ่ ของความ
รวมเป็นอันเดียวกัน

เมื่อ 12 มีนาคมเมื่อวันจันทร์



From *Truth Today*, March 12-15, 2010

The headline reads: 'Security bill' a Hitler's law?! Tool of the aristocrat-backed government

[Thaksin draws comparison between Abhisit and Hitler](#) – TAN, March 17, 2010

...Thaksin added that just like the German schizophrenic dictator, Abhisit does not like to talk alone, has problems controlling his ambitions, and violent tendencies. Thaksin also said that Abhisit is surrounded by homosexuals with emotional problems...

Thai TV today – 11:11, March 17, 2010

Thai TV today is mainly back to regular programming and seems to be downplaying coverage of the Red Shirts. There are reports on the Red Shirts' march across town during news breaks, but the footage is from a grainy web cam (or mobile phone?) and the reporters are reporting over mobile phones. This is in contrast to yesterday when all the stations had clear, long-term coverage of the march and standoff at the 11th Infantry Regiment.

[Warden Message: Demonstrations expected in front of U.S. Embassy today, Wednesday March 17, 2010](#)

This warden message alerts U.S. citizens traveling to and residing in Thailand that a gathering of United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship (aka UDD or "red-shirts") protestors may demonstrate in front of the U.S. Embassy on Wireless Road sometime today, March 17, 2010. The protestors will likely arrive before 12 noon.

U.S. citizens should be aware that the UDD protestors may be in the possession of blood specimens...

[Red shirts block Sukhumvit](#) – *The Nation*, March 17, 2010

[Suthep invokes ISA to ban rally at PM's house](#) – *The Nation*, March 17, 2010

[Red Shirts show bombs allegedly planted in their rally](#) – *TAN*, March 17, 2010



From *Daily News*, March 16, 2010

The headline reads: M79 shooting attack – 6 attack at the 1st Infantry Regiment – Injuring 12 soldiers – The red shirts announce to pour one million CCs of blood onto Government House



From *Khaosod*, March 16, 2010

The headline reads: Pouring 'blood' of a million CCs in front of Government House



(Source: Screen grab of CNN International)

What does it take to move Thai news to the lead story? – 11:01, March 16, 2010

Threats to bring 1,000,000 to paralyze Bangkok and travel warnings from 31 countries could not move Thai news to the lead story on CNN International. However, the odd and colorful Red Shirt "blood drive" was the leading story at 11:01 Bangkok time. Correspondent Dan Rivers concluded it "smacks of desperation."

[Bomb attack on Newin's father-in-law's house](#) – TAN, March 16, 2010

[Monday night: M79 attack on house of administrative court president](#) – TAN, March 16, 2010

Reports suggest that late last night, a M79 grenade was launched at the house of Administrative Court President Ackaratorn Chularat. The culprits missed their target and the grenade landed on a neighbors house. No injuries have been reported.



Above: Looking east from Pan Fah Bridge

Traffic cam images of the protest site from 13:10 – March 16, 2010



Above: Looking west from Pan Fah Bridge



Above: Royal Plaza

Declare victory – March 16, 2010

The Red Shirts are either grasping at straws or stalling with their blood drive. Seeing the disarray within the various pro-Thaksin camps (the Red Shirts, Pheu Thai MPs, Gen. Pallop, etc.), as well as conflicting calls on what they want the government to do, it could be that Red Shirts will declare victory and disband their protest after today's blood smearing ceremony rather than risk smaller and smaller numbers.

The three Red Shirt leaders have the most to lose if this happens as they will be seen to be weakened by ineffective protest tactics and low turnout. However, letting the protest dwindle any further would allow foes to discount the Reds as a force that can threaten the government.

Government and security forces remain on highest alert for violence that would benefit the Red Shirts cause and snatch from the government a victory that appears to be within its reach.

If the protest disbands sooner than later, it would lend credence to early conspiracy theories that the entire protest was engineered by Pheu Thai Party leaders to discredit and remove the Red Shirt leaders from the scene and allow Pheu Thai to take up the political leadership in preparation for future elections.

As we have noted before, all coalition and opposition MPs are happy to allow the Democrats to lead during this difficult time and make all the tough economic choices. When elections do come, everyone can hammer them for selling out the country and putting the country in debt. This was the same strategy Thaksin used against the Democrats in the 1990s to great effect.



(Source: Channel 7 screen grab)

17:40 – Thai TV is showing men cleaning up blood at Government House gate.



