

...singer Takeo Fukuda presented a newly-created "people's honour" award yesterday to Oh for breaking the record of Hank Aaron of the United States for most homeruns in a professional baseball career. --Agencies

Jockey Sukampai vs ... and other regular Thai style bouts at Lumpini Stadium, 6.30 pm.

FOOTBALL: Inter-college, division two, first round, Prasarnmitr vs KMIT Ladkrabang, at Army stadium, 4.30 pm.

...nomic and technological development.

Quoting sources, the said the Japan ment will offer of "commodity receiving nations

From Page One

From Pa

OCT 6 DEFENDANTS

defend them of the charges, or over the right to appeal.

The defendants, he charged, were also not allowed to be released on bail to prepare for the trial. He pleaded to all justice and freedom lovers including US President Jimmy Carter and US Congressmen, to closely follow the trial so that it will be conducted according to the juridical proceedings and the Charter of the United Nations on Human Rights.

Showing the judges a book on "Administration in Democratic System" written by Prime Minister Thanin Kraivichien, Sutham requested the case be considered and conducted fairly.

Several other defendants including Miss Suchila and Arom asked the court that they be given more time to consult their lawyers since they are currently granted only 20 minutes per week with their lawyers.

The Court accepted their request and assured the defendants that it would be submitted to the Corrections Department, which has assumed responsibility of their welfare, for consideration.

Arom also requested that the documents listing the charges against them should be given to them a few weeks before the trial so that they can have time to study them thoroughly. Military prosecutor Col Uthai Patakamin how-

ever, replied that the documents were confidential.

In addition to newsmen and the defendants' relatives, several foreign observers who attended yesterday's trial were Third Secretary of the Australian Embassy, Mr Timothy George, two US Embassy officials Mr Hank Henricson and Capt Mark Ramsey.

Secretary for Ecumenical Affairs of the Church of Christ in Thailand, Mr Frank Younker, and Director of the Clergy and Laity Concerned, Mr Don Luce, were also present at the hearing.

The hearing ended at 11.30 am. The next hearings will be held on October 7 and 13.

GIRLS RESCUED

on the door, they could hear the girls screaming: "Help, help."

Police broke into the house and found the two girls in chains.

The girls told police that their "foster mother" had left for Chicago two weeks ago to visit their four children studying there.

"Mr Vithan, before he leaves for work every morning, chain us up. When he returns, he releases us to do household work. The food is placed near where we can reach and a spittoon is put nearby to relieve ourselves," the girls said.

The two girls also told police that they were sometimes beaten up.

FAKE CHEQUES

is not as plain as the fake one. The number of the real cheques have six digits while the fake ones have seven digits.

He warned people to be cautious when receiving the Bank's inland traveller cheques.

He added that the paper on which the real cheque is printed is finer than the fakes. Most of the fake cheques are made out for 10,000 baht and all bear the signatures of the former chairman and director of the bank namely, Air Mar-

RUG

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Prisons will release 336 more Thursday

ANOTHER 336 persons being detained on charges of being "detrimental to society" will be released on Thursday, leaving 1,069 persons still being detained under the same charge.

Director General of the Corrections Department, Mr Tawee Choosap, announced yesterday that the new group of detainees to be released, the fifth so far, had "improved their behaviour" and should be set free.

A total of 2,894 persons had earlier been released in the first four batches. They were all detained without trials under the power granted to police and administrative officials under Order No. 22 of the National Administrative Reform Council (NARC) issued on Nov 12, last year.

All of them were required to undergo rehabilitation and training courses before being released. Thursday's releases will be conducted throughout the country. In Bangkok, 51 out of 129 detainees will be set free while in the Central Plains, 74 out of the total 457 present detainees will be released. In the Northeast, 57 will be released. There are now a total of 259 persons

being detained in that part of the country.

In the North, 42 out of 249 will be released while in the South 112 out of 311 will be granted freedom on the same day, according to the director general who summed it up as follows:

"In brief, out of the total of 1,405 persons being detained throughout the country, 336 will be released in the fifth batch. That means on Sept 9, 1977, there will only be 1,069 persons still being detained under Order No. 22 in all parts of the country."

