

Bad Exes

October 1, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

[Bad Exes](#) – FP, October 1, 2010

Most ex-presidents and former prime ministers devote their lives to making a positive difference in the world, or at least fade away into obscurity. Here are five former leaders who have done neither...

[THAKSIN SHINAWATRA](#)

...The former billionaire businessman has served as a “special ambassador” for Nicaragua and an economic advisor in Cambodia, and was briefly owner of the Manchester City soccer club. Thaksin reportedly lived under a false name in Germany for more than a year and has used illegally received passports from a number of other countries as well...

The truth is merely covered. It is not gone.

October 2, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Sia, October 2, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: The truth is merely covered. It is not gone.

The arrow pointing to the uniform: This uniform has not been used for shooting.

The arrow pointing to the boots: These boots were never used for trampling.

The arrow pointing to the helmet: This helmet has never been used for a deadly shooting.

The arrow pointing to the gun: This gun has never been used for killing.

The sign at the bottom right corner reads: Reconciliation must releasing UDD prisoners.

TED conference – How condoms became famous in Thailand?

October 2, 2010

Categories: Health

[TED conference: How condoms became famous in Thailand?](#) – *Healthy Living*, October 2, 2010

Nothing in this world causes as much pain as what Newin did to me!

October 3, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Manager*, October 3, 2010

Thaksin says: Nothing in this world causes as much pain as what Newin did to me!

Coming from his groin: Ha!.. There is something that is worse than us!!!

The caption at the bottom reads: Worse than prostate gland cancer

Too much benefit from sale

October 3, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Ratchawat, October 3, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: Too much benefit from sale

Top left:

Investment of merely taking a video clip when a girl is taking a bath and then getting a big amount of money.

Top middle:

Investment of merely a flower and incense stick and then winning the first lottery.

Top right:

Investment by threatening a bank with a bomb and receive the 5 million baht.

Bottom left: Investment merely by robbing weapons from an army camp and hope to become big merchant!

Bottom middle: Investment by shooting M79 to damage the economy and hope that they can topple the government.

Bottom right: Investment by merely joining the media's hot trend about Film and Anny

The bomb is annoying the body and skeleton head is annoying the mind

October 4, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Sia, October 4, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: The bomb is annoying the body and skeleton head is annoying the mind

The sign reads: Ratchaprasong intersection

The words on the bomb read: Wreak city chaos

Why do you place the bomb?

October 4, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Security



From *Manager*, October 4, 2010

Left: I place the bomb to threaten them to cancel the emergency decree... and you?

Right: I place the bomb to threaten them not to cancel the emergency decree.

The caption reads: The cause of many bomb plots

War of High Level Feng Shui

October 5, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 5, 2010

Ajarn Ma: What's up, junkie?

Caption: The day Ajarn Ma takes back

Finally Arresting Law-Breaking Reds?

October 5, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Chai Ratchawat, October 5, 2010

Left: This is the first time that the Reds infringing the law are arrested by police.

Middle: And then red leaders are fearful to come out and claim that are not real Reds.

Middle: Who is the arrested Red?

Right: A Red Muser selling heroin.

Prestige and value of governmental officials

October 5, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Zia, October 5, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: Prestige and value of governmental officials

The word on the basket on the right reads: Appointments and transfers

The word on the sign at the left side read: Dark age

Siriraj Hospital bomb threat

October 5, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Siriraj Hospital bomb threat – from *ASTV*, October 5, 2010

The caption reads: Siriraj bombing suspect arrested – Police Lieutenant General Chakthip Chaijind, Acting Metropolitan Police Commander arrests Suriyan or “Mee” Kokpuea, 29 year old, suspected of the threatening a bomb attack at the Siriraj Hospital. The close circuit camera caught the picture on the date. Also, Police Major General Chaiya Siriampankul, Acting Region 5 Police Commander, arrests 11 male suspects of alleged involvement with national destruction.

Red Fighters Camp

October 5, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



Red fighters – from *Matichon*, October 5, 2010

The caption reads: Red fighters – the picture from the video record as the police detain 11 men at the Doi Khu Fah Resort in Mae-on district in Chiangmai on October 2. Acting Region 5 Police Commander Police Major Gen Chaiya Siriampankul announces on October 4 that the suspects are to be witnesses in a case related to the national security.

The word on the sign in the picture reads: Doi Khu Fah Resort Welcome

Absolut Art Award Winner 2010 is Announced

October 6, 2010

Categories: Art

[Absolut Art Award Winner 2010 is Announced](#) – *prnewswire.com*, October 6, 2010

Thai artist Rirkrit Tiravanija receives the second annual Absolut Art Award, a 15.000 prize instituted by ABSOLUT VODKA, to celebrate artists challenging conventions through the integration of art forms...

Thailand rates two places on CNN International top news

October 6, 2010

Categories: Thailand in the International Media



Thailand rates two places on CNN International top news – 07:00, October 6, 2010

“Abhisit-Suthep” Sandals

October 7, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



(Photo: KhaoSod)

From *KhaoSod*, October 7, 2010

The caption reads: Help – Ms Amornwan Chareonkit, age 41, brings the sandals with photo of “Abhisit-Suthep” to ask for help from Sombat Boongamanong. Bor Kor Lai Chood blames the Ayuthaya police for the arrest of the female merchant in hopes of getting a promotion.

Blast in Bangnuathong

October 7, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Security



From *Komchadluek*, October 7, 2010

The headlines read: 50 Kg. TNT hidden in mansion in Bangbuathong area – Blast! Kills 3 – mistake in producing – bomb maker died torn apart in his room – CD about new Thailand’s State is found – explosion at Mansion in Bangnuathong – misproducing – CD of “New Thailand’s State” is found – 3 died and 7 injured – owner is revealed to be community radio DJ, alias “Red Nonthaburi” – police release 11 red local fighters Maew promotes “Sanan” as party leader – Bhumjaithai Party on alert to be isolated Charge of corruption dismissed – send Bout to US – Mark discusses with Russia



From *Matichon*, October 7, 2010

The headlines read: Foreign media reports the blast at 5 floor high building kills 3 – defiance of the extension of the emergency decree – a few hours after the Cabinet meeting and order on security to beef up in Bangkok and 3 provinces—Suthep insists the number of fighters of 39 persons – M16-M79 training – claiming his residence was targeted twice



From *Khaosod*, October 7, 2010

The headlines read: Series of event pictures of the bomb in Bangnuathong page16 / playing museum from the old days for kids, page 24

Film denies the false scene of Film in hospital –

Annie bursts into tears after “Maethee” shows up to give assaulting speech – brother-manager of Film denies lies over Film’s overuse of drug-continue reading, page15

Blast attacks mansion of red radio – 4 died – linked to politics

The spot installing “signal pole” – expecting TNT, weight of 50 kilos – blast in Bangnuathong – tens injured
– National Police Chief rushes for inspection

“Resort” reveals that red local fighters are merely the local workers fighting

Interpreter woes plague Thai case

October 7, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Interpreter woes plague Thai case](#) – www.ecr.co.za, October 7, 2010

...A Thai-speaking interpreter was again not available yesterday in the case against Basheer Sayed and Thai national Somcharee Chumchumporn.

They're facing a maximum sentence of life imprisonment – or R100-million fine – after being found guilty in March...

Thai Premier Abhisit Rules Out Any Thaksin Amnesty

October 7, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thai Premier Abhisit Rules Out Any Thaksin Amnesty in Talks on Peace Deal](#) – Bloomberg, October 7, 2010

Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva said he is open to any negotiation with the opposition that doesn't include an amnesty for ex-leader Thaksin Shinawatra, whom he blamed for thwarting peace deals earlier this year.

"We can talk elections, we can talk constitutional amendments, we can talk policies, but I don't think any government would allow anyone to say, "Hey, I'm not going to accept the law," Abhisit said in an interview yesterday at Bloomberg's New York headquarters. "If you do that, you're just inviting more trouble in the future..."

Singha 6% to 5%? – October 1, 2010

Don notes: Singha was originally 6% alcohol but quietly dropped to 5% a few years ago. No announcement that I can recall, just done, then one day I noticed it on the label. I have always wondered why they did this. Boon Rawd Brewery's [Wikipedia entry](#) says: "Beginning in September 2007, a 5.0% (abv) version of Singha Lager has replaced the 6.0% (abv) original version that has earned the Singha name its reputation. This new version, while still brewed in Thailand by Pathmthani Brewery Co., Ltd., proclaims on its labeling to have been brewed under the supervision of Singha Corporation Co., Ltd. instead of Boon Rawd Brewery Co. Ltd. The last known fill date for Singha Lager 6.0% bottles sold in the United States is October 18, 2007." An acknowledgement but still no explanation why. If anyone knows, please share the knowledge. That's always bugged me.

Similarly, I'm pretty sure I remember Chang being 8%, but it's recently come to my attention that it's 6.4% now. Did they pull a similar stunt, or am I simply misremembering? I know Singha lowered the content for sure.

Migrant Worker Protest Ongoing At Thai Company

October 8, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Migrant Worker Protest Ongoing At Thai Company](#) – *The Irrawaddy*, October 8, 2010

More than 900 Burmese migrant workers at the Dechapanich Fishing Net Factory in Khon Kaen, northeast Thailand, have again protested against the company, saying documents were being withheld from some workers...

China, Thailand launch joint anti-terrorism drill

October 8, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

[China, Thailand launch joint anti-terrorism drill](#) – *China Economic Net*, October 8, 2010

Chinese and Thai special forces Friday began a joint anti-terrorism drill, the third of its kind between the two countries' armies since 2007. The "Strike-2010" exercise will last 15 days in the city of Guilin, in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region...

Former Qld MP charged in Thailand

October 8, 2010

Categories: Crime

[Former Qld MP charged in Thailand](#) – *BigPond News*, October 8, 2010

Former Qld MP, Robert Lindsay Poole, has been arrested in northern Thailand and faces charges of fraud...

Qatar: Thai medical facilities a major attraction for Arabs

October 8, 2010

Categories: Health

[Qatar: Thai medical facilities a major attraction for Arabs](#) – *zawya.com*, October 8, 2010

Thailand is drawing more Arab visitors availing of its medical facilities with 38 percent of the annual world market share, is considered as the world's number one...

The Thai Army Stands Up

October 9, 2010

Categories: Thai Military, Thai Politics

[The Thai Army Stands Up](#) – *WSJ*, October, 2010

...That makes General Prayuth's recent statement that he would not hesitate to use force to "protect the monarchy" or "to ensure order" more than just a statement of military intent. For many Thais, "order" is what they are longing for...

Tharit vs Jatuporn

October 10, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Tharit Pengdit



From Manager, October 10, 2010

Man is saying: Mr. Jatuporn has a love affair with the wife of another at the beach—we know this!

Tharit, at right, says: Yes! It does my heart good!

The caption at bottom right reads: Tharit takes revenge on the case of the Chawala issue

Also: [The Downfall of Tharit the Chameleon](#)

Cabbie changes tack with tuk tuk

October 10, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Cabbie changes tack with tuk tuk](#) – *scotsman.com*, October 10, 2010

[Iconic tuk tuk coming to Scotland streets for the first time](#) – *sify.com*, October 10, 2010

20 million baht is too cheap to assassinate Newin

October 11, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Daily News*, Cartoon by Palungporn, October 11, 2010

The cartoon title reads: Too little?

The big words at the right corner reads: Killing order hired for 20 million baht

Chai Chidchob at right says: This price is an insult...

Cambodia rejects claims it trained activists in weapons

October 11, 2010

Categories: Cambodia, Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Cambodia rejects claims it trained activists in weapons](#) – DPA, October 11, 2010

... 'It's made up. Our constitution does not allow anyone to do that sort of thing,' Phay Siphon said. 'Nobody is allowed to do any such stupid thing in Cambodia...'

Thailand's Solar Lessons for the World

October 11, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Solar Lessons for the World](#) – *RenewableEnergyWorld.com*, October 11, 2010

...Thailand's experience illustrates some of the difficulties faced by a developing solar industry, and may offer lessons on how to avoid them. It suggests that the large-scale growth of solar requires not just selective promotion of one or two large projects, but a wide and coherent set of action programmes...

The silent funeral ceremony of Samai Wongsuwan

October 12, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 12, 2010

The man inside the casket is thinking: Up to 4 or 5 thousand people flock to gather at Ratchaprasong. Nobody expresses kindness in participating in my funeral ceremony.

The caption at the bottom reads: The silent funeral ceremony of Samai Wongsuwan

‘Hangover 2’ begins filming in California, next stop Bangkok

October 12, 2010

Categories: Film and TV

[‘Hangover 2’ begins filming in California, next stop Bangkok](#) – *On Location Vacations*, October 12, 2010

...Shooting will continue in California for the next couple of weeks but the guys are expected to head to Thailand, where they will film the bulk of the movie, by the end of the month...

Thailand is off and Running as Asia's Golf Hub!

October 12, 2010

Categories: Sports

[Thailand is off and Running as Asia's Golf Hub!](#) – *PR Newswire*, October, 2010

Canadian Tamils fear Ottawa had a hand in Thai raids

October 12, 2010

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Canadian Tamils fear Ottawa had a hand in Thai raids](#) – *Toronto Star*, October 12, 2010

... "Canada cannot negate its international obligations and have countries such as Thailand do its dirty work," Poopalapillai said Tuesday...

[Ship of Tamils stopped in Bangkok](#) – *Toronto Sun*, October 12, 2010

Information from Canadian authorities helped Thai police round up 155 Tamil migrants who were days away from boarding a second smuggling ship destined to B.C., Canadian government officials said...

Thailand's Bamboo Diplomacy Blows in the Wind

October 13, 2010

Categories: Books

[Thailand's Bamboo Diplomacy Blows in the Wind](#) – *Asian Correspondent*, October 13, 2010

...The Bout case also reveals the fact that the usefulness of the bamboo policy may have actually ceased. Certainly, the domestic situation, which has opened up a space for the US to work closely with the aristocrats for the maintenance of Thailand's political status quo, has indeed minimized the degree of diplomatic pragmatism. As a result, the country's foreign policy has become less pragmatic, overlooking the implications of an overall geopolitical reality in which multipolarity has now defined the global system. Thailand needs to bear in mind the consequences of its decision in the Bout case on the country's relations with Russia and certain European countries...

UDD and DSI

October 13, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, Tharit Pengdit



From *Thai Rath*, by Sia, October 13, 2010

The cartoon title reads: They are both plaintiffs

The words on the bomb at left reads: Placing charges for bomb plotting

The man wears a headband that reads: UDD

The words on the bomb at right reads: Placing the charge of terrorism

The man wears a shirt that reads: UDD

The sign at the bottom right reads: Reconciliation requires the release of UDD prisoners



From *Manager*, October 15, 2010

The man says: Sorry Mr. Director General... without doing this, terrorists will know and we can arrest nobody.

The caption at the bottom right reads: For efficiency of the work of DSI... gotta do this

Thai welders share limelight

October 13, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai welders share limelight](#) – *AsiaOne*, October 13, 2010

... *"Thailand has been known all over the world – that Thai workers are skilful second to none..."*

BMA plans to build ‘Bangkok Eye’ on Chao Phya bank

October 13, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[BMA plans to build ‘Bangkok Eye’ on Chao Phya bank](#) – *The Nation*, October 13, 2010

Bangkok aspires to be design capital of Asia

October 13, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Bangkok aspires to be design capital of Asia](#) – *Independent*, October 13, 2010

At the October 14 Monument

October 14, 2010

Categories: October, 1973



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The poster reads: [Jit Poomisak](#)

At the October 14 Monument – October 14, 2010

Commemorating past revolutionary events always demonstrates the generally non-ideological nature of Thai politics.

At these times one can see Mao and Gandhi side by side and Aung San Suu Kyi with Che Guevara. Even Saddam Hussein makes an appearance. In many cases it is unclear whether the historical figures are to be lauded or condemned.

At these commemorations, both right- and left-wing movements are mixed in an acknowledgment of their revolutionary activities. In any case, all are personalities or movements that stand up against an established order.

Right: A Rasta with Mao and the Soviet flag on his vest.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The book titles (left to right): Saddam Hussein The fighter frightening the world, The Blue Revolution



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: In memorial to devotees on October 14, 1973 – with great veneration from SRUT – Swallowing/Eat/Losing nation – wicked cycle destroying democracy – The State Railway Workers’ Union of Thailand



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The banner reads: May the spirits of those calling for democracy rest in peace in heaven – We stand firm to fight the tyrant – Heroes of October 14, 1973



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Che Guevara, Ho Chi Minh, Mao and Aung San Suu Kyi



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Mao and Gandhi



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Making a Khmer-style krama scarf. The Khmer Rouge required all to wear such scarves after they came to power.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

On the nearby Thammasat campus, there is a small commemoration of the October 6, 1976 massacre.