(Source: Channel 7 screen grab)

17:02 – Thai TV is showing footage of a small group of Red Shirts pouring blood at the front gate of heavily guarded Government House.



Above: Traffic Cam – Red Shirts at Government House to pour blood at the gates

Red Shirts marching to Government House – March 16, 2010

Grenade story – 14:09, March 15, 2010

The grenade story is now on all the Thai TV channels. It appears something was fired over the wall of the Weepahwahdeerangsit Road side of the 1st Infantry Regiment near one of the gates. Two soldiers were injured and taken to hospital.

Satellite problems? – 14:02, March 15, 2010

The Red Shirts' People's Channel (PTV) appears to be off the air. This could be a technical difficulty though.

Update: This is possibly a satellite problem (perhaps related to sun outages?) as the Nation Channel is gone as well.

Update: 14:16 – The People's Channel (PTV) is back.

[Red shirts disperse from 11th Infantry Regiment, head back to Phan Fa](#) – *The Nation*, March 15, 2010

Right here, right now – 13:52, March 15, 2010

[TAN reports](#): Channel 11 has reported that M-79 grenades were shot into an army camp on Vipavadee Road, injuring 2 soldiers.

[Red shirts threaten to deface Government House with their own blood](#) – *The Nation*, March 15, 2010

And [here](#): 1.30pm : Nuttawut Saikua, a red shirt leader, announces that a total of three million cc of blood will be taken from one million red shirts tomorrow. If the prime minister still refuses to dissolve the House, the blood will be poured at Democrat Party, the Government House and the PM's residence.

Right here, right now: Making a stand – March 15, 2010

A traditional Thai

method that allows protesters or strikers to save face is to let their leadership meet with a "person in charge" to submit a list of demands. Then the gathering can disperse with all saving face. The party being protested against is expected to make some concessions as well.

This method was used last year when pro-Thaksin groups

insisted they be allowed to approach the Asean venue in Pattaya merely to submit their demands as per traditional practice. However, they tricked the government and used the opportunity to storm the venue.

It is certain the authorities are aware of this and would be loathe to allow Red Shirts to enter the base.

[Protesters threaten to break into 11th Infantry Regiment](#) – *The Nation*, March 15, 2010

And [here](#): 1.08pm : red shirts leaders declare that they want to enter the 11th Infantry Regiment where peacekeeping operations commands is located. If their demand is not met, they would invade the compound. They claim they want to submit a list of demand.

[The red atmosphere](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 15, 2010

...She did not think there would be any crackdown at the moment either at Bang Khen or the Ratchadamnoen, "The government is playing patience game with us, they think we will be annoyed and start some nasty things, but that's not the way we do," she said...

Red Shirts at the 11th Infantry Regiment – March 15, 2010

The Red Shirt media over the past 24 hours has been a steady drum beat of "the military are going to use violence against us." This message was also prominent in Thaksin's message to the crowd and sound clips allegedly saying the government was ordering the military to use force. These kind of clips are customarily played at Red Shirt gathering and are always denounced by the government and military as crude forgeries.

The 11th Infantry Regiment (a military base) would be the perfect place for a staged attack on Red Shirt protesters, fulfilling the need for outrage and putting a spark of passion in the rally.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Red Shirts heading to the

11th Infantry Regiment – March 15, 2010

At 10:00 this morning a lone motorcycle drove up and down all the inner sois along Suthisarn Road honking his horn as if to attract more people to come out and join the rally.

By 10:15

a smattering of Red Shirts on motorcycles (above) drove north on Ratachapeisek Road waving to pedestrians and waving flags.

On the way – March 15, 2010

Here are a series of screen grabs from the Bangkok traffic jams from around the same time (at approximately 11:19) showing the Red Shirt rally moving through the city to the 11th Infantry Regiment.



Above: The main rally site on Ratachadamneorn Road (looking west)



Above: Victory Monument (looking west)



Above: Just after the Lat Prae intersection (looking north)



Above: In front of the 11th Infantry Regiment (looking south)



From *Daily News*, March 14, 2010

The headline reads: Giving a 4-day deadline to end – The red shirt insist to fight! – ‘Arisman’ criticizes the issuance of an arrest warrant – Raiding the plant producing M79 – Hurrying to seek for the mastermind



From *Thai Rath*, March 14, 2010

The headline reads: Reds pass the checkpoints easily – Massive in the metropolitan – prepared to use the security bill – Revealed that all violent heads come together – 4-day deadline given for parliament dissolution

Suan Dusit Poll: Red Rally opinions – March 14, 2010

How are people getting information about the rallies?