American on drug smuggling charge sentenced

AN American national was sentenced by the Criminal Court to three years in prison yesterday on drug trafficking charges.

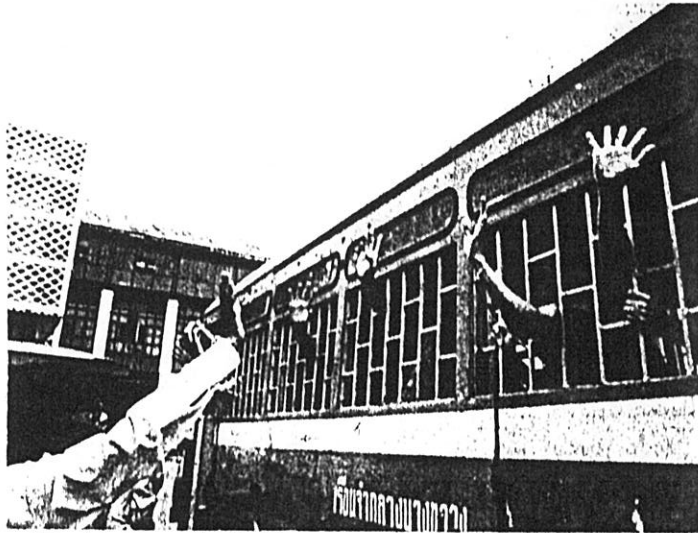
Richard D. Carlini, 29, the prosecutor said, attempted to smuggle out 104 packets of marijuana weighing 354 kilogrammes estimated to be worth about 21,240 baht here. The marijuana was found concealed under several sheets of plywood which was to be sent to Vancouver, Canada, through the V.I.P. Company under the name of Mr Paul Kern.

Reds shot

TWO Malaysian policemen shot dead one Communist guerrilla and wounded and captured another guerrilla Sunday night in a coffee shop in Petaling Jaya, a satellite town on the outskirts of the city, police said yesterday in Kuala Lumpur. Ricocheting bullets hit the owner of the shop and two



Sutham (standing) pleading not guilty to the court while other defendants wait for their turn.



"Good luck, guys," well-wishers shouting to the defendants before their return to prison after the trial.

House's reply on 4 motions Friday

FOUR interpellations submitted by lawmakers on unemployment among university graduates, quality of television movies, encroachment on reserved forests and cremation funds for village headmen, will be replied in the House on Friday.

Lawmaker Sawasdi Khampirakob, saying that about 15,000 graduates from universities, technical colleges and teacher training schools are still unemployed, asked the Government what is being done to assist them.

Mr Sawasdi, a member of the National Administrative Reform Assembly (NARA), suggested in his interpellation that the government should adopt measures to expand private and government industries to absorb the

television movies could be improved has been raised by lawmaker Yuang lam-sila who asks the Prime Minister's Office Minister whether some improper movies be taken off the TV screen.

Lawmaker Suchart Tejasena wants to know what the Government has done and will do to stop the widespread illegal poaching in government reserved forests.

He cited several loopholes in the current laws

The question of hands suffered by relatives of village headmen who received cremation allocation late for actual spending raised by Mr Pij Daenvor a member of NARA.

He said relatives of deceased village headmen have wait one year before they receive the whole of 15,000 baht cremation subsidy in instalments.

The lawmaker asks the Interior Minister whether he had heard of the problem or whether some correct



A US Embassy official among several officials of foreign embassies who "observed" the trial.

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LOCAL ADMIN MEN IN SIX MONTHS

L of 47 local administrative officials dismissed or relieved of their posts during July, this year. Deputy Director of the Local Administration Department, Uprasart, said yesterday.

ns were based on the officials' serious discipline or corruption. during the same period 23 officials were enough reductions in salary scales and 39 their pay cut.

our Council' refused registration

ouie De- yesterday replication the "La-il" on the "Lai-il" on the reason that rise labour are mem-council are ed by the our Law. tives of 15 which form-ur Council", registration

yesterday but the Chief of Labour Relations Division, Mrs Amporn Chunnanond, immediately rejected it.