About Thai ghosts – thaighostbusters.com

October 14, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[About Thai ghosts](#) – *thaighostbusters.com*, October 14, 2010

King Of Kicker, Thailand's Ultimate Wakeboarding Contest Returns To Thai Wake Park

October 14, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[King Of Kicker, Thailand's Ultimate Wakeboarding Contest Returns To Thai Wake Park For 2010](#) –

Thailandnews.net, October 14, 2010

Wakeboarding in Thailand continues it's impressive growth in popularity thanks to the many wakeboarding parks in Bangkok and throughout Thailand...

Jatuporn defends Aree's appointment

October 14, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Jatuporn defends Aree's appointment](#) – *The Nation*, October 14, 2010

The appointment of Aree Krainara, a red guard leader charged with terrorism who is still at large, to the House committee on political development, mass communications and public participation complied with the regulations governing House committees, Pheu Thai Party list MP Jatuporn Prompan said on Thursday...

Thaksin Plans Phone-In to European Red Shirt Meeting in Copenhagen

October 14, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thaksin Plans Phone-In to European Red Shirt Meeting in Copenhagen](#) – ScandAsia, October 14, 2010
...The Red Shirts plan to meet at Town Hall Square in the centre of Copenhagen at 13.00 on that day. After singing “Daeng Tour Pan Din” (Red All Over the Land) they claim to be able to introduce Red Shirt representatives from each country in Europe...

Thaksin's anti-Thailand blog gone quiet?

October 14, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

Thaksin's anti-Thailand blog gone quiet? – October 14, 2010

It's been an unusually long stretch of silence between posts for the English section of the [Robert Amsterdam Thailand](#) blog.

For awhile it was not missing a single item of negative news on Thailand—except the [enforced disappearances](#) item of which there were several prominent cases during the Thaksin era.

The blog also referenced articles by Giles Ji Ungpakorn and reached a crescendo with posts like "Thailand Approaches Iran's Model of Repression" and "Europe – Beware of Thailand's Smile." And then nothing since November 5.

[The Thai-language part of the blog](#) is up-to-date (last post on October 13), but the Thai-language side of the site never posted as frequently as the English section.

The sudden lack of posts is odd since both the October 6, 1976 and October 14, 1973 events have often been referenced by Red Shirts as similar to their campaigns to return Thaksin to power.

The [anti-Russian part of blog](#) is still churning out posts as usual.

Could it be that Thaksin, focused on ensuring Pheu Thai is seen as a reasonable non-revolutionary political party that can be part of a future government, finds it less necessary to try to pummel the government in such an obvious and over-the-top way? Or maybe the blog writers just took a couple weeks off.

Update: October 15 – A new article has just been posted on the [Robert Amsterdam Thailand](#) blog.

David Cameron's Thai Christmas getaway

October 15, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[David Cameron's Thai Christmas getaway](#) – *Daily Mail*, October 15, 2010

...Friends of the Prime Minister say he plans to take his family to Thailand, where he will enjoy the hospitality of Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva. Vejjajiva, 46, was a contemporary of both Cameron, 44, and London Mayor Boris Johnson, 46, at Eton and Oxford, where he was known to chums as “Mark Vej”...

Time to Invest in Thailand

October 15, 2010

Categories: Economy

[Time to Invest in Thailand](#) – *Investorplace.com*, October, 2010

...I am of the opinion that some Asian markets may never again reach such depressed valuations as they did in early 2009...

Chasing the red fighter, Take1, Film 1

October 15, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From *Thai Rath*, by Sia, October 15, 2010

The cartoon headline read: Action!

The word on the back chair reads: DSI Director

The word on the canister the masked man is wearing reads: Bomb

The word on the paper the man holds reads: Bomb-Cambodian weapon training

The words on the clapper at the bottom right reads: Chasing the red fighter, Take1, Film 1, October 2010

Sarn Jai Thai to the South

October 15, 2010

Categories: Analysis, The Thai Deep South



From *Komchadluek*, October 15, 2010

The caption reads: [Sarn Jai Thai](#) – Gen Prem Tinasulanonda, statesman and Privy Council President, presides over the “Sarn Jai Thai to the South” project with army commanders at the Army club, Vibhavadi Rangsit Road on October 14.

Various News, October 15-16, 2010

October 15, 2010

Categories: October, 1973, Red Shirt Protest 2010



From *Khaosod*, October 15, 2010

The caption reads: There are dead – A group of “friends of the brave” flock to join in the memorial ceremony on the occasion of the 37 year anniversary of the October 14th, 1973 events at the memorial site at the Kokwua intersection. a university activist team holds the sign “There were dead on 14 October 1973” and “There were dead on 10 April 2010”



From *Khaosod*, October 15, 2010

The caption reads: “The Big” – Region 1 investigation police raided to arrest 30 year old Winai Yodchomyarn, the key person of a grand market at his residence in Ayuthaya province on October 14. The man had 7 pistols and 300 bullets in his possession.



From *Komchadluek*, October 15, 2010

The caption reads: 37th anniversary in memory – Relatives of the dead from the historical political movement to call for democracy on October 14, 1973 join together for the 37th anniversary memorial ceremony at the October 14 memorial at the Kokwua intersection.



From *Komchadluek*, October 16, 2010

The words on the sign read: For the promise that is not reliable!

The caption reads: Protest – Ms Preeyanan Lorsermwattana, president of the network of people affected by the medical bill, shaves off her head to protest against the canceling of the bill to protect the people who are impacted by the public health service . The protest went on in front of the Food and Drug Building at the Public Health Ministry in Nonthaburi province on October 15.

Thaksin to return if Pheu Thai wins

October 15, 2010

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin to return if Pheu Thai wins](#) – *The Nation*, October 15, 2010

Fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra will return to Thailand if the opposition Pheu Thai Party wins a landslide election victory and forms a one-party government, according to a satellite-based television station run by his family...

Thaksin to increase activities ahead of Thai polls

October 15, 2010

Categories: Elections, Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thaksin to increase activities ahead of Thai polls](#) – AFP, October 15, 2010

... "He'll try to come back (on the political scene) to play a legitimate role and I think the elite should be open enough to let him do that. Reconciliation will not be successful without Thaksin," Pavin said. But Thaksin is unlikely to return to Thailand even if the opposition wins the next election, he said...

Police signs

October 16, 2010

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Police signs – October 16, 2010

Left: There would be no crime in the city if we all together protecting ourselves against drugs – Police Major General Wichai Sangprapai, Metropolitan 1 Police Commander – Police Lieutenant General Santhan Chayanon, Metropolitan Police Commander – Inform information – Tel 02 354 6999 (Metropolitan police is reliable) – Tel 02 692 6691-2 (Huaykhwang Police Station) – Urgent case inform 191

Right: Metropolitan 1 is reliable – Police Major General Wichai Sangprapai, Metropolitan 1 Police Division

Threat to the Reds – “No mob is good”

October 16, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



From *Komchadluek*, October 16, 2010

The headline reads: Threat to the Reds – “No mob is good” – Orders control on gas and car fuel – Prayuth closely monitors against the town torching – “Wasa” is not clear on money transfer – NSC moves on clarifying the news about fighters

Russia fears ‘Merchant of Death’ could reveal secrets

October 16, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Russia fears ‘Merchant of Death’ could reveal secrets](#) – AFP, October 16, 2010

...Kozyulin said that by seeking to prevent the extradition Moscow is looking to protect Russia’s reputation and those of influential figures who made their fortunes working alongside Bout in the 1990s, when weapons were disappearing from across the former Soviet Union.

“In the 1990s everything was possible, the country had fallen apart... and there was no control over military equipment,” he said.

“Many among those who profited are now important people. They would be very uncomfortable if someone revealed how they earned their first millions,” Kozyulin said...

‘Bangkok Eye’ plan sparks off a real stir

October 16, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘Bangkok Eye’ plan sparks off a real stir](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 16, 2010

Thai police raid warehouse full of reptiles illegally collected for shipment overseas

October 16, 2010

Categories: Crime, Wildlife and Nature

[Thai police raid warehouse full of reptiles illegally collected for shipment overseas](#) – AP, October, 2010

...The warehouse was run by a criminal syndicate that was shipping at least 1.2 tons of wildlife out of Thailand every week to consumer countries, it said. Several secret holding facilities are believed to exist, it said...

Mitsubishi eyes move to Thailand

October 17, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Mitsubishi eyes move to Thailand](#) – AFP, October 17, 2010

Japan's Mitsubishi Motors is considering moving production of its mainstay new model to Thailand in a bid to curb costs inflated by the strong yen...

Chinese Tourists avoid Bangkok and go to Samui or Phuket

October 17, 2010

Categories: Tourism

[Chinese Tourists avoid Bangkok and go to Samui or Phuket](#) – *thailand-business-news.com*, October 17, 2010
...Chartered flights have also gone up to 60 flights a week, up from 20 per week last year...

Mel Gibson making a cameo comeback

October 17, 2010

Categories: Film and TV

[Mel Gibson making a cameo comeback](#) – *NY Post*, October 17, 2010

...A source told Page Six, “It’s a done deal. Mel will make a cameo as a tattoo artist. Filming is taking place on the Warner Bros. lot, where a Bangkok set has been built, and Mel is expected to film his role in two weeks. Then the production moves to Thailand at the end of October...”

Whew! What a relief!

October 17, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From *Thai Rath*, October 17, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: Whew Feel relieved!

Top left: The police feel relief as the Siam Devathirath deity shows evidence of the terrorists!

Top middle: The tax payers feel relieved as the taxation to heal terrorism is halted!

Top right: The fortuneteller predicts that the Mr. P will be prime minister. Mr. J feels relieved!

The word on the sign reads: Mekong River

Bottom left:

The police raid the website of those prostituting themselves and feel relieved that there is no list containing names of MPs or academics.

Bottom middle: Bhumjaithai Party feels relieved that the Prime Minister insists there is no thought of getting rid of them!

Bottom right: The American media feels relieved that the five cheating leaders do not show up to file charges of libel.

Tilting at Governments

October 17, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

[Tilting at Governments](#) – *Jerusalem Post*, October 17, 2010

...The anti-Semitism in Russia I expected. I never said a word about it," Amsterdam observes stoically. "But the anti-Semitism in Thailand I didn't. Within a certain segment of the Thai elite, it's very strong, very pronounced." He adds: "But I've developed thick skin and I really couldn't care less...

Do you know the value of human beings?

October 18, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Sia, October 18, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: Do you know the value of human beings?

The sign held by the hooded figure reads: Power and benefits

The words on the figure's robe read: Order crackdown on the people

The street sign at left reads: Ratchaprasong Intersection

The sign at the bottom right reads: Three southern border provinces

The words by the skulls at left: Chasing the red shirts

The words by the skulls at right: Irresponsible

Building the Asian super highway

October 18, 2010

Categories: Highways and Roads

[Building the Asian super highway](#) – SMH, October 18, 2010

...East and West, the two mighty economies of China and India, would be linked by a vastly upgraded highway system from China through Laos, Thailand and Myanmar to India. And a huge railway network would link Singapore in the south to Kunming in China, threading through Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam...

Thaksin's 'last war' is warming up in the Northeast

October 18, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thaksin's 'last war' is warming up in the Northeast](#) – Bangkok Post, October 18, 2010

...One Bhumjaithai poster screams out the party's amnesty plan to restore reconciliation while calling for everyone to unite and protect the monarchy. Another poster which features a portrait of one of the party's potential candidates calls for collective resistance against the so-called "New Thai State", a proposed new political order initiated by some extreme ideologues of the red shirt movement.

On the Puea Thai side, several huge posters showcase its potential candidates and policy platform. For instance, the one seen in Nakhon Ratchasima announces the party's plan to solve the debt problem of the grass roots people...

Thaksin's 'last war' is warming up in the Northeast

With the bell yet to be rung, the two fired-up boxers are seething to get at each other and beat each other to a pulp in the fight of a lifetime which promises to be fierce and bloodthirsty.

That is how it looks now on the political front – spoiling for a fight with intense mutual animosity roiling through the camps of the Puea Thai and Bhumjaithai parties. In the Northeast, the main boxing ring for the two arch-rivals, a semblance of election fight fever can now be felt with huge campaign posters and billboards showcasing their potential candidates and policies springing up.

One Bhumjaithai poster screams out the party's amnesty plan to restore reconciliation while calling for everyone to unite and protect the monarchy. Another poster which features a portrait of one of the party's potential candidates calls for collective resistance against the so-called "New Thai State", a proposed new political order initiated by some extreme ideologues of the red shirt movement.

On the Puea Thai side, several huge posters showcase its potential candidates and policy platform. For instance, the one seen in Nakhon Ratchasima announces the party's plan to solve the debt problem of the grass roots people.

Even if it is not known when exactly a general election will be staged, it appears that both the Puea Thai and Bhumjaithai parties do not want to waste any time waiting for the referee to yell "Fight!"

Many observers predict the election will likely be held early in the new year. Thammasat University rector Surapol Nitikraipote says January would be the right time. The election, he said, is the only viable solution to Thailand's protracted political conflict.

Expect election war drums to sound in earnest, initially in the northeastern battleground, once parliament goes into recess – tentatively scheduled for Nov 28. And the party which will hit the throttle hardest and quickest will be Puea Thai.

Billed as Thaksin's "last war", the election portends to be extremely fierce – if not outright violent – particularly in the northeastern region where a total of 135 House seats, the largest proportion of all the regions, will be contested. The party which wins the most seats in this region plus additional seats from other regions will surely emerge as the winner and legitimately claim the first right to form the next government.

Puea Thai has set its sights on forming a single-party government and aims to grab all 135 seats in the Northeast except for three in Buri Ram province, the solidly loyal home of Newin Chidchob, the de facto leader of Bhumjaithai.

With such ambitions and the high political stakes involved, the party's election campaign will be engineered by former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra – via his proxies, of course. Since he cannot physically be here

to lead the charge, it is expected he will move to somewhere closer to Thailand to supervise the election campaign.

Winning the election is seen as the only viable option for Thaksin to ever have a chance to return home, to clear himself of the two-year imprisonment verdict and all the pending cases against him and, ultimately, to pave the way for his political comeback. An amnesty plan, not only for Thaksin but for all, including red shirt and yellow shirt protesters, is likely to be the first piece of law tabled in parliament should the party win the election and manage to form a one-party government.

Since winning in the Northeast is extremely crucial to achieving its ultimate goal, the Puea Thai Party has found it necessary to undercut Bhumjaithai and stage a pre-emptive strike. Hence, the planned launch of an election campaign immediately the parliament goes into recess next month.

Gen Panlop Pinmanee, former deputy director of the Internal Security Operations Command, and Pol Lt-Gen Chat Kuladilok, a deputy party leader, have been tasked with leading a group of retired police and army generals to campaign in Buri Ram reportedly to tie down Newin in his home province so he will have to worry about his own backyard, thus neutralising his efforts to help Bhumjaithai members in other constituencies. Gen Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the party's chief adviser, will also help out in the Northeast with special focus on Nakhon Phanom and Ubon Ratchathani – strongholds of Bhumjaithai and the Democrats respectively.

Of course, Thaksin will play the key role. As it is believed by the party that Thaksin's name is still marketable among the northeastern electorate, his portrait will be side by side with those of the party's candidates in all Puea Thai posters, billboards, leaflets and other campaign materials.

Three new populist policies have already been devised to add to the party's policy platform during the campaign. They are a 300 baht minimum wage, 15,000 baht per kwien (1,5 tonnes) of paddy and 15,000 baht basic salary for employees with a BA degree.

The three policies are smart and bound to hit home. They aim to solicit support and, hopefully, votes from three large groups of people – manual workers, college graduates who number in the tens of thousands each year and millions of rice farmers.

Just imagine how many people in the Northeast who are farmers and manual workers who sell their labour in the cities will be attracted by these promises from Puea Thai. Whether such promises will be realised or not is another question. The trick is to get their votes first.

As the Puea Thai and Bhumjaithai parties are busily gearing up for the election battle in the Northeast, the Democrats have been strangely muted. They have not erected a single poster or billboard in the region.

Deadly Bombs Make Bangkok Unsafe

October 18, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010, Security

[Deadly Bombs Make Bangkok Unsafe](#) – Scoop, October 18, 2010

Increasingly deadly bomb attacks across Bangkok have plunged this Buddhist-majority country into confusion, despair and fear because its military and police, who received years of counter-terrorism training by the U.S., are unable to keep the capital safe...

Thailand lures Japanese exporters

October 18, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand lures Japanese exporters](#) – *Financial Times*, October 18, 2010

When Nissan held a ceremony at its car plant outside Bangkok in June it marked a milestone for Thailand's export industry: for the first time a Japanese company would build a Japanese-designed vehicle outside Japan for export back to the home market...