Television – 68.87%
Newspapers – 12.29%
From internet/From SMS – 9.81%
Radio – 4.72%
Word of mouth – 4.31%

What info do people want from the media?

Immediate reports of events / Live reporting from the scene – 48.11%
Providing clear and straightforward information – 34.71%
Interviews with key people – 17.18%

People think that the protest rally of the Red Shirts is an expression of true democracy. True or not?

Not an expression of true democracy. – 57.14%
(Seen as a rally for one person, it is a war of nerves to generate disturbances for the government, a political game, etc.)
An expression of true democracy. – 23.81%
(Because the constitution states that the public has the right to assemble or point out what they see not to be fair, etc.)
Not sure. – 19.05%
(Because several groups have gathered with different goals and opinions.)

Lessons gathered from the protest are:

The image of Thailand in foreign eyes gets worse. – 27.30%
Damage and impact on business investment and tourism. – 25.18%
People not involved in either side must concern themselves with serious situations that occur. – 23.92%
Traffic congestion/not easy to travel. – 13.49%
The belief that Thai people love each other is not true. – 10.11%



From *Thai Freedom*, March, 2010

The main headline reads: Tanks for judging the game of flipping the land

It's the Red Shirts' move – March 14, 2010

For some time the Red Shirts have been insisting that a coup is imminent and is the only way out for a discredited government that cannot maintain control. They they have been hoping for this to widen their protests and open demands for a new charter and pardons for all. Some of the public might also believe that if a large group holds Bangkok "hostage" that the military would need a coup to restore order.

Today on his weekly broadcast,

PM Abhisit again stressed "no need for a coup" to address this perception.

Much of the Red Shirt rhetoric has been trying to provoke fear that would lead the military to intervene–this is what is behind the anti-royal rhetoric and threats to burn Bangkok to the ground.

As the day progresses, it is coming to a time where everyone will be looking to see what the Red Shirts have in store. It will be their move. Can they really hold the city "hostage?" Would this disruption naturally lead to a house dissolution? Or a coup?

It is also worth noting that the military is already in complete control on the ground–soldiers are standing guard in critical junctures in Bangkok and in adjacent provinces. The PM himself is under military guard at the 11th Infantry Regiment. This sort of military control never even happens during an actual coup.

The military are quite happy to call the shots behind the scenes and let the government take the heat. A coup would not change any conditions on the ground and would give the Red Shirts a victory without them have to take action to do anything provocative.

It is also clear to us that the real activity is happening behind the scenes. This includes attempts to get government coalition partners to pull out of the government. Any real victory will come from these political machinations.

It seems certain that the Red Shirts must have a well-timed and provocative plan of action, perhaps with a diversionary aspect. One should never underestimate Thaksin.

However, if the Red Shirts seem to be stalling (such as remaining in place), it might indicate their plans are faltering.

[Website opened to keep public informed](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 14, 2010

The site: capothai.org



Above: Image from traffic camera – It reads: Signal halts

Bangkok Governor dismisses CCTV's public disclosure request – translated and summarized from *Komchadluek*, March 15, 2010

"Sukhunbhand" says the red shirt gathering expresses more Democratic intentions than previous gathering, adding that the MBA is prepared readily to dispatch ambulances for the UDD blood splashing ritual at Government House, however, he dismisses the academics' proposal to publicly reveal the CCTV record, claiming the data is confidential information for security units...



[Plea for Peace](#) – *The Nation* on Facebook

...We invite our friends to send in your statement, photo or graphic – whatever represents your idea to promote peace ahead of the red-shirted rally. Any idea is welcome. We may select some to publish in *The Nation*...



From *Khungthep Turakit*, Column: Cartoon by Arun, March 12, 2010
 The Navi is saying: Let's watch a good movie. Relax... relax...
 The woman is saying: Wai! Avatar also comes to see the Hurt Locker

U.S. Embassy statement: [Statement on Planned Political Demonstrations](#)
Thailand is a close friend and ally of the United States.

And as a long-time friend, we are closely watching the current situation in Thailand. The United States believes that differences should be addressed through Thailand's democratic institutions and not through violence.

Peaceful demonstrations are a hallmark of a democratic society. We call on protesters and their leaders to forswear the use of violence and to exercise their right to assemble and protest peacefully, in accordance with the law. We also encourage the Royal Thai Government to exercise appropriate restraint.