However, on the insistence of labour representatives, Mrs Amporn took the issue up to Labour Director General Suwit Yingvoraphan who assured them that their application would be submitted to

Deputy Interior Minister Kanung Luechai for consideration before approval.

The council, according to labour representatives, should be allowed to be registered since the National Administrative Reform Council Announcement No 46 in force since last October 21, allows the establishment of labour council or federation with the minimum members of 15 unions.

Members of the "Labour Council" which jointly applied for registration yesterday included seven



Upadit

common problems.

His statement indicates that he may meet foreign ministers from the three Indochinese countries to confirm Thailand's policy to solve border problems through peaceful means, according to informed sources.

Minister Upadit said he

will lead the Thai delegation to the UN General Assembly conference which will begin on Sept 20 in New York.

The minister said he was still trying to contact "third countries" to persuade Cambodia to negotiate a peaceful means to

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Govt House pledges justice for the '18'

The Nation Review, Sept. 8 1977

THE Government House yesterday issued a statement reiterating that full judicial justice will be granted to the 18 defendants being tried in the Military Court in connection with the Oct 6, 1976 incident.

The trial, which began last Monday, will continue to be carried out openly and the Press as well as observers, local and foreign, will be allowed to witness the legal proceedings, said the statement.

The statement, it said, was issued "because of some petitions and interviews had been given incorrectly."

The trial will be conducted in strict compliance with the

Military Court Act enacted since 1955, the statement said.

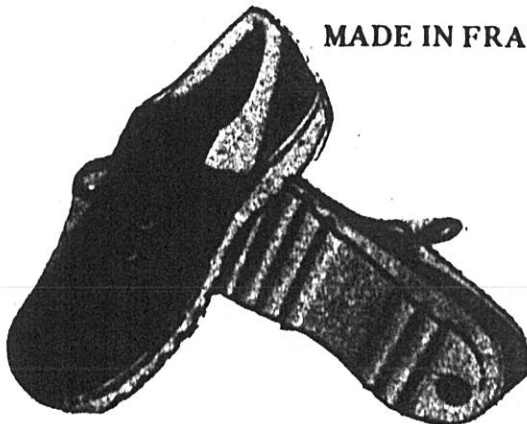
Reiterating the government's determined intention to follow the human rights principle within the legal framework, the statement said relatives of the suspects had been allowed to visit the suspects frequently and sick detainees, particularly Orissa Iyrawanwat, had been given proper medical treatment.

Orissa, the statement said, had been given 18 medical treatments outside the prison. He was visited by representatives of the International Red Cross on May 23, this year, and representatives of the International Commission of Jurists on July 8 and International Amnesty on Aug 26.

The statement said of the 3,154 persons arrested in connection with the Oct 6 incident, all but the 18 had been released within a reasonable period of investigation.

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Air Siam a

SHUT down Air Siam appealed to the Civil Court to take into account the Communications Ministry fairly and illegally revoked its licence.

Air Siam attorney, Mr Prempricha agreed with the Civil Court's earlier verdict hearing on the lawsuit.

The court, he said, should accept numerous facts which will be given by setting up the company's complaint.

The company also charged the Court with violating the Cabinet's decision after seven months and 12 days of flight.

Continued Page 1

Carla claims

A RESIDENT of Amphoe Srithat in Monday by the "Carla" depression with roads and bridges in the province.

DEFIANCE

WASHINGTON - US President Jimmy Carter said yesterday that Israeli settlements in occupied territory create "additional problems" in the search for Middle East peace and agreed that Israel is settling such areas in defiance of his declaration that it is illegal. - AP

New envoy

BRUSSELS - Career diplomat Louis Vandenbroucke will be the next Belgian ambassador to Thailand, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Currently ambassador to the Philippines, he is a financial expert and has held posts in Rome, Pretoria, Jerusalem, Rotterdam, and Kisangani, Zaire. - Reuter

Uganda 'executes' 15

NAIROBI - Fifteen Ugandans including 13 men convicted of plotting to overthrow President Idi Amin were executed in Kampala yesterday diplomats in the Ugandan capital said.