UF professor discovers new fish species from Thailand

October 18, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[UF professor discovers new fish species from Thailand](#) – *Independent Florida Alligator*, October 18, 2010

The 30% reserve measure

October 19, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 19, 2010

Nattakorn Devakul is saying: Dad you were former Finance Minister... why don't you go give lessons to the BOT on the baht appreciation so you become the person in the headline?

The newspaper reads: Dr. Krong teaches BOT on baht appreciation

The word on the bag covering the man's face reads: The 30% reserve measure

The caption reads: At ML. Oui's residence

Another surge of ‘Megi’ to come

October 19, 2010

Categories: Floods



From *Daily News*, October 19, 2010

The headline reads: Another surge of ‘Megi’ to come – The great typhoon to hit Philippines impacting the Northeast, the East and the Central !

Thai PM leaps into Twitter's top 10

October 19, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

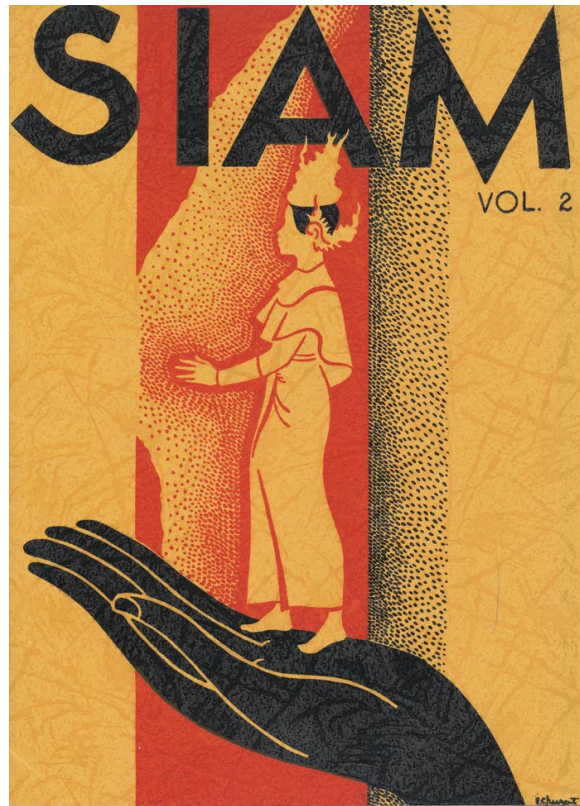
[Thai PM leaps into Twitter's top 10](#) – *FutureGov Magazine*, October 19, 2010

...Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva was ranked tenth with 137,130 followers by Digital Daya, the online arm of the Digital Policy Council (DPC), an international think tank on 21st Century Governance...

Siam 1938

October 20, 2010

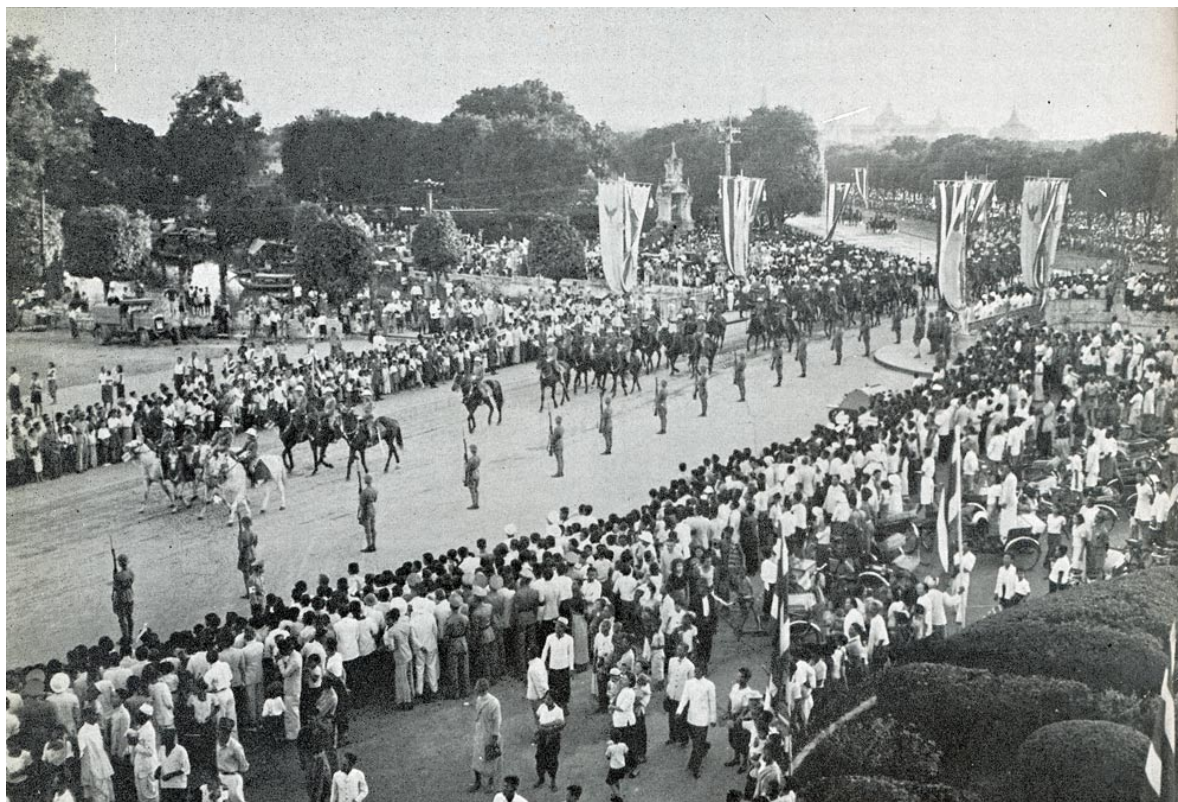
Categories: History, Songkran, The Monarchy



(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Siam, Volume 2 – 1938

"Issued by the Government Publicity Bureau, Bangkok, Siam"



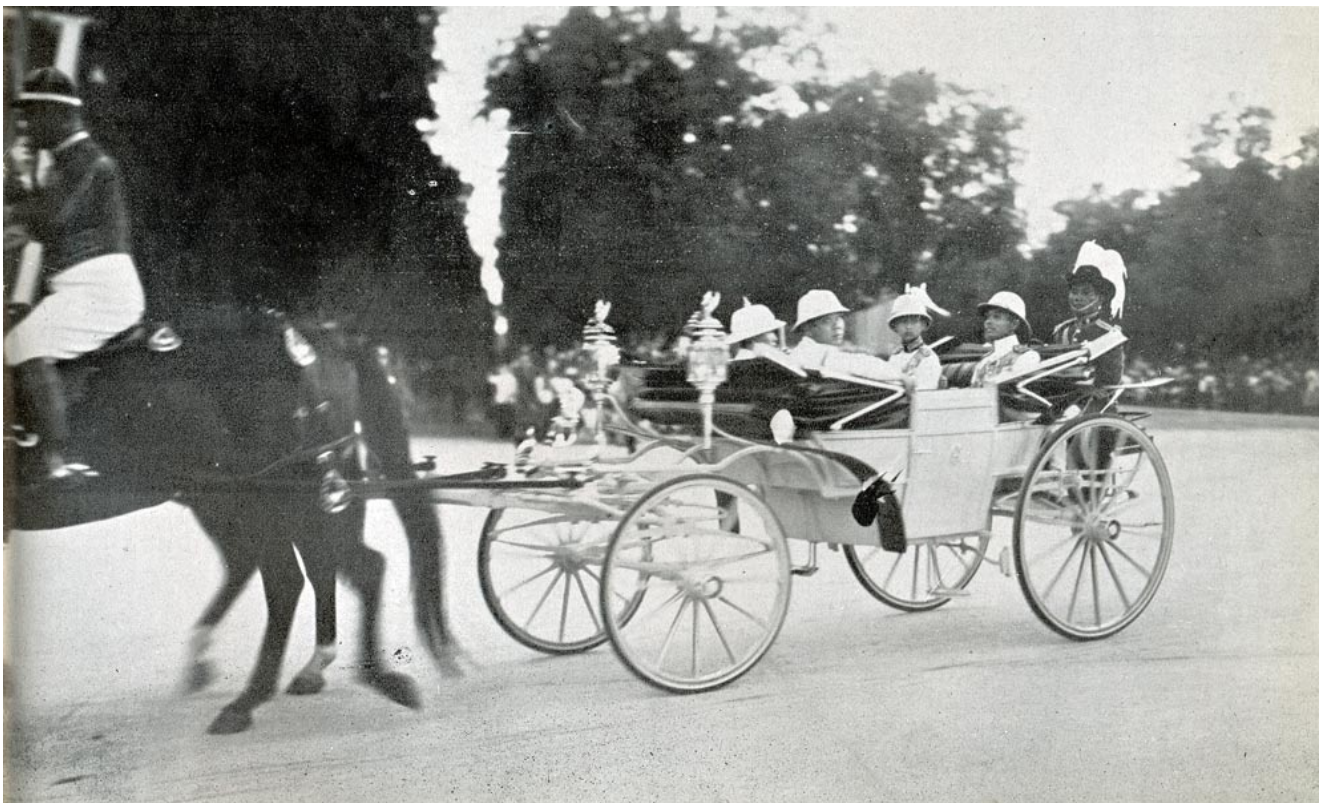
(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Above: The caption to this photo reads: The 15th of November, 1938, will go down in the history of Siam as a day of great rejoicing, for it was the day His Majesty King Ananda Mahidol of Siam for the first time, since He became King, set foot on His own soil...



(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Above: The caption reads: H.M. The King presenting colors to Boy Scout units at the National Stadium.



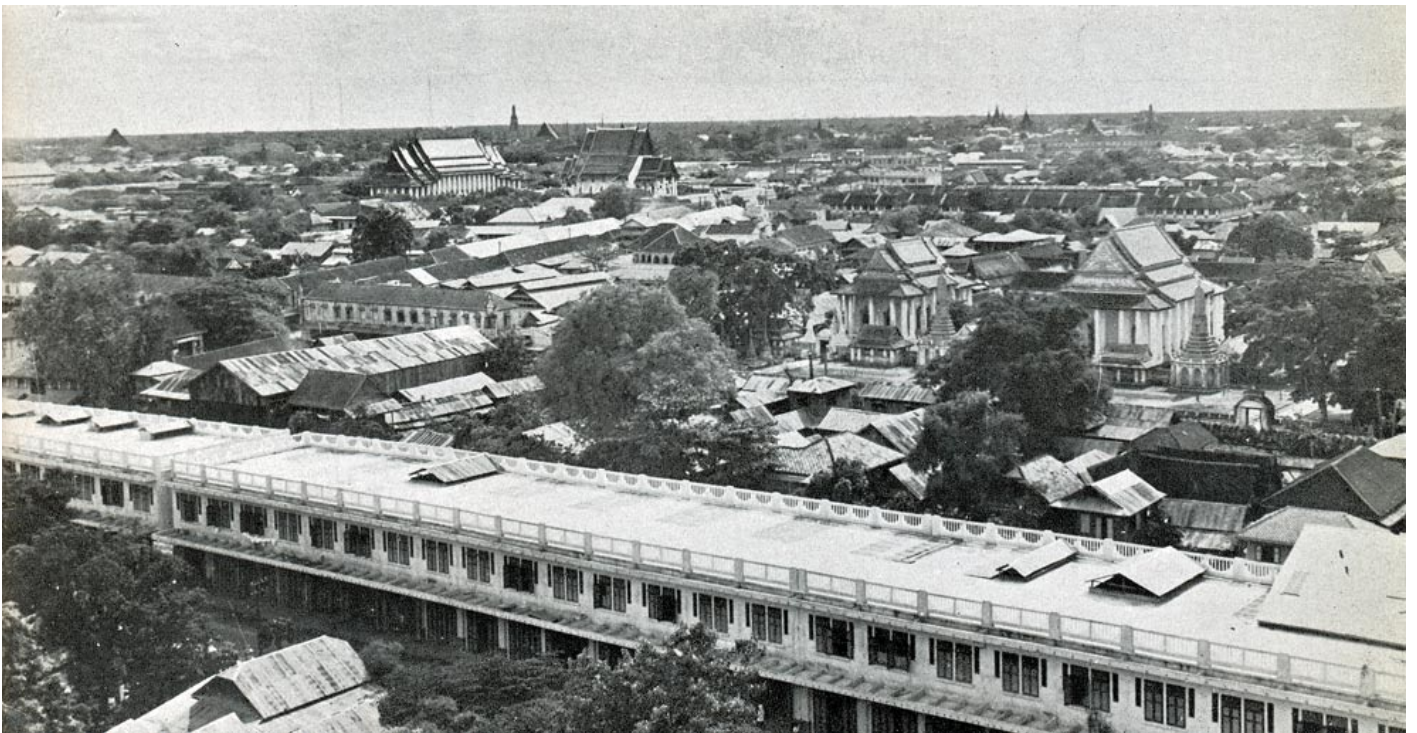
(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Above: The caption reads: His Majesty the King in the Royal Coach with the Prince Regent.



(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Above: The caption reads: ... water splashing as a form of new year's greeting is still practised in Northern Siam, and enjoyed most by young men and young women.



(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Above: The caption to this photo reads: Aerial views of Bangkok as seen from the Golden Mount Pukow Thong of Wat Sraket.



(Source: *Siam*, Volume 2 – 1938)

Trail of Thai Royalty in Massachusetts 1916-1928

October 20, 2010

Categories: History



(Photo: Photo of the infant King courtesy of The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation (KTBF))

PRESS RELEASE – DECEMBER 3, 2009

TRAIL OF THAI ROYALTY IN MASSACHUSETTS 1916-1928

By Cholphanee Koerajna, President of [The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation \(KTBF\)](#)

Preserving Thai History in Cambridge

*On Saturday December 5th at 1:00 PM, at Mount Auburn Hospital, 330 Mount Auburn Street, we will dedicate and celebrate the historic **Trail of Thai Royalty in Massachusetts for Cambridge** at 11 Hawthorn Street, 11 Story Street, 44 Langdon Street, 15 Berkeley Street and Mount Auburn Hospital honoring His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej and his royal family. These historic homes are the home of the parents of two kings, King Anandha Mahidol (Rama VIII) and King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX). The hospital is the birthplace of the only monarch born in the U.S. A “Trail of Thai Royalty Day” program honoring the city’s special connection with Thailand will include authentic Thai cultural experiences.*

On this auspicious day we Thais and Americans will also celebrate His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej’s 82nd birthday and present the Trail of Thai Royalty in Massachusetts as a birthday gift.

Historic Background

The Birth of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

Eighty-two years ago in 1927, on Monday December 5, at 8:45 AM a 6-pound royal baby boy was born at Cambridge Hospital, is now Mount Auburn Hospital. The royal birth was performed

in the operating room of the surgical wing. The baby and the mother were nursery in the Fiske building for 21 days.

Dr. W. Stewart Whittemore, the obstetrician was officiated at the birth of the king with four nurses in attendance; Mrs. Leslie H. Leighton of Cambridge, formerly Miss Frances Hackett, R.N. obstetrical night supervisor, wife of a local physician and President of the Mt. Auburn Hospital Nurses' Alumnae Association; Mrs. Margaret E. Fay of Arlington, Mary Genevieve. Weldon of Brookline, Ruth Harrington at 11 Curve Street of Lexington. The baby name was recorded in the Birth certificate as "Baby Songkla".

Less than three hours after the birth, the 35-year-old father, Prince Mahidol of Songkla, telegraphed his mother, Queen Savang Vadhana, to inform her of the birth of his second son and to request that King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) bestow a name upon the baby. Nine days later on December 14, 1927 a telegram arrived from Thailand by Mom Chao Damras said "Your son's name is Bhumibala Aduladeja". King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) had officially given the baby the name "Bhumibala Aduladeja", pronounced "Poomipon" which means "Strength of the Land with Incomparable Power." Later the name was changed to "Bhumibol Adulyadej".

When the mother, 27-year-old Sangwan Mahidol first saw the telegram, she was not sure what her son's name was in Thai. She thought the name was "Bhumibal" therefore she wrote "Bhumibal" in the birth certificate.

The royal baby was given "Phraworawong Ther Phra Ong Chao" a title at birth which was different from Prince Mahdol's the first two children who did not have this title at birth because their mother was a commoner. They were given this title by the declaration of King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) on November 8, 1927.

Six weeks later in January 1928 the mother and son had gone to Symmes Arlington Hospital to rest and Mrs. George W. Hurley of Arlington took care of the baby. Mrs. Hurley said at the King's visit in 1960, "The king stayed in the nursery and I used to bathe him every day. All my other babies had blue eyes, but the king had big brown eyes."