[Live iphone pictures from Red Shirt Samut Prakan Rally](#)— Richard Barrow, March 12, 2010

And more [here](#) and [here](#)

Update: [Thaksin denies he was expelled](#) — *Bangkok Post*, March 13, 2010

Update: [Thaksin arrives in Cambodia: Thai FM](#)— *The Nation*, March 12, 2010

[Thaksin leaves UAE for Siem Reap?](#)— *INN*, March 12, 2010

INN is reporting that Thaksin will leave Dubai and speculates that he is on his way to Siem Reap in Cambodia.

"First victim of Red Shirt violence" — *Thai Visa*, March 12, 2010

And an [article in The Nation on this incident](#).

[Organizers hand out cash to red-shirt people](#) — *YouTube*, March 12, 2010

And an [article in The Nation on this incident](#).



(Source: Nation Channel)



From *Krungthep Turakit*, March 12, 2010

The main headline reads: Government 100% assured of security beef up in preparation for the red gathering — "Red shirts' gather at 5 spots — Pressure for parliament dissolution — Suthep assigns the Navy to standby five groups of troops for security beef up at Siriraj Hospital

From *Not the Nation*: [Colored-shirt wearing ants convinced they make difference in Thai politics](#)

...DAAD leader Jatuporn Promphan did his best to support the illusion of importance, stating on People Channel TV that, “No amount of vested interest, no number of army guns can stop the will of the Thai people,” while not mentioning Thaksin’s courting of Newin Chidchob and Barnhard Silapa-archa to abandon the Democrat coalition in exchange for more lucrative cabinet posts...



From *Komchadluek*, March 11, 2010

The caption reads: Ready to tackle – The iron stands are being placed at the traffic booth in the Wong Wien Yai circle area in preparation for the Red Shirt gathering on March 12. The area is set as the hosting area of red shirt activities and the stage for the UDD speeches.



From *Vote*, Column: Cartoon by Kosin, March, 2010

Red Shirt leader Jatuporn Promphan is saying: That "M" costs 79... this "G" costs 200... how they have quality?!

The word on the banner in the back reads: Fight to become rich

The word on the black bag reads: Poop

[Abhisit can't afford to make any mistakes](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 11, 2010

...After that, they will topple the “amataya”, the elite group of people whom they believe are controlling the government from behind the scenes, particularly Privy Council president Gen Prem Tinsulanonda whom the red shirts view as the man behind the forming of the current coalition government.

The prospect of the red march turning nasty has become clearer now that former PM Thaksin Shinawatra has asked his former wife Khunying Potjaman na Pombejra and children to go overseas. His reasoning is the government could take his family hostage in exchange for the red shirts dispersing. This action, however, is a repeat of what he did before the red-shirt rally turned riotous during Songkran last year...

[Shinawatras flee country before rally](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 10, 2010

[Thaksin's family not fleeing, but flying out](#) – *The Nation*, March 10, 2010

[Major figures flee Thailand](#) – *TAN*, March 11, 2010

[CSD HQ under UDD seige](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 7, 2010

What things (allegedly) cost: [March 12: 'most worrying day'](#) – *The Nation*, March 5, 2010

...Meanwhile, Democrat MPs estimated that it would cost the red shirts about Bt70 million a day to hold their major rally in Bangkok, a Government House source said yesterday.

A group of Democrat MPs met Deputy Premier Suthep at Government House yesterday to discuss preparations for the rally. The Democrats estimated that given the fact each Pheu Thai MP was expected to hire 200 pickup trucks to carry people joining the rally at Bt3,000-Bt3,500 for each vehicle, as well as Bt300 in daily allowance for each participant, it would cost Bt70 million a day to hold the rally, according to the source.

The bomb threat – March 3, 2010

There was much discussion Tuesday of the possibly drunken YouTube bomb threats of Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawasdiapol's aide.

Update: This video was [here](#) and [here](#), but seemed to have been censored or removed.

[Suthep orders police to take action against Khattiya's aide over bomb threat](#) – *The Nation*, March 2, 2010

[Thailand offers tourists free insurance](#) – *Thailandnews.net*, March 3, 2010

A 45-year-old man threw a bag of excrement at a door of the Democrat Party's head office in Bangkok on Monday morning, police said.