When I first researched about this hospital, I did not know the name of the hospital, but I learned that the hospital was in Arlington from Princess Galyani Vadhana's book. The princess had very good memory although she was less than 5 years old at that time. She said she remembered the hospital in Arlington, but not in Cambridge. She explained that the road to Arlington hospital was hilly and curved. On my first trip to survey the hospital I went by Woburn way and did not experience with the curved road. On the later trip we went through Arlington and then experienced the curved and hilly road as said in the book and proven that was the right hospital. Symmes Hospital was established in 1901 and closed for business in 1999, and then the building was removed in spring 2008.

When we first came to Massachusetts in 1980, we visited Mount Auburn hospital and saw King Bhumibol Adulyadej's and Queen Sirikit's pictures on the wall of the birth room and a small sign telling about the King's birth in front of the birth room in Fiske building. These pictures were presented as a gift to the hospital when the King and the Queen visited the birthplace in 1960. The King's and the Queen's pictures were later moved to Wyman Building when the Fiske was removed. When the new birthing center was established in the main building, the pictures were relocated there and stay on the fifth floor today. The fifth floor used to be named "The Birthplace".

His Majesty remains in contact with the hospital and thinks of his birthplace. On April 25, 1990, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadaj telegraphed to President Francis P. Lynch of Mount Auburn hospital to congratulate the hospital on the new birthing center. "On this auspicious occasion of the opening of the new birthing center at the Mount Auburn Hospital I am pleased to send my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for the hospitals further progress and success as well as for the happiness and well being of all members. Bhumibol R"

The Fiske building came down in 1982-83, but the surgical wing remains with the Parsons. The room is now a part of Parsons building above the historic plaque where we just unveiled today. The three buildings that make up Parsons were constructed in 1886; the surgical wing was built in 1897; Fiske was built in 1912, with one end right up against the surgical wing. The operating room in this wing remains for us to remember this room as the birthplace of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand.

Have you ever questioned why Prince Mahidol chose to have his son born at Cambridge Hospital? Often time I was asked why Prince Mahidol chose Mount Auburn Hospital for his wife to deliver the baby in Cambridge although the family lived in Brookline and there were hospitals in Brookline and Boston that were closer to their home. I said, "It's a good question, I don't know. I have the same question too". From my research I found a few possible reasons.

Reason # 1; from Dr. Sayre's book Glad Adventure, in which Dr. Sayre expressed their families' close ties during their stay in the US and after returning to Thailand. He wrote of the birth of King Bhumibol Adulyadej: "His second child Prince Bhumibol, was born in a hospital in Cambridge close by our home so that they could be near Jessie and me."

Dr. Sayre was the advisor to Siam Ministry of Foreign Affairs, King Rama VI and Rama VII from 1923-1925.

Reason #2; Mom Sangwan was serving as a volunteer at Cambridge Hospital while she was studying nursing at Simmons College.

Reason # 3; It is perhaps another possible reason that Prince Mahidol experienced with Dr. Whittemore when he was ill in October 1916 and hospitalized at Stillman Infirmary on 1010 Memorial Drive on October 22 where the surgery was performed. Dr. Whittemore examined and cared of his illness since October 13 late evening and Dr. Cabot performed surgery on his leg on October 23 while Prince Mahidol was a student of the School for Health Officers at Harvard University. The Stillman Infirmary was for Harvard students only.

Did anyone know that 18 years later the baby would become a king, and eventually the world's longest living monarch and the only monarch born in the United States?

When "Baby Songkla" was born here 82 years ago, no one knew that 18 years later this baby would become a king. That was not the desire of his parents. Prince Bhumibol left Brookline when he was 7 months old. He was raised up and educated in Switzerland. He became the king following the death of his brother, King Ananda Mahidol, on June 9, 1946.

Prince Mahidol lived a simple life as Mr. Songkla rather than Prince Mahidol while he stayed in Massachusetts. He always wanted his family to live the same way. The evidence from Dr. Sayre addressed Prince Mahidol's concerns about his family.

Dr. Sayre visited Prince Mahidol when he was ill, and wrote of their conversation: "In April 1928, Prince Mahidol fell seriously ill and was taken to a Boston hospital. Fearing the illness might prove fatal, he asked me to come and take down a dying statement touching upon the possibility of one of his children coming to the throne of Siam. In this he asked the King not to make either of them heir to the throne."

Return and return to City Clerk, Cambridge within 15 days after the birth of child.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 3173

Full Name of Child Bhumibol Adulyadej Sarghla

Date of Birth Dec. 5th 1927

Sex male Color y (If other than white)

Place of Birth, No. 330 Mt. Auburn Street, CAMBRIDGE

Name of Father Mahidol Sarghla

Age of Father 35

Place of Birth of Father Bangkok, Siam

Occupation of Father Medical Student

Name of Mother Sarghla Talapat (Maiden Name)

Age of Mother 27

Place of Birth of Mother Bangkok, Siam

Occupation of Mother Housewife

Residence } No. 63 Longwood Ave Street,
of Parents } CAMBRIDGE Brookline Ward 2

Physician or (Midwife) personally attending birth W. Stewart Whittemore M.D.
Physician or Midwife

Report made to City Clerk, Cambridge on Dec. 5, 1927

About His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

King Bhumibol married to Queen Sirikit and has four children; Princess Ubol Rattana, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, Crown Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, and Princess Chulabhorn Walailak. After becoming the king on June 9, 1946, King Bhumibol was crowned King of Thailand on May 5, 1950 at the Royal Palace in Bangkok where he pledged that he would "reign with righteousness for the benefit and happiness of the Siamese people". He is the only king born in the US and longest reigning monarch in the world. He initiated countless development projects for Thailand. He used part of his palace, Chitralada Palace for agricultural research to guide and improve the living of his people. His work for the people of Thailand has earned him great love and respect from his people. King Bhumibol is a painter, jazz musician, photographer, sailor, author and translator. He holds the hearts of people of Thailand.

The King's Visit to His Birthplace

Thirty-Two (32) years later on July 7, 1960 the King's dream was fulfilled when His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej visited his birthplace and met his doctor and the nurses who attended his birth on December 5, 1927. He also visited Harvard Medical School and met Dr. Richard Smith of Brookline who was his Pediatrician. On July 8, he visited his first home at 63 Longwood Ave in Brookline where the family lived during 1926-1928.

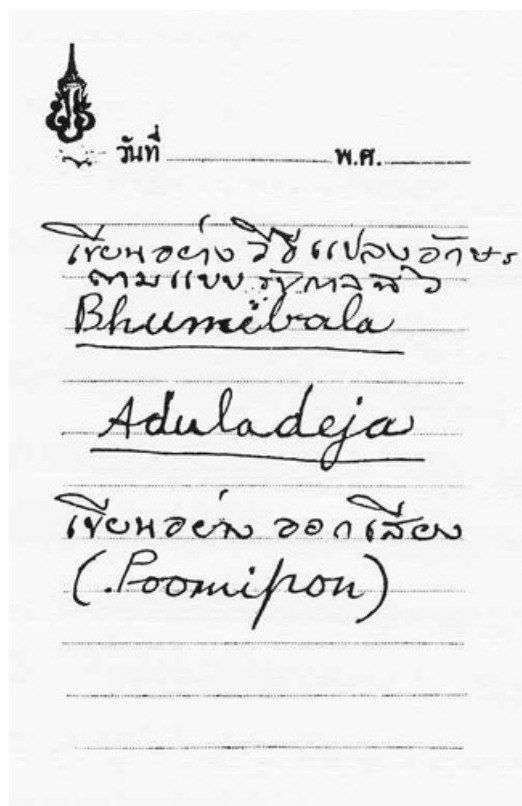
The Boston Globe, Friday, July 8, 1916 wrote about the king visit's activities on July 7: At the hospital, "This is a dream fulfilled," the slight, soft-spoken young monarch told the throngs of well-wishers who turned out to greet him and his Queen Sirikit at a garden reception at the hospital at 3:00 pm. As a souvenir of his visit, Daniel Needham, chairman of the hospital's board of trustees, presented the king with the framed birth record and a scrapbook with other relevant documents. The young king was delighted. One of the main purposes of his visit, he said, "was to come here to this hospital to see my old friends. I am so happy to know them because I didn't know anything then," he added to assembled laughter. The king noted he had been termed "a nice baby" and, "I hope I have grown into something nice." For four nurses who cared for the king during his 21 days as an infant at Mt. Auburn, he had indeed. The king gave each one elegant gold compacts engraved in Siamese with the royal symbol. "He was a darling baby," Mrs. Leighton remembered. "His parents were very modest people and didn't want any fanfare at all."

At a private luncheon at the Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy Street at 1:00 pm at which he presented cigarette case to Dr. W. Stewart Whittemore of Cambridge who delivered the king on December 5, 1927. "He was a very good baby indeed," the doctor recalled. "His mother was a wonderful patient. She never complained."

At the Medical School, the king said that "Thailand owned much of its present health program to the medical knowledge his father had acquired at Harvard."

At the state reception at 7:30 pm, "Boston had much to do with me," the young monarch told 150 city and state dignitaries. "I was born here. My mother and father studied here. But apart from these things, Boston represents much more. It has been the birthplace of your country, and the spirit of freedom is very strong here."

The young king asked permission of his audience to speak not as a monarch, but "as just a private citizen." In warm candor, he recounted his emotions of the afternoon when he stood in the hospital room where he was born and met the doctors who delivered him and cared for him. "I come here as a private citizen, as a human, to see my birthplace," he concluded, and to see the things you do here, and to feel your spirit of freedom."



Historic Homes of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Parents

Prince Mahidol was a son of King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) and Queen Savang Vadhana. Prince Mahidol was the first Thai royal to study in the USA. Prince Mahidol is a younger brother of the kings of Siam, King Vajiravudh (Rama VI), and King Prajadhipok (Rama VII) and father of the two kings, King Anandha (Rama VIII) and King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX).

Princess Sangwan (Miss Sangwan Talapat) was a commoner who received a scholarship from Queen Savang Vadhana to study nursing in the U.S.

The royal baby was born during the second trip that the family stayed in Massachusetts. The family lived in the entire first floor apartment with six rooms and a sun porch at 63 Longwood Ave in Brookline.

While living here Prince Mahidol graduated from Harvard Medical School and received a degree of M.D with cum laude in June 1928 and the Princess Mother studied nursing and household economics at Simmons College and local hospitals. Prince Mahidol was ill for three

weeks after his graduation which delayed the trip back home. The family returned to Thailand on way through Europe on July 15, 1928.

Cambridge is very important to Thai history where the parent of the two kings lived in four houses and was the king's birthplace. Cambridge was the first residence of Princess Mother, then Sangwan Talapat when she first arrived in Massachusetts in September 1918.

On the first trip to Massachusetts, Prince Mahidol stayed in Cambridge from 1916-1919 and in Boston from 1919-1921 while he was studying for Certificate of Public Health at Harvard.

Prince Mahidol arrived in Massachusetts by train on August 27, 1916. Harvard professor Jens Iverson Westengard welcomed Prince Mahidol at the Boston train Station. Westengard was General Advisor to the Royal Siamese Government from 1908-1915, and received the title of "Phraya Kalyan Maitri" from King Vajiravudh. Prof. Westengard had arranged for Prince Mahidol's to attend Harvard.

Prince Mahidol stayed in Gloucester before attending Harvard to study Public Health in September. He moved to Cambridge when the school started. Just 24 years old at the time, Prince Mahidol wanted to be known as Mr. Songkla. He studied in Public Health from at the School for Health Officers, and earned a certificate of Public health, under the joint auspices of Harvard University and MIT. Americans were impressed with his good character, vision and lifestyle.

BRATTLE INN

When the semester started in September 1916 Prince Mahidol rented a suite at Brattle Inn at 48 Brattle Street and still went back to Gloucester occasionally. While staying at the Brattle Inn, Prince Mahidol helped taking care of Thai students and sometimes hosted students in this suite. The Brattle Inn was constructed in 1863 and was demolished in January 1969.

THE HOUSE AT 11 HAWTHORN STREET (45 BRATTLE STREET)

Once he found the house for rent, Prince Mahidol moved to stay at 45 Brattle Street across from the Brattle Inn. Prince Mahidol occupied this house from 1916 to 1918 while studying public health at Harvard University. At that time this house was located at the corner of Brattle and Church streets where it had originally been built. The house was moved to 11 Hawthorn Street in 1926.

THE APARTMENT AT 11 STORY STREET

About the year 1917, a new apartment building, a duplex and finished in stucco, was constructed at 11 Story Street in Cambridge. Story Street is near the corner of Brattle St and Story St and relatively short and runs from 48 Brattle to 125 Mt. Auburn St, not far from then Cambridge and now Mt. Auburn Hospital. Prince Mahidol was perhaps attracted by the modern facilities offered by the new building of the apartment at 11 Story Street. In 1918 he moved to this unpretentious apartment with 1 bedroom with 2 beds, study room with a folding bed, one bathroom and a small kitchen. He stayed here until he completed his public health studies at Harvard University in 1919.

He then moved to 329 Longwood Ave in Boston to further study in Public Health at Harvard University and MIT.



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

Above: 44 Landon Street

THE BUILDING AT 44 LANDON STREET

Between 1917 and 1927 this building housed the Siamese (Thai) Office of Educational Affairs headed by Phraya Chanindra, the government officer. This office took care of Thai scholarship students in America. Staff of other governmental offices also worked and lived here. There were about 50 scholarship students studying in New England and New York states during that time.

One of those students was Miss Sangwan Talapat, who was to marry Prince Mahidol and become the Princess Mother. Having received a scholarship from Queen Savang Vadhana to study nursing, Miss Sangwan arrived in Boston by train from San Francisco with eight other students on the evening of September 21, 1918. She was welcomed at Boston Train Station by Prince Mahidol who had come to greet the students and take them to the Brattle Inn at 48 Brattle Street. Miss Sangwan later moved to 44 Langdon Street and stayed here until September 28. Miss Sangwan then moved to live with the Strong family at 18 East Greenfield, Hartford in Connecticut to study in grade 6 and 7 at the grammar school, North Western School in Hartford. Since "Love at First Sight" at Boston Train Station, Prince Mahidol often visited Miss Sangwan in Hartford and engaged to her in Hartford in 1919.

From 1921 to 1927 this building also housed the Siamese Alliance (Siam Samakom), the first Thai student association in the USA, established under Prince Mahidol's leadership.

During Prince Mahidol's study at Harvard from 1916-1921 in addition to his mission on the study of public health, he looked after Thai students in their education, social, living and finance. Miss Sangwan, one of the students was a commoner. With permission from the King, Miss Sangwan married Prince Mahidol on September 10, 1920 in Bangkok and became the Princess Mother. At that time Prince Mahidol and his wife stayed at 329 Longwood Ave in Boston. Princess Sangwan studied Household Economics and Nursing at Simmons College in Boston and School Health at MIT. They both left Boston for Europe on September 24, 1921.

Prince Mahidol led students to establish the Siamese Alliance (Siam Samakom) to encourage students to learn democracy, working together following the by-law while studying in the US.

The Siamese Alliance was established on July 23, 1921 at Gradford Club in Cambridge. Thirty-Five students including Prince Mahidol and Princess Sangwan were present that day. Mr. Li Sripayak was President; Mr. Thavil (Tha-whin) Kooptarak was Vice President and Secretary.

This building was Shepherd Apartments built of Harvard face brick with stone trimmings, four stories, with four suites on each floor. It was built by Edward A. and E. Gilmore Shepherd in 1915.

THE HOUSE AT 15 BERKELEY STREET

The Princess Mother of Thailand (née Miss Sangwan Talapat) stayed in this house with the Williston family from September 1919 to April 1920. Miss Sangwan was preparing herself to study nursing at Simmons College and local hospitals under a scholarship from Queen Savang Vadhana. Miss Sangwan studied arts and other subjects with the two Williston sisters Emily and Constance and attended Miss Edith Johnson's Tutoring School as well. This house was not only the Williston's home, but also the Berkeley Street School until 1912. The school later joined with the Cambridge School for Girls.

After the engagement, Miss Sangwan moved back to Massachusetts and stayed with the Kent family at 49 Cedar Road, Belmont until August 1919. Mr. Kent was a Mathematics professor.



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

Above: Dedication ceremony at 44 Landon Street

About Prince Mahidol

During his early years Prince Mahidol had been sent by his father to study in Germany, and he was slated to head the Siamese navy. At the German capital he used to see Kaiser Wilhelm and occasionally was entertained by the Kaiser at Potsdam. But as he matured he kept asking himself, "Why a Siamese navy?" As a result of his growing convictions and his belief that what Siam needed most was an understanding of how to fight disease he decided to abandon a naval career and to devote himself instead to the study of medicine and public health. So, with the

King's permission, he came to Boston to study in Public Health at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Prince Mahidol interviewed with the Boston Globe and the New York Times. He expressed his interest to come to study in the US to seek knowledge in Health Care for benefit to his people.

In the The New York Times interview, published September 25, 1916. Prince Mahidol expressed his goals and hopes for his people:

"I am not likely to reach the throne, but that does not worry me," the Prince said by way of introduction. "My ambition is to lead a life of usefulness. I could live comfortably and honored as his Majesty's brother, but I think it is very sill that I should be honored simply because I happen to be whom I am. If I am to be honored I wish it to be because I have earned my honors."

The Interview with Boston Daily Globe, published September 24, 1916. Prince Mahidol expressed his personality and mission in coming to America; to seek knowledge in health care to help his people deal with the problems of public health in tropical diseases:

"I do not want to be treated one bit differently from anybody else while I am here," the Prince explained last evening, with his contagious smile. "I am not here to enjoy myself – although I expect to derive much pleasure from my experience here – or to spend money, but to study hard and to apply my knowledge to the best interests of my country."

"I do not want to be known as 'Prince' while I am here," the young man continued earnestly. "Plain 'Mr. Songla' will suit me a great deal better. You see, one of my titles is 'Duke of Songkla' and while I am here I prefer to use that name with the American prefix 'Mr.'"

Prince Mahidol successfully worked with Rockefeller Foundation to receive aid in improving the medical education of Thailand that results the country to achieve a better health care system and quality personnel to the present time. Unfortunately Prince Mahidol died in the prime of his life at just age 37 on September 24th, 1929 after working at McCormick Hospital in Chiang Mai as a resident doctor for a short time. The good memory of him and his family still remains.

Trail of Thai Royalty

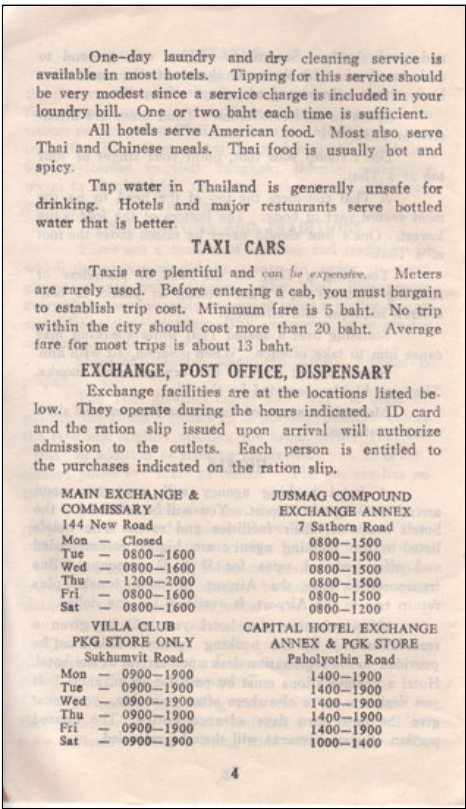
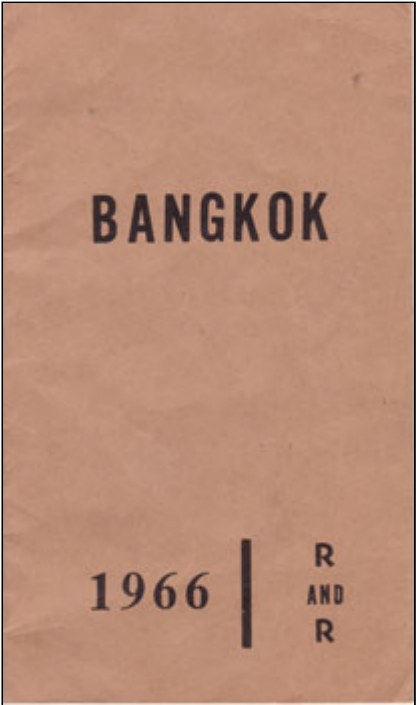
*The **Trail of Thai Royalty** honors Thailand's longest reigning, most beloved monarch, King Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX), and his royal family. Sites connected to His Majesty's family received plaques that tell the story and express gratitude and respect to a King who has dedicated himself to developing Thailand and the well being of all Thai people.*

The Trail is ten historic sites listed on a bronze plaque at The Birthplace Monument at King Bhumibol Adulyadej Square, Harvard Square in Cambridge. Seven sites are expected to receive individual plaques with historical comments in Gloucester, Cambridge, Brookline and Martha's Vineyard. The Trail will foster international friendships, give Thai visitors a warm feeling and remind Commonwealth residents of our tradition of international hospitality and friendship.

Cholthanee Koerajna is president of The King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation. Her project is funded by individuals of goodwill toward Thailand to preserve this piece of Thai history. To learn more, please visit thailink.com/ktbf or call her at 781-365-0083 or 781-351-1885.

Bangkok R&R 1966

October 20, 2010
Categories: History



<p>dresses. Medium and heavy weights are excellent for suits and jackets. Thai silk is of fine quality, comes in a variety of colors and is usually a good buy. Most jewelry and souvenir shops offer silk. Silk factories are slightly higher in price but offer a better selection.</p> <p>The Thai Silk Co., Ltd. Excellent quality. Suriwong Road (Jim Thompson's) Slightly higher in price.</p> <p>Dhebanom Thai Silk Good selection. Claysorn Road Fine quality.</p> <p>Bangkok Thai Silk Good ready-to-wear selection Pat Pong Road sport shirts.</p> <p>Star of Siam Good Selection. Fine quality. Across from Erawan Hotel Slightly higher in price.</p> <p>S. Theb Thai Silk Factory Excellent quality. Off Rama I Road near Grand Hotel Good Selection.</p> <p>Shinawatra Silk Factory Good Selection. 94 Sukumvit Soi Prasarnmit (Soi 23)</p> <p>BRONZWARE: Thai bronzeware is world famous. Countless designs are available. There is a choice of bronze, buffalo horn or rosewood handles. Horn or rosewood handles deteriorate after immersion for any period in very hot water. A variety of sets, up to complete dinner service for 12 in a teak wood chest, are available. Massive brass candle-holder are very popular. These can easily be converted into distinctive table lamps.</p> <p>SOME STORES FOR BRONZWARE:</p> <table><tr><td>S. Samran Thailand Factory</td><td>High quality and comparable price</td></tr><tr><td>Petchburi Road</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Thai Lapidary</td><td>Wide range of quality and prices</td></tr><tr><td>283 Rama I Road</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Johnny's Gems</td><td>Wide range of quality and prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Kee Teck Jewelry</td><td>Wide range of quality and prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Sikuk Phayasri</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>V. Thailand</td><td>Wide range of quality and prices.</td></tr><tr><td>264 Rama I Road</td><td></td></tr></table>		S. Samran Thailand Factory	High quality and comparable price	Petchburi Road		Thai Lapidary	Wide range of quality and prices	283 Rama I Road		Johnny's Gems	Wide range of quality and prices.	Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel		Kee Teck Jewelry	Wide range of quality and prices.	Sikuk Phayasri		V. Thailand	Wide range of quality and prices.	264 Rama I Road																					
S. Samran Thailand Factory	High quality and comparable price																																								
Petchburi Road																																									
Thai Lapidary	Wide range of quality and prices																																								
283 Rama I Road																																									
Johnny's Gems	Wide range of quality and prices.																																								
Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel																																									
Kee Teck Jewelry	Wide range of quality and prices.																																								
Sikuk Phayasri																																									
V. Thailand	Wide range of quality and prices.																																								
264 Rama I Road																																									
<p>JEWELRY: Best buys are usually "Princess" rings, topaz, alexandrite, rubies, star sapphires, and the unique neil- loware.</p> <p>SOME STORES FOR JEWELRY</p> <table><tr><td>Star of Siam</td><td>Good selection. High quality and prices. Very little bargaining.</td></tr><tr><td>Across from Erawan Hotel</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Thai Lapidary</td><td>Wide range of prices and quality.</td></tr><tr><td>283 Rama I Road</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Johnny's Gems</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Rama Jewelry</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>Surasak Road opposite Rama Hotel</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Alex & Company</td><td>High quality and prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Oriental Avenue</td><td>No bargaining.</td></tr><tr><td>Oriental Jewelry & Company</td><td>Wide selection and reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>Oriental Avenue</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>James Jewelers</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>542/1 4 Petchburi Road and near Capital Hotel</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Tommy's Gems</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>229 Fueng Nakorn (Sikuk Phayasri)</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>Kee Teck Jewelry</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>Sikuk Phayasri</td><td>prices.</td></tr><tr><td>V. Thailand</td><td>Good selection at reasonable</td></tr><tr><td>264 Rama I Road</td><td>prices.</td></tr></table> <p>BUDDHAS: Under Thai law certain articles such as Buddha images are classed as objects d'art and may not be exported from Thailand without permission of the Fine Arts Department. Only licensed shops are authorized to sell these images. Purchase of Buddha images or Buddha heads from other than licensed dealers is at the risk of the purchaser. Arranging for export permission from the Fine Arts Department must be handled personally. The US Embassy is unable to provide advice or assistance.</p> <p>SOME THOUGHTS ON BARGAINING: The visitor to Bangkok will soon discover that he must bargain for</p>		Star of Siam	Good selection. High quality and prices. Very little bargaining.	Across from Erawan Hotel		Thai Lapidary	Wide range of prices and quality.	283 Rama I Road		Johnny's Gems	Good selection at reasonable	Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel	prices.	Rama Jewelry	Good selection at reasonable	Surasak Road opposite Rama Hotel	prices.	Alex & Company	High quality and prices.	Oriental Avenue	No bargaining.	Oriental Jewelry & Company	Wide selection and reasonable	Oriental Avenue	prices.	James Jewelers	Good selection at reasonable	542/1 4 Petchburi Road and near Capital Hotel	prices.	Tommy's Gems	Good selection at reasonable	229 Fueng Nakorn (Sikuk Phayasri)	prices.	Kee Teck Jewelry	Good selection at reasonable	Sikuk Phayasri	prices.	V. Thailand	Good selection at reasonable	264 Rama I Road	prices.
Star of Siam	Good selection. High quality and prices. Very little bargaining.																																								
Across from Erawan Hotel																																									
Thai Lapidary	Wide range of prices and quality.																																								
283 Rama I Road																																									
Johnny's Gems	Good selection at reasonable																																								
Fueng Nakorn Road, Sukhumvit, and near Capital Hotel	prices.																																								
Rama Jewelry	Good selection at reasonable																																								
Surasak Road opposite Rama Hotel	prices.																																								
Alex & Company	High quality and prices.																																								
Oriental Avenue	No bargaining.																																								
Oriental Jewelry & Company	Wide selection and reasonable																																								
Oriental Avenue	prices.																																								
James Jewelers	Good selection at reasonable																																								
542/1 4 Petchburi Road and near Capital Hotel	prices.																																								
Tommy's Gems	Good selection at reasonable																																								
229 Fueng Nakorn (Sikuk Phayasri)	prices.																																								
Kee Teck Jewelry	Good selection at reasonable																																								
Sikuk Phayasri	prices.																																								
V. Thailand	Good selection at reasonable																																								
264 Rama I Road	prices.																																								

Coffe Shop American style coffee shop. Excellent food.
Rama Hotel, 31010
Floating Restaurant Good Chinese and Thai food.
Lumpini Park
French Restaurant Excellent food. Pleasant atmosphere.
Rama Hotel, 31010
Golden Dragon Good Chinese food.
Sukhumvit Road, 56433
La Cave Excellent food, slightly expensive.
Erawan Hotel, 59870
Le Chalet Excellent food slightly Expensive.
Erawan Hotel, 59870
Nick's No. 1 Hungarian atmosphere and cuisine.
Sathorn Road near JUSMAG Specialize in Kobe beef. Slightly expensive.
Nipa Hut Specialize in Mexican food. Excellent quality.
Sukhumvit Road, 912611
Normandie Grill Unequalled view of Bangkok and the river from top of the Oriental. Closed Mondays
Oriental Hotel, 34941
Riverside Restaurant Open air. Fine view of river. Good food.
Oriental Hotel, 34941

NIGHT CLUBS:

Most of the night clubs have bands or combos in an American or European atmosphere. Many have dance floor shows. A number also serve food. Drinks of all sorts are available and expensive.

A number of popular night clubs are listed for your convenience. Again, this does not constitute official endorsement.

Ambassador Room Dine, dance and floor show.
Erawan Hotel, 59870
Bamboo Bar Dancing, entertainment
Oriental Hotel, 39491 Closed Mondays.
Champagne Room Dance and floor show.
Custom House Lane, 33198
Keynote Dinner and Dance
Pat Pong Road, 31973

Lido Club Dance and floor show.
Opposite Gaysorn Court
Lolita Dance and drinks.
Rajadamnern Avenue
Max's Place Drinks.
Pat Pong Road, 32468
Moulin Rouge Dance and drinks.
Rajadamnern Avenue
Ramayana Dance, drinks, snacks.
Rama Hotel, 31010

MILITARY CLUBS:

U.S. NCO OPEN MESS: (Grades E5 thru E9) Located at 438/16 Rajavithi Road, Tel. 74432

Operating Hours — Mon Thru Thu — 1100 — 2400
 Friday — 1100 — 0200
 Sat & Holidays — 0900 — 0200
 Sundays — 0900 — 2400

Floor show every Friday and Saturday. Bingo on Tuesday.

VILLA CLUB: (All grades) Located on Sukhumvit Road near Soi 35. Tel. 910912

Operating Hours—Dining Room: Mon, Tue, Thu. — 0600 to 2200
 Sat, Sun — 0600 to 2230
 Wed — 0600 to 2300
 Bar: Sun—Thu — 1200 to 2300
 Fri & Sat — 1200 to 0100

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

United States facilities use only American currency. All locally owned premises use Thai currency. The baht, sometimes called tical, is worth about five cents. Some of the larger hotels and businesses will accept US currency. However, it is always better to deal with local money.

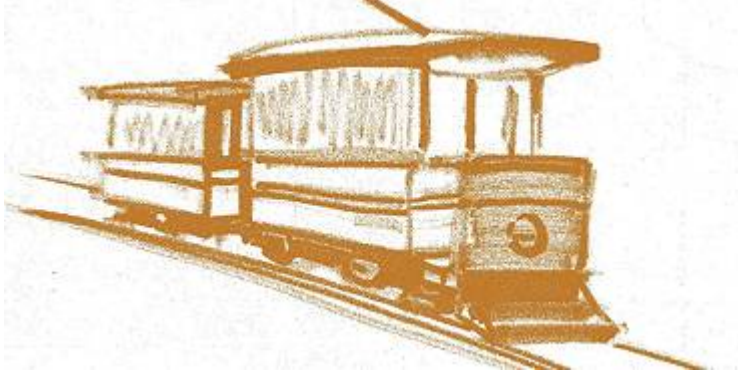
Baht can be purchased from the JUSMAG Finance Office or the American Embassy cashier at a constant rate of 20.65 baht to \$1.00. Major hotels have a money exchange service available. This service is also provided at the airport by a Thai Bank. Be cautious in dealing

Take a ride through Bangkok on a tram in the 1920s

October 20, 2010

Categories: Trams

Take a ride through Bangkok
on a tram in the 1920s – Screen captures from a Japanese documentary





































The Government Must Step Down!

October 20, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From *Thai Rath*, Cartoon by Sia, October 20, 2010

The cartoon headline reads: At front side showing the sacredness and what is being shown behind?

The word on the robe of the hooded figure reads: Order crackdown on the people

The smoke from the incense reads: Do not dissolve

Flooding the Mouth

October 20, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Floods



From *Komchadluek*, October 20, 2010

Left: Because of the depression that causes heavy flooding at this present, this hampers the government's work and they are not able to solve any problem.

Middle: What's the connection with the flood?

Right: The flood that keeps the government in silence .

The United States and Drugs in Thailand and Burma

October 20, 2010

Categories: Drugs, Myanmar/Burma

[Operation Paper: The United States and Drugs in Thailand and Burma](#) – *Japan Focus*, October, 2010

Man admits beating Thai workers

October 20, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Man admits beating Thai workers](#) – *Edmonton Journal*, October 20, 2010

A swarming that ended in the death of a Thai worker this summer started as a robbery by a group of youths who left the scene with no money from their victims, only blood on their hands...

LOL: Thai Rip-Off of Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast'

October 20, 2010

Categories: Film and TV

[LOL: Thai Rip-Off of Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast'](#) – slashfilm.com, October 20, 2010

For anyone who has dreamed of watching a shot for shot remake of Disney's 1991 Best Picture nominee Beauty and the Beast with inferior animation and terrible voice acting from a foreign country, your day has finally come...