Police at Bang Sue station said the poo-chucker, identified as Surachai Kerddee,

[Faeces thrown at Democrat HQ](#) – *Bangkok Post*, March 2, 2010

[AdFest cancels Thailand show due to political unrest](#) – *AdAge.com*, March 1, 2010

Thanks to Thailand's stormy political outlook, which could easily turn violent, AdFest has cancelled this month's festival, one of Asia's top annual gatherings for the ad industry, but hopes to reschedule the event in May...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

This billboard on Phisanulok Road reads: Before the country is damaged... help stop the violence! The “good awareness for Thai harmony” project



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Ordaining 100,000 monks – March 2, 2010

The banner reads: Free ordaining – born to be a Buddhist man, one ought to ordain to compensate one's parents – gathering the power to revive the world's morality by a nationwide monk team – Group ordaining of 100,000 monks from every village nationwide – January 14-March 8, 2010 at the Dhammakaya Temple and other temples nationwide. To apply, call (02)831-1234 www.dmyCenter.com



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com from 2012)

Also: [Red Protests 2010](#)
[main page](#)

The Red Shirt Million Man March

March 31, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

March 31, 2010: 20 million Red Shirt protesters? –

[Doing a 'weng'](#) – *The Nation*

...During one of his remarkable showdowns with Abhisit, Weng said the red negotiators “didn’t come here, just the three of us. We are accompanied by 20 million people”.

To which Abhisit replied: “I don’t want to talk about numbers over here. But if they are so important, should we carry out a referendum on whether I should dissolve the House?”

Thai-language news items on “Weng” as the new Thai slang [here](#) and [here](#).

The Weng online game [here](#) and [here](#).

March 23, 2010: [Govt expected to extend ISA for 7 days](#) –

[Red shirts plan ‘biggest’ mass rally for Saturday](#) – *Bangkok Post*

... “Our important mission is the mass rally on Saturday. It’s a major gathering of several million protesters in Bangkok. It’ll be the largest rally in history...”

March 19, 2010: [Metropolitan Police estimates number of red shirts at 25,000](#) – *The Nation*

March 19, 2010: [Metropolitan Police estimate 65,000 protesters in red procession](#) – *TAN*

March 19, 2010: Still hoping for 1 million?

From [Peace efforts hit snag](#): “...” we will go around paying courtesy calls to Bangkokians. After that, 1 million protesters will come back to gather at this venue again to show our force, if not to celebrate victory,” he said...



(Source: *Khao Sod*, March 14, 2010)

Above: *Khao Sod* front page on March 14, 2010 showing an overhead view of the sparse Red Shirt crowd.

So few? – March 15, 2010

The Ministry of the Interior claims 46,377 joined the protest.

CNN has been quoting 80,000.

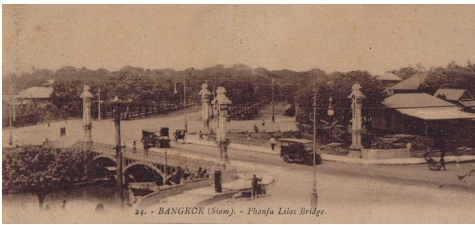
Other foreign media have been estimating 100,000 and this may be correct for the highest point of the protest crowd sometime on Saturday.



(Source: Bangkok Post graphic)

Nearly everyone was expecting the Red Shirts to at least partially make good on their boast to surround and menace Bangkok.

For example, the *Bangkok Post* made handy [Flash graphic](#) (above) to show how many hundreds of thousands of Red Shirts would be occupying various meeting points throughout Bangkok on March 12. However, the total estimate for the day at *all* venues was only 4,600.



Don't miss: [Phan Fa Bridge—then and now](#)

The same view as the large photo above showing the same view throughout history.

Also: At the other end of the street: [Phan Phiphop Lila Bridge & intersection over the years](#)

March 14, 2010: [Ministry: 46,000 people attend UDD rally](#) – Bangkok Post

March 13, 2010: [Red Shirts confident one-million protester goal 'not a dream'](#) – TNA

March 11, 2010: [Red shirts vow to bring a million to Bangkok](#) – The Nation

...The red shirts did not attempt to blow up gas tankers and use violence against Bangkok residents during the April mayhem last year, he said.

"The government is using this as propaganda to turn Bangkok residents against the red-shirt rally," he said...

"By noon of March 14, one million red-shirted people will be in Bangkok," he added...

March 3, 2010:

[Redshirts ready for 'million-man' March](#) – The Irrawaddy

... "We will use only peaceful means," he said, acknowledging that Redshirt violence at the disbanded Asian summit in Pattaya and in Bangkok during the Songkran 2009 protests damaged the anti-government cause.