Indra's Net: A New Novel Set in Thailand

October 21, 2010

Categories: Books

Indra's Net: A New Novel Set in Thailand – October 21, 2010

From a press release: *...In the book, young James Carpenter arrives in Bangkok in 1968 at the height of the Vietnam War looking for clues to his own identity. He is destined to discover connections he never anticipated and scarcely comprehends. Found as an infant in the infamous Golden Triangle by a Catholic priest and adopted by an American couple, Carpenter returns to the land of his origins to intern with the man who found him. But that man – the priest – has disappeared. Carpenter's search for the Father leads to encounters that go beyond his expectations, if not his dreams. The search attracts treasure-seekers of many kinds including an AWOL American soldier, an Iraqi jewel merchant and the evil 'Phi Rak' or 'Brother Love'. It ends in a cave complex deep in the Shan hills of Myanmar where the startling truth of Indra's Net is revealed.* [Indra's Net website](#)

Most Thais committed to ‘middle path’

October 21, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Most Thais committed to ‘middle path’](#) – *Radio Australia*, October 21, 2010

...Really this is about inter-elite conflicts, Thaksin is a member of the elite and indeed many of the very close supporters of him were from business sector, there were even sections of the army, of course the police, Thaksin was an ex-policeman, and even members of the extended royal family have appeared on the platforms of the Red Shirts. Can Thailand build the necessary institutions that will facilitate reconciliation, ensure law and order and allow democracy to function?...

Road Accidents Top Killer of US Travelers

October 21, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Road Accidents Top Killer of US Travelers](#) – *AOL Travel News*, October 21, 2010

...Of the deaths, almost 40% happened in Mexico. The second highest number of road fatalities occurred in Thailand, followed by the Dominican Republic, Germany and Spain...

Mobiles barred from meetings of court judges

October 21, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Mobiles barred from meetings of court judges](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 21, 2010

Judges caught on camera discussing the Democrat Party case have decided what to do about it – ban mobile phones at future meetings...

Defaced Sign

October 21, 2010

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Defaced sign – October 21, 2010

The sign reads: The Democrat Party – Thank you Bangkok people – for every vote that will not wasted

Underneath someone has spray painted “tyrant”

Some earlier vandalized signs are [here](#).

English, a sign of a colonized country for Thailand's minister of education

October 21, 2010

Categories: Culture and Society

[English, a sign of a colonized country for Thailand's minister of education](#) – eturbonews, October 21, 2010
...”Taking English as its second official language might lead to misunderstandings that Thailand had been colonized in the past,” according to the ministry. The minister indicated that countries in the region who have English as their second language were, in fact, all viewed as former colonies...

4 years when happiness disappears

October 21, 2010

Categories: Elections



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: 4 years when happiness disappears – 4 years have passed – Come to create the happiness together again for every Thai – The Pheu Thai Party

Men on Fire

October 22, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 22, 2010

The judge is saying: I apologize to every judge that my secretary troubles this organization.

The seal on the back wall reads: Constitutional Court

The dust-free road project

October 22, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From *Thai Rath*, by Chai Ratchawat, October 22, 2010

Left: The dust-free road project by Sophon Zarum seems to be on hold.

Middle: No people want it. / Why?

Right: Nowadays, they have the road that is free of dust already.

Mel Gibson Cameo in The Hangover 2 Canceled

October 22, 2010

Categories: Film and TV

[Mel Gibson Cameo in The Hangover 2 Canceled](#) – *People*, October 22, 2010

Cambodia opens first line of restored rail system

October 22, 2010

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia opens first line of restored rail system](#) – *Gulf Times*, October 22, 2010

A new rail line opened in Cambodia yesterday, a crucial first step towards restoring the country's devastated rail system after decades of civil war and neglect...

‘An off-peak return from Singapore to Scotland...’

October 22, 2010

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Railroads

[‘An off-peak return from Singapore to Scotland...’](#) – *Independent*, October 22, 2010

Cambodia provides ‘missing link’ in Iron Silk Road rail project...

USS George Washington arrives in Thailand

October 22, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

[USS George Washington arrives in Thailand](#) – *Pattaya Mail*, October, 2010

Some Perspective on Thai Community Radio

October 23, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Community Radio

2Bangkok Situation Update: Some perspective on Thai Community Radio – October 23, 2010

This [blog post on Thaksin's lobbying blog](#) once again brings up the interesting case of community radio.

It is extraordinary that Thaksin, a stalwart foe of community radio during his time in power, also criticizes the present government for opposing political expression via community radio as he did.

Community radio has a long and checked history in Thailand. The modern heyday of community radio has been in the last 20 years when it was revived as an innovation in the aftermath of the events of Black May in 1992 to create modern democratic discourse and decentralize power. In the last decade, grassroots criticism of governments has clashed with the belief in the necessity for deference to maintain an orderly society.

Community radio, as well as other independent checks and balances in the 1997 constitution, were persistently undermined by Thaksin's governments. Community radio stations were to be managed by a broadcasting association. The Thai Rak Thai government simply refused to set up the association and thus treated the stations that began to operate as illegal entities.

Considering the many existing political factions that had been cobbled together to form Thaksin majority, it is likely that allowing community radio at the time would have allowed local political bickering that would have impacted Thaksin's one-party dream. Some links and background to the Thaksin community radio years are [here](#).

The trick of refusing to enact organic laws to stymie rights granted in the constitution was corrected in the 2007 charter which did not require governments to enact agencies in order for portions of the rights granted in the charter to be valid.

The Democrats tried the same tact recently by contending that, since they had not set up environmental oversight panels, no environmental impact studies were required on industrial estates. The courts ruled against them.

This issue of community radio within the context of Thai society is not really about free speech, but about two other linked issues.

First is the willingness of a hierarchical society being able to accept independent checks and balances—or even open criticism—of those in top positions of authority. While this may seem hard to appreciate or even risible to Western minds, it is key to understanding the underlying dynamics of the challenge faced in the highly stratified Thai world.

Secondly, Thai society is having to determine acceptable limits of both speech and protest. For instance, what sort of free speech oversteps traditional *greng jai* notions of respect and deference? Should radio stations be allowed to call for insurrection and the killing of the prime minister's family? Should throwing bags of urine or overrunning government house be considered acceptable forms of protest in a democratic society? Can Thailand create its own standards or must it accede to Western standards of free speech? These are valid discussion points in a society that considers open protest to be a shameful display of disunity rather than a normal venue for free expression.

Despite attempts to restrict it, community radio is rapidly allowing local criticism to proliferate and impact central authority. Along with SMS messages, which reach even remote villages, these technologies are creating the expectation of free speech and expression—while at the same time being aggressively co-opted by forces on every side of the political landscape. The challenge is how society will integrate these new forms of expression into existing morals and values.

It is important to note that the nature of the protests earlier this year, when Red Shirts were saying (and continue to say) that they had broken no laws and must overthrow the government by any means, do not reflect a dawn of new democratic thinking or free speech. This behavior is still entirely within the existing Thai cultural context.

These types of statements and activities imply that peaceful people who become "dissatisfied" have every right to act violently (more about this sort of idea here-> [About Thai protests](#)).

Having explained all of this, it is probably important to note that we are in a reactionary time, with epoch-defining events to occur in the near term and a new military clique in the ascendancy. The present government is coming out of a period of near civil war chaos so it is perhaps not surprising that they would take a heavy handed approach to Red Shirt activities. We can expect more conservatism from the establishment and probably not any revolutionary change in Thai thinking about these issues.

Thai magazine praises President Ho Chi Minh

October 23, 2010

Categories: Vietnam

[Thai magazine praises President Ho Chi Minh](#) – *VOVNews*, October 23, 2010

Thai restaurants spark food fight

October 23, 2010

Categories: Food and Drink

[Thai restaurants spark food fight](#) – *BBC News*, October 23, 2010

The latest in a string of Thai restaurants run by foreign chefs has opened in Bangkok, with some controversy...

Red Bull's Taxing Affair For Thai Billionaire

October 24, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Red Bull's Taxing Affair For Thai Billionaire](#) – *Forbes*, October, 2010

...The new tax comes at an awkward time for Red Bull's billionaire founders after global sales dipped 1.7% last year to \$4.4 billion. The energy drink had been banned in some European countries due to concerns over its ingredients, but the restrictions have since been lifted...

Libido enhancers and strength boosters

October 25, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Libido enhancers and strength boosters: A beginner's guide to ya dong](#) – *CNN Go*, October 25, 2010

The Outrage of Tak Bai

October 25, 2010

Categories: The Thai Deep South, The Thaksin Years

[The outrage of Tak Bai](#) – Bangkok Post, October 25, 2010

...The members of the Thaksin government and the army have strongly defended the actions against the demonstrators, and have rejected all claims of malfeasance or even errors during the violence or in transporting the prisoners. Under the military junta which ousted Thaksin, then-prime minister Surayud Chulanont travelled to Pattani and issued an apology. “What happened in the past was mostly the fault of the state,” he said. He announced several procedural changes in administration. Reparations were made to some families of the dead, and the government dropped the laughable charges of instigating the riot against 92 people who survived the violence...

Earlier: [PM says Post report ‘awful’](#) – Bangkok Post, October 31, 2004

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra yesterday slammed the Bangkok Post for damaging international confidence in Thailand’s democratic system with its report that southern Muslim religious and community leaders will ask for a royally-appointed government from His Majesty the King to replace his administration...

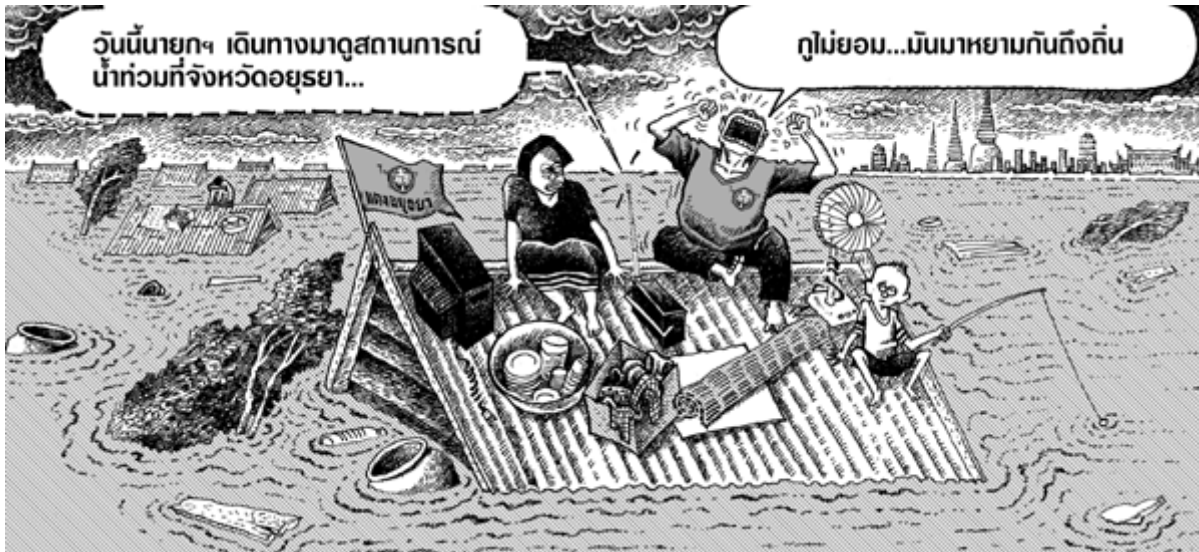


Above: Thaksin addressing the nation on October 30, 2004 following the controversy of the Tak Bai incident.

Red Ayuthaya

October 26, 2010

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 26, 2010

The small flag on the roof reads: Red Ayuthaya

Left (on the radio): Today the Prime Minister travels to visit the flood area in Ayuthaya

Right (the man is saying): I will not surrender... It comes to our homeland!

UN sec-gen: Thai politics internal affair

October 26, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[UN sec-gen: Thai politics internal affair](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 26, 2010

Thailand's political conflict is an internal affair and the Thai people must settle the problem on their own, UN secretary-general Ban Ki-Moon said in a press conference at Government House on Tuesday afternoon...

High-speed train project off tracks

October 26, 2010

Categories: Thai Railroads

[High-speed train project off tracks](#) – *The Nation*, October 26, 2010

[Parliament approves high-speed rail framework](#) – *The Nation*, October 27, 2010

Sorajja predicts 2011 to be even more disastrous than 2009

October 26, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Local Beliefs

Sorajja predicts 2011 to be even more disastrous than 2009 – Thailand has a chance to lose territory – The world will be more aberrant with piles of death – translated and summarized from *Matichon*, October 26, 2010

The issue has become the hot topic of the town after the prediction about disasters related to Thailand as told by Sorajja Nuanyoo, the famous astrologer of Thailand who is also known as the Thai Nostradamus.

The famous book “Astrology Science Year 2009” told of much chaos and loss precisely including the bloody political crisis causing great loss of people’s lives. In the late April to May, Thais lost “national harmony” until the city arson occurred the following year. This included mass death from plane accident, cars, etc. and recently, the flood in the North, Central, the Northeastern regions which is coming close to Bangkok, generating sufferings to people everywhere...

Arisman ‘seeks Cambodian visa’

October 26, 2010

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Arisman ‘seeks Cambodian visa’](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 26, 2010

Fugitive red shirt leader Arisman Pongruengrong has reportedly recently filed an application for a Cambodian visa from the country’s consulate in Sa Kaeo’s Aranyaprathet district...

Why no Hyundais in Bangkok?

October 27, 2010

Categories: Uncategorized

[Why no Hyundais in Bangkok?](#) – Korea Times, October 27, 2010

...For Hyundai, Thailand slaps such high tariffs on imported cars that it can't afford to export them.

Obviously, Hyundai could avert the high levy by opening local factories but has not done so after closing one in 1997.

...At any rate, Hyundai's departure is still remembered by those in the decision-making roles as well as the public, making it difficult for the world's fifth largest carmaker to come back, the person said.

Thailand's tariff on imported cars runs up to 80 percent of the car's price. The only way to avoid it is to manufacture cars here, the method adopted by the Japanese players that dominate the Thailand markets...

Prayuth's ban a real shame

October 27, 2010

Categories: Thai Military, Thai Politics

[Prayuth's ban a real shame](#) – Bangkok Post, October 27, 2010

...Gen Prayuth said he was going to enforce the decree's absolute ban on protests because any demonstrations during Mr Ban's visit, with the world watching, would embarrass the country. The general may have got this backwards. It is embarrassing that protests specifically allowed last week by the prime minister were suddenly stopped by a military order under a law that has drawn strong criticism from abroad. Overuse of the onerous state of emergency has become an issue, both at home and overseas...

Chinese marine officers arrive in Thailand for joint military drill

October 27, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

[Chinese marine officers arrive in Thailand for joint military drill](#) – *People's Daily*, October 27, 2010

A Chinese special contingent made up of 115 marine officers arrived in Sattahip, Tuesday to join a joint military drill code-named "Blue Strike 2010" with Thai troops...

Thai sex workers urged to protect themselves against HIV

October 27, 2010

Categories: HIV-AIDS

[Thai sex workers urged to protect themselves against HIV](#) – ABC Online, October, 2010

...An advertisement by the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers uses Barbie dolls to show how they're treated by police and others more powerful than them.

SONG: I got arrested and they rape me. This is raid raid raid, not rescue...

Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

October 27, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Corruption Perceptions Index \(CPI\)](#) – October 27, 2010

Thailand is 78th. The pdf is downloadable from [here](#).

Pro and Con

October 27, 2010

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

[An Open Letter to the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon](#) – *Facebook*, October 27, 2010

And in [Thai](#).

[In Defense of Thaksin Shinawatra – by Robert Amsterdam](#) – *Foreign Policy*, October 27, 2010

Is the flooding of 2010 the worst in 50 or 70 years?

October 28, 2010

Categories: Floods

October 28, 2010 – We have noted the various claims that the present country wide flooding is the worst in 50 or even 70 years.

This may be true by various criteria, but there have also been other floods over the years that were certainly as bad or worse than the current situation.

The page numbers cited below refer to pages in the [*Chronicle of Thailand*](#).



1942 – [The Great Flood of 1942](#)

1966 – Nong Khai “submerged” – About 30 people dead (p. 150)

1970 – 100 killed when 19 provinces hit by heavy rains and flooding (p. 174)

1975 – 166 killed in Surat Thani Nakhon Si Thammarat – Flooding from to Chumphon to Yala (p. 203)

1978 – Chiang Mai to Bangkok flooded (p. 224)

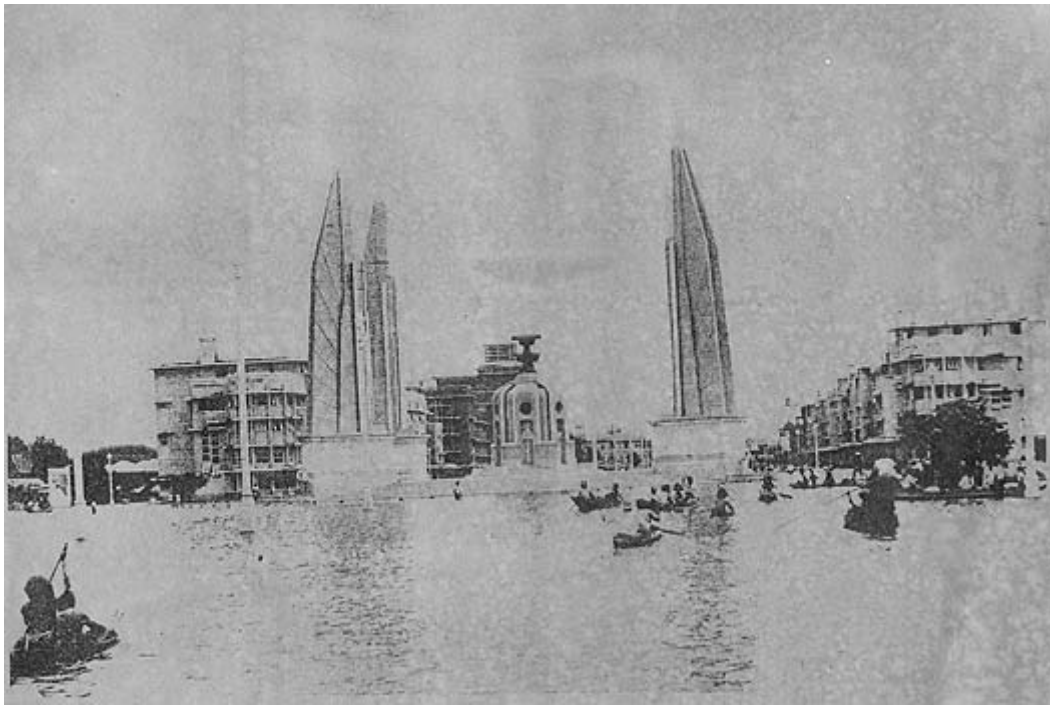
1980 – Extensive flooding of Bangkok with many schools closed for over a month (p. 236)

1983 – “Tropical depressions bring nation to a halt” – Flooding in 42 provinces – 49 dead (p. 255)

1988 – 350 people killed and 75 missing in mudslides in Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani. Half a million in southern provinces affected by floods which wiped out 4.5 million rai of farmland. This led to a nationwide ban on logging. (p. 285)

1995 – Flooding in Nakhon Sawan releases hundreds of crocodiles. Wat Phra Kaeo In Bangkok is flooded. (p. 327)

Also: [The Hat Yai flood of 2000 and flooding in Bangkok in October, 2002](#)



October 12, 1942 – Democracy Monument – The [“Great Flood of 1942”](#) when key areas of Bangkok were under water for three months.

The slow death of the Phuket dialect

October 28, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[The slow death of the Phuket dialect](#) – *phuketgazette.net*, October 28, 2010

Roaring business for Thai traders

October 28, 2010

Categories: Border Issues

[Roaring business for Thai traders](#) – AsiaOne, October 28, 2010

The retail outlets in this border town are doing brisk business selling flags, banners and posters for the Galas by-election. Politicians and campaign workers prefer to get their supply from across the border as the price of the items are lower by half...

Tiger Woods keen to give back to Thailand

October 28, 2010

Categories: Sports

[Tiger Woods keen to give back to Thailand](#) – AP, October 28, 2010

Tiger Woods says he's looking forward to giving something back to Thailand, his mother's home country, when he makes a quick visit for the first time in 10 years to play a one-day skins tournament next month. The Nov. 8 event is part of celebrations to mark King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 60th year on the Thai throne...

Botswana Gets Thailand's Help With Mystery Fish Disease

October 28, 2010

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Botswana Gets Thailand's Help With Mystery Fish Disease](#) – *Thailandnews.net*, October 28, 2010

...Botswana has now turned to Thailand for help: it shipped samples there for testing in late September, according to Chandapiwa Marobela, a veterinary microbiologist and the laboratory's acting deputy director. It is now waiting for the results...

Growing Old Before Becoming Rich

October 28, 2010

Categories: The Philippines

[Growing Old Before Becoming Rich](#) – Manila Bulletin, October 28, 2010

...Thailand's GDP grew much faster than that of the Philippines because of the very enlightened policies of its leaders – inspired by a king with a magnificent obsession for agriculture – of endowing its countryside with excellent infrastructures, e.g. farm-to-market roads, irrigation systems, post-harvest facilities, etc. As early as the 1980s, there was no small farm in the most remote areas of Thailand that was not within one kilometer from a good road. During that same period, we were still obsessed with inward-looking, import-substitution, ultranationalistic industrialization which dragged our economy down to become the “sick man of Asia in the mid-1980s. Thailand made its farmers rich by providing them with efficient infrastructures. Our farmers got poorer and poorer (70 percent of the poor in the Philippines are in the rural areas)...

Russian Tourist, Boy Dead at Phuket Beaches

October 29, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Russian Tourist, Boy Dead at Phuket Beaches](#) – *The Atlantic*, October 29, 2010

... "Of all the people who visit Phuket for a holiday from different countries, we find the Russians are hardest to persuade that the sea is not safe, and that it is not wise for them to enter," she said. The man's body is at Thalang Hospital...

Grandma Niew and the Dissolving Democrats

October 29, 2010

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From *Manager*, October 20, 2010

The corpse of Grandma Niew is saying: Staying with you is annoying!

The caption reads: It seems like the husband is the more annoying



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

From October 21, 2009

The sign reads: I have promised Grandma Niem to take care of the elderly nationwide – As promised, we have done – The lifetime pension project for the elderly



ยุบ?

From *Manager*, October 29, 2010

On the left is the logo of the Democrat Party and on the right is the logo of the Constitutional Court.
The caption reads: Dissolving?

Phuket Visa Dodger Becomes Bangkok Detainee

October 29, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Phuket Visa Dodger Becomes Bangkok Detainee](#) – *Phuketwan*, October 29, 2010

...Phuketwan draws no conclusion from the cases of Dean Mancuso and Gabriella Strand, except to note that yet again, Thailand's tolerance appears to be both its greatest virtue, and its greatest vice.

China sends the marines to Thailand

October 29, 2010

Categories: Thai Military

[China sends the marines to Thailand](#) – Asian Correspondent, October 29, 2010

Since Oct. 26, the Marine Corps of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) have been training with Thai Marines in an exercise due to last until Nov. 14 and the latest drill to demonstrate China's expanding military ties across the world...

Kasikornbank sees baht at 25 in two years

October 29, 2010

Categories: Economy

[Kasikornbank sees baht at 25 in two years](#) – *Bangkok Post*, October 29, 2010

The money-making machine of Singapore Inc

October 30, 2010

Categories: Singapore, The Thaksin Years

[The money-making machine of Singapore Inc](#) – Sydney Morning Herald, October 30, 2010

...Ho Ching's record is patchy, and her dealmaking controversial elsewhere in the region, notably in Thailand, where its \$4 billion 2006 purchase of then Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's telecoms and media empire precipitated a coup, Thaksin's ouster, four years of political turmoil, a \$2 billion paper loss and a legal stoush with the current government angling to take the Thaksin empire back...

Economist calls plan to attract foreign patients ‘evil’ and ‘crazy’

October 30, 2010

Categories: Health

[Economist calls plan to attract foreign patients ‘evil’ and ‘crazy’](#) – *The Nation*, October 30, 2010

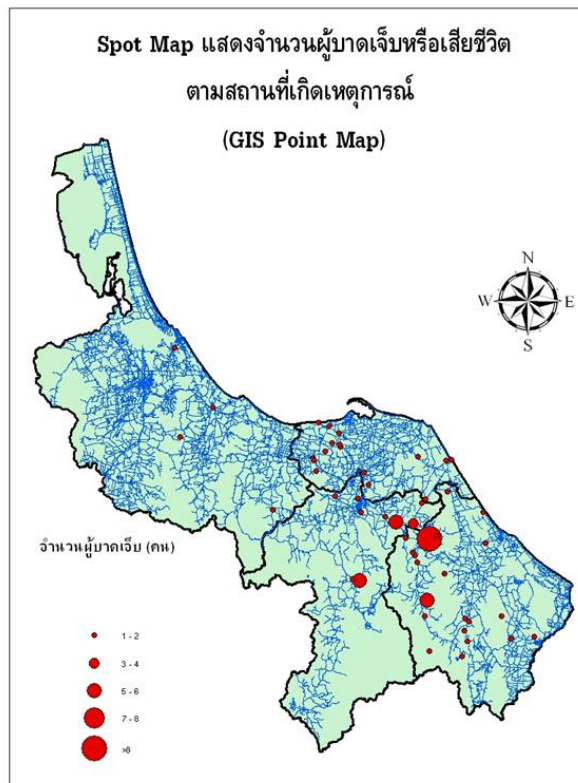
Prominent economist Ammar Siamwala yesterday called for the government to stop its plan to become a medical hub. He said the policy had already adversely affected the public health system by diverting resources, including physicians, from public hospitals to treat foreign patients instead of the poor in rural areas.

Being a medical hub “is the worst policy that the government could ever think up”, he said...

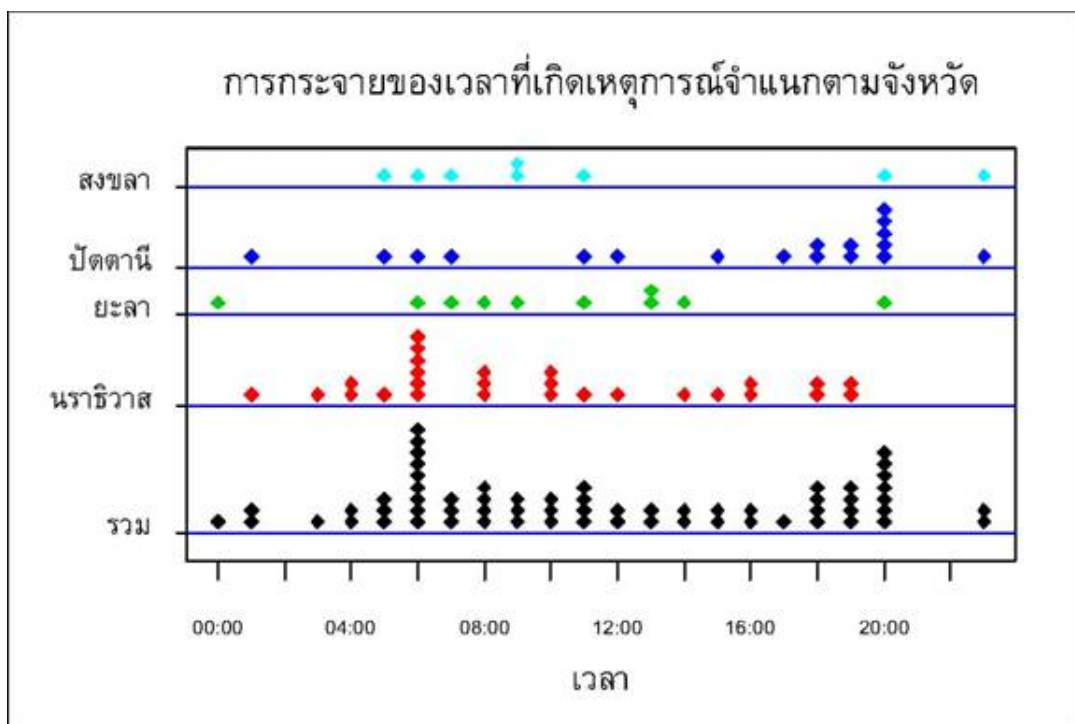
Southern Violence Statistics – October 2010

October 30, 2010

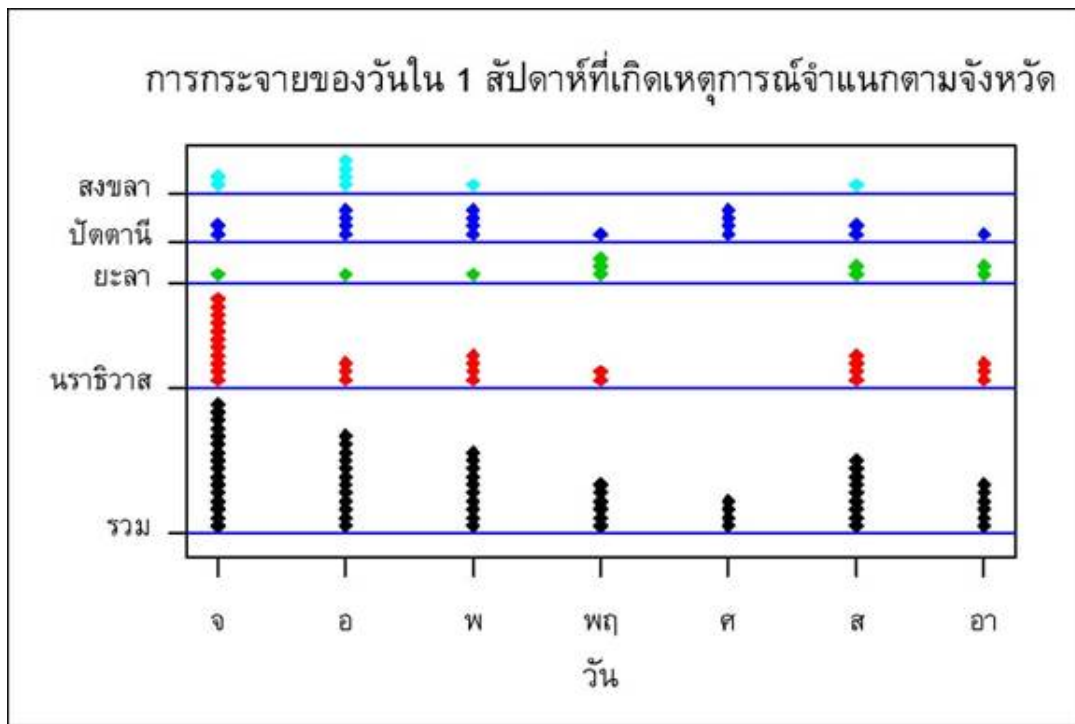
Categories: Deep South Violence Statistics



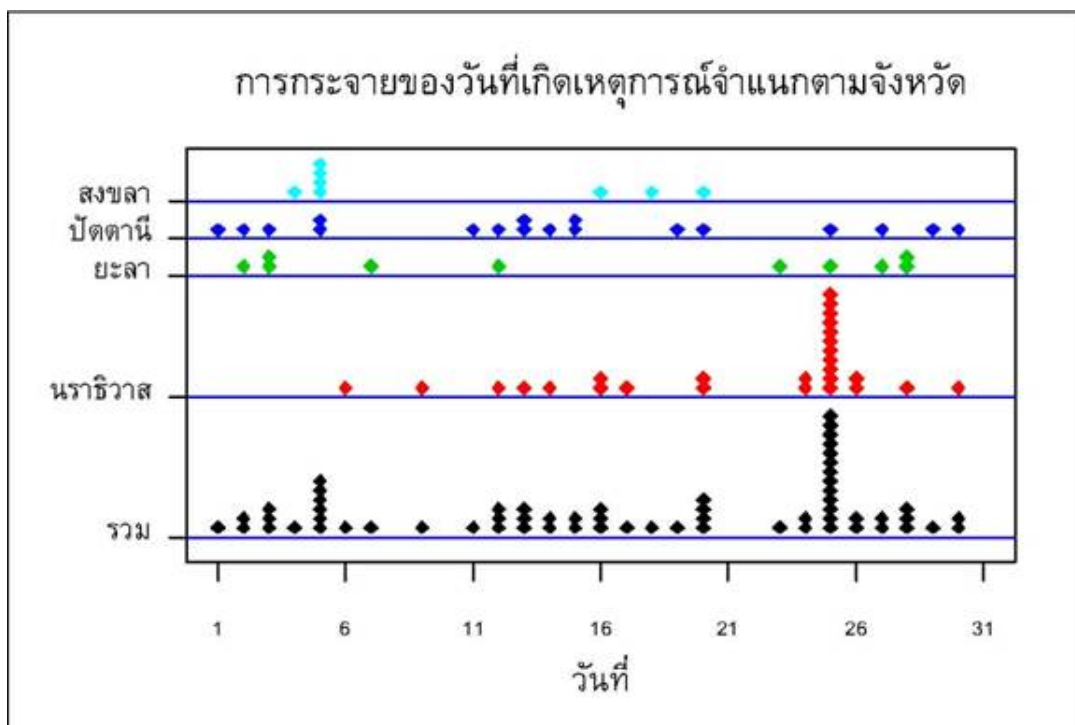
Map of four provinces in the deep south (Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat) showing numbers of the dead and injured by location.