How a peaceful protest will force the government to choose between suppression of the protest on the one hand, and dissolution of the parliament on the other, was not clarified.

However, senior UDD member Jaran Ditthapichai told media at a Bangkok press conference on Thursday that if the protest is met with violence, then a civil war in Thailand could be possible.

...The Redshirts have pledged a peaceful march, with estimates between 500,000 and 1.3 million given as a possible turnout...

February 24, 2010: [UDD major rally in Bangkok March 14](#) – Bangkok Post

...Natthawut Saikua, one of the UDD leaders, said he expected about one million red-shirts to take part in the demonstration and demand a snap general election.

During the rally, some red-shirts would move out of Sanam Luang for expanded activities at different locations, which he would not disclose.

Mr Natthawut said he could not say how long the rally would last. This would depend on how the government responded to the UDD's demand...

February 23, 2010: [Red Shirts vow to topple government in 7 days in March mass rally](#) – MCOT

A key leader of Thailand's anti-government United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD) on Tuesday announced that the group will rally in March with at least one million Red Shirt supporters joining the protest to oust the Abhisit Vejjajiva government within seven days...

February 23, 2010: [UDD to hold 'decisive' mass rally next month](#) – Bangkok Post

... "We expected about one million people to turn out during the seven-day rally. At least 100,000 personal cars and pickup trucks attached with red-shirt flags would flow to Bangkok from Nakhon Ratchasima in the Northeast, from Nakhon Sawan in the North and from Petchkasem road in the South", He said.

... "The red-shirts will also surround military camps in Chon Buri, Prachin Buri, Lop Buri and Kanchana Buri", he stated...

February 22, 2010: [Red shirts in Bangkok Mar 1](#) – Bangkok Post

The red-shirted supporters of the United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship will converge in Bangkok on Monday, March 1, for a major rally, Kwanchai Praipana announced on his community radio programme in Udon Thani on Monday...

February 19, 2010: [Jatuporn: Major rally after Feb 26](#) – Bangkok Post

...He said UDD leaders would hold a meeting to decide the date before Feb 26, when the verdict on the 76 billion baht assets case will be delivered...

February 12, 2010: [Red-shirt leaders ready for million-man march](#) – The Nation

...At a meeting yesterday, leaders of the Democratic Alliance against Dictatorship (DAAD) appeared to have differences over several key issues, including the date for the rally – on whether it should be held before the verdict is read out on former PM Thaksin Shinawatra's assets-seizure case on February 26. The date both sides finally decided upon was February 20...

February 9, 2010: [Jatuporn: 1 million-red shirts to rally](#) – Bangkok Post

More than one million red-shirts will certainly take part in a mass rally aimed at bringing down the government, United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD) leader Jatuporn Promphan claimed on Tuesday...

January 9, 2010: [Anti-riot forces on hand for protest](#) – The Nation

...Organisers said they would meet on January 16 to finalise their plan of mobilising 1 million red shirts...

November 17, 2009: [Red rally to be held on Nov 29](#) – The Nation

The red shirts plan their "showdown rally" against the government from November 29, which they expect one million people to join and the administration to be overthrown before the New Year's Day...

Also: August 24, 2006: [TRT plan to gather 1 million supporters 'needs explaining'](#) – The Nation

Thailand ‘a top destination for escaping the World Cup’

March 31, 2010

Categories: Sports

[Thailand ‘a top destination for escaping the World Cup’](#) – southalltravel.co.uk, March 31, 2010

...Thailand, Bulgaria, India, Tunisia and Turkey are the most popular locations for those looking for a football-free time...

Honeywell helps Thailand's first supercritical power plant maximize capacity with minimal fuel consumption

March 31, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Honeywell helps Thailand's first supercritical power plant maximize capacity with minimal fuel consumption](#) – *plantautomation.com*, March 31, 2010

Aria International successfully demonstrates integrated surveillance system to the Royal Thai Army

March 31, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

[Aria International successfully demonstrates integrated surveillance system to the Royal Thai Army](#) – *Defence Professionals*, March 31, 2010

Aria International Incorporated, the wholly-owned subsidiary of Aria International Holdings, Inc. (Symbol: ARAH, "Aria"), a company focused on providing specialized surveillance and communications solutions to a global customer base, is pleased to announce that it successfully demonstrated an airship-based surveillance system to the Royal Thai Army (RTA)...