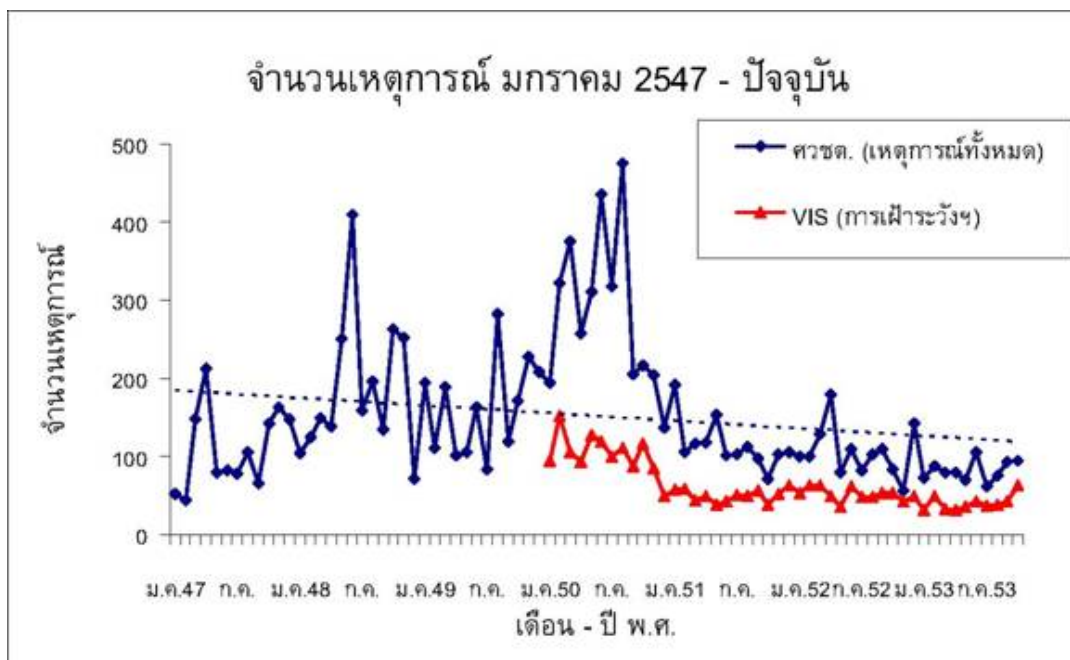
This chart shows violent incidents classified by the hour of the day (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black



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

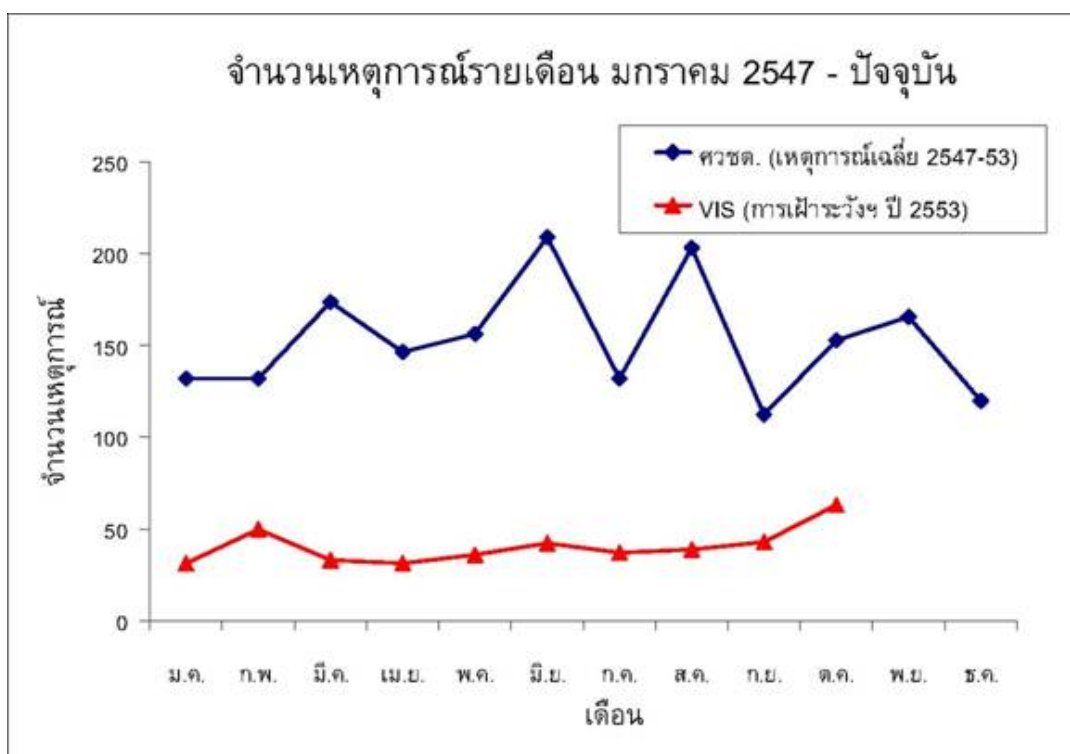


This chart shows violent incidents classified by day of the month (x-axis) and the province (y-axis). Songkhla=light blue, Pattani=blue, Yala=green, Narathiwat=red, total events=black

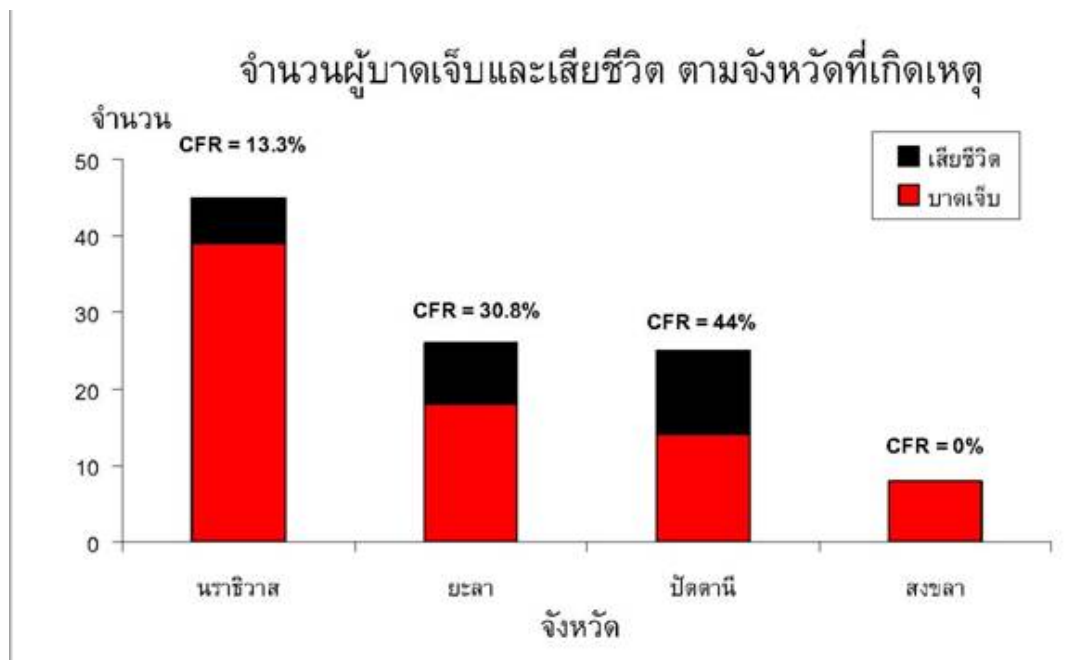


Numbers of violent incidents since January 2004. Across the bottom are the years (2547 is 2004, 2548 is 2005, 2549 is 2006, 2550 is 2007, 2551 is 2008, 2552 is 2009, 2553 is 2010).

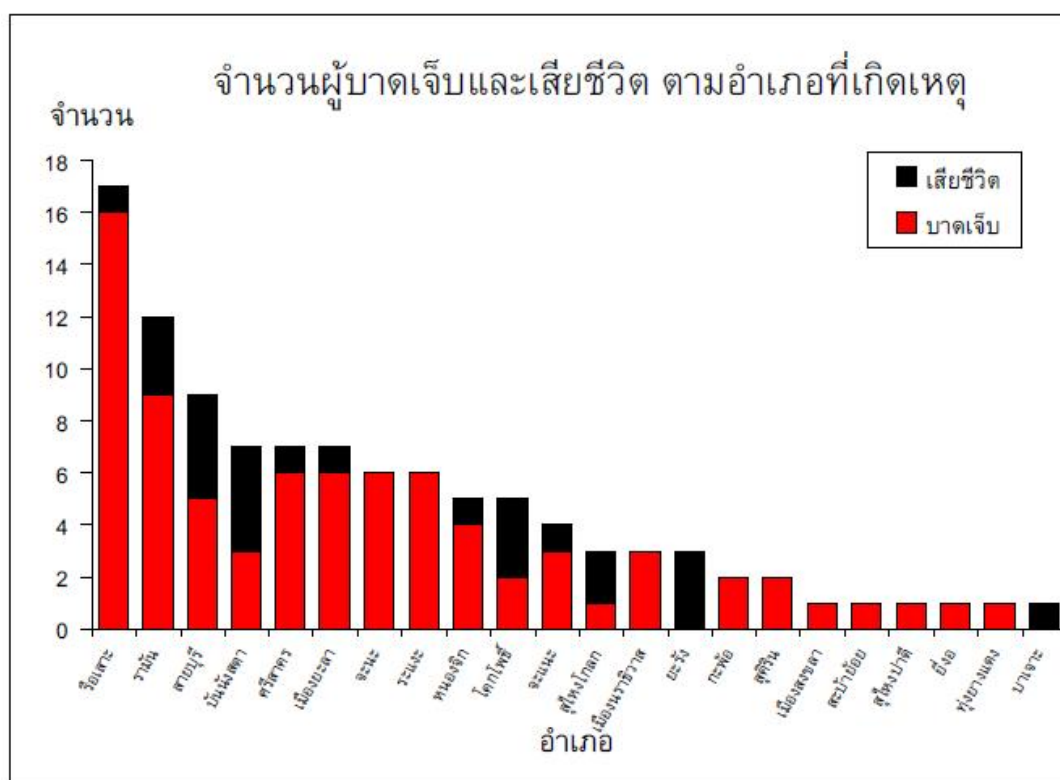
The blue line shows the number of all violent incidents that took place as reported by the Deep South Coordination Center (counting all incidents both injury and non-injury). The red line shows data according to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance (a form that hospitals, doctors and clinics are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



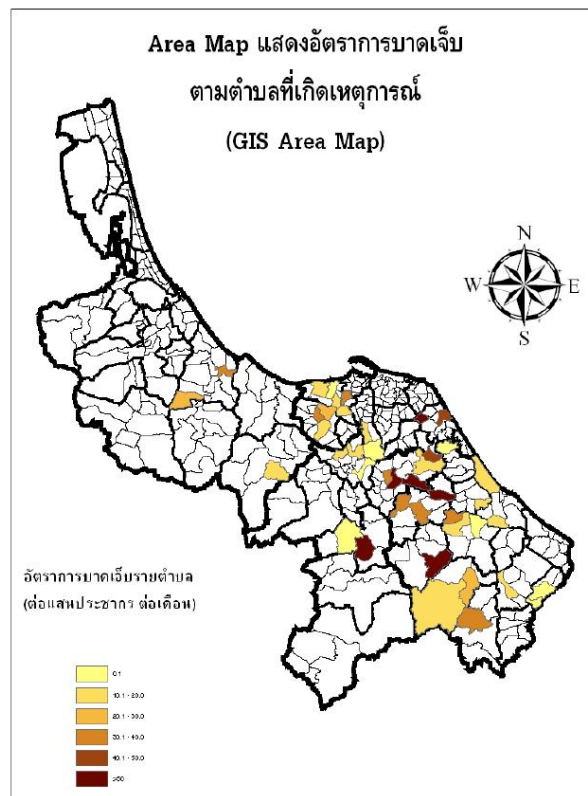
The blue line shows the average monthly level of violent incidents from 2004 up to the present. The red line shows the information provided to the Violence-related Injury Surveillance in the present year. The y-axis shows the numbers of events from 0-300. The x-axis shows the months of the year from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



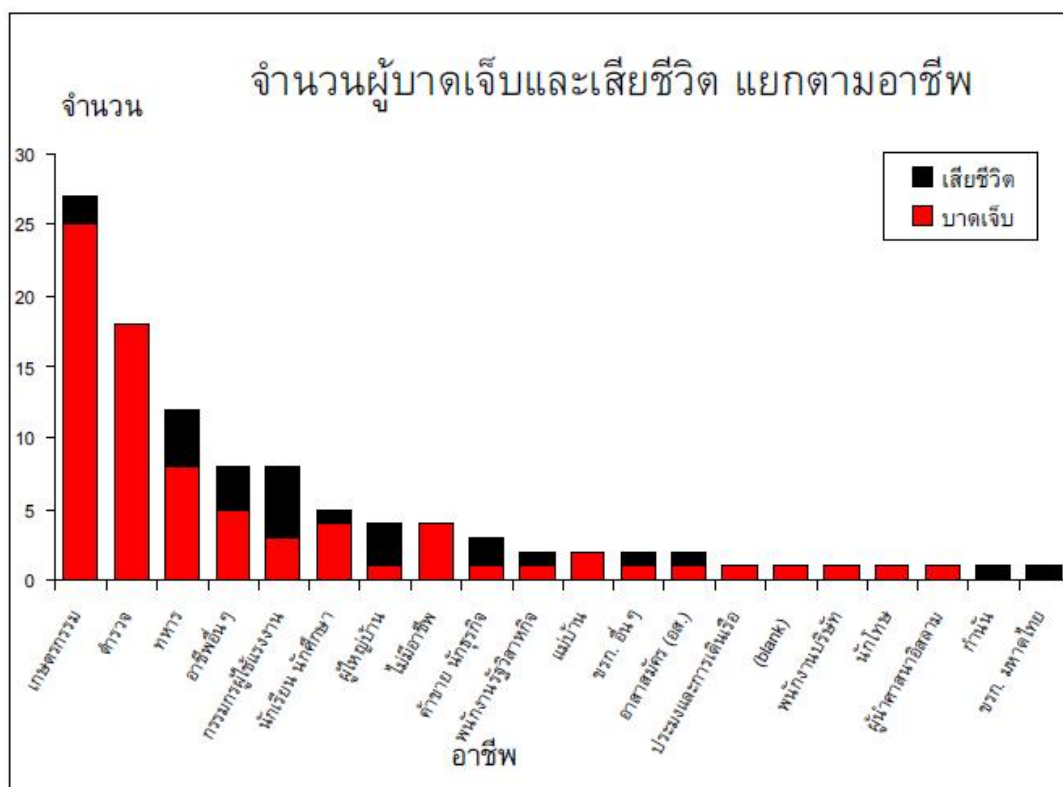
The numbers of injured and dead reported from each province where the events occurred (Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Songkhla). Black= dead, red=injured. The CFR (Case Fatality Rate) of each province is above each bar.



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: Agriculture, police, soldiers, others, laborers, students and college students, village chiefs, non-employed, businessman and merchants, state enterprise employees, housewives, other officials, defense guard volunteers, fisheries and marine transportation, (blank), employees, prisoners, Islamic religious leaders, tambon chiefs, interior officials

Source: Deep South Violence-related Injury Surveillance statistics

Aussie travellers who go on a tragic one-way trip

October 31, 2010

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Aussie travellers who go on a tragic one-way trip](#) – *The Age*, October 31, 2010

Fury as bailed-out banking giant RBS sends staff on Thailand jaunt

October 31, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Fury as bailed-out banking giant RBS sends staff on Thailand jaunt](#) – *Scottish Daily Record*, October 31, 2010

...The Edinburgh-based firm are 84 per cent owned by the taxpayer after they were bailed out at the height of the financial crisis.

Now, they are hosting a GBP1600-a-head, three-day bash at the Banyan Tree resort on the island of Koh Samui, south of Bangkok...

Baht Surge Attracts Investors to Thailand

October 31, 2010

Categories: Economy

[Baht Surge Attracts Investors to Thailand](#) – *Seeking Alpha*, October 31, 2010

Experts say Thailand can no longer rely on cheap labour

October 31, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Experts say Thailand can no longer rely on cheap labour](#) – *Asia News Network*, October 31, 2010

More clips posted on Net

October 31, 2010

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[More clips posted on Net](#) – *The Nation*, October 31, 2010

...The conversation also has the three agreeing they would insist on their innocence and say that the clips were doctored. They would not allow the clip to be examined as the facts would show up. They planned to blame a former senior officer of the court and say the clips were released and linked to the Democrat Party dissolution case to distract people's attention.

...The video clips posted by "Ohmygod3009" and the user's history could still be accessed However, another YouTube user, called "MrThaipresident", also posted the latest three video clips, but his or her information could not be accessed. The following message appeared: "This URL has been blocked by a Court order it could have an affect on or be against the security of the Kingdom, public order or good morals."