There was no official confirmation from the Ugandan authorities that the men had been executed but a Ugandan Information Ministry official said he heard a volley of shots in the city 10 minutes after they were due to face a firing squad.

The diplomatic sources, contacted by telephone, said they had been told the executions had taken place.

The shootings came amidst continuing speculation about Amin who was reported by Ugandan authorities on Thursday to be in a coma following an operation. No official bulletins have been issued since.

Meanwhile in London, former Ugandan health minister Henry Kyemba believes that Amin's reported coma is "one of those stupid jokes that one has to get used to from Kampala."

He told a radio station that Amin was in good health but wanted the world to believe he was in a coma while a firing squad executed the 15 people. - Reuter

Seni: I didn't order mass arrests

FORMER Prime Minister Seni Pramoj yesterday denied his responsibility in the mass arrests of over 3,000 people during the October 6 riots at Thammasat University last year.

In a Press statement, M.R. Seni said: "In my capacity as prime minister and interior minister, I merely ordered the arrest for investigation, the students who held a demonstration which insulted the Crown Prince which is a violation of Article 112 of the Criminal Code."

The present Government, he said, has recently

stated that the Seni Pramoj's Government ordered the arrest of those who forcibly obstructed government officials in their duties on last October 6.

"I did not order arrests for any other crime and, my statement was clearly broadcast through radio and television on October 5 evening," he added.

A total 3,154 persons, mostly students, were arrested following the violence at Thammasat University in

which 46 people were killed.

In a separate statement, former Commerce Minister Damrong Lathapipat said most of the former assemblymen of the now-banned Democrat Party agreed that a clarification should be made to prevent further misunderstanding that the Seni Government was responsible for the mass arrest.

Eighteen persons, 14 of them students, are the only remaining detainees of the 3,154. They are scheduled to appear at second hearing in the Military Court on October 7.

The Nation Review (Bangkok) Sept. 10, 1977, p. 1

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him as a dangerous "lefty" if not a communist, and his influence is — temporarily at least — on the wane.

Despite the setbacks of the 1973 revolution when the military government was overthrown, the security forces are doggedly determined to win back the 4,000-5,000 communist-controlled villages at the rate of 1,000 a year. The RTA can field two soldiers for every communist, compared with the Malaysian ratio of 10 to one. But if officially the problem is "manageable" the fact remains that the growth rate of guerillas in the north rose from 300 in 1967 to 2,000 in 1970, and the 9,000 overall total seems to be growing.

The new factor is Cambodia, and officials blame all border incidents on the Khmer Rouge whether initiated by the CPT or not. In Area 30 (see map) this village of Ban Sa-Ngae is 90 minutes drive through the flat, savannah border

characteristics of a communist guerilla job: some of the dead were searched out of their houses by name; the attackers did not carry strips of coloured cloth on their weapons as do Cambodians to denote whether they are regional, zonal or local troops; and they spoke in Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese.

There are three guerilla training camps inside Cambodia and linked to a riverine base at Stung Treng on the Mekong by a new road. The Voice of the People of Thailand has promised to liberate Areas 20 and 30 by the beginning of next year and incidents along this section of the border are on the upswing. From the map it is easy to see why; the area is on the vital bottom stroke of the L-plan.

Refugees at the Aranyaprathet and other Cambodian refugee camps insist that the Cambodians train, supply and generally help the CPT in every possible

The issues come to court

By Richard Nations

Bangkok: More than just the defendants went on trial in Thailand last week when 18, mostly university students, were charged with an indictment that read like a list of all the political dirty linen taken in over the country's three years of turbulent democratic rule: conspiracy to incite public disorder, provoke labour unrest, overthrow the Government and bring down the monarchy.

Those arraigned before the military tribunal are the "Thammasat 18" — the alleged hard-core of the more than 3,000 arrested in the wake of a police assault on student demonstrators at Thammasat University which left at least 46 dead on the morning of October 6 last year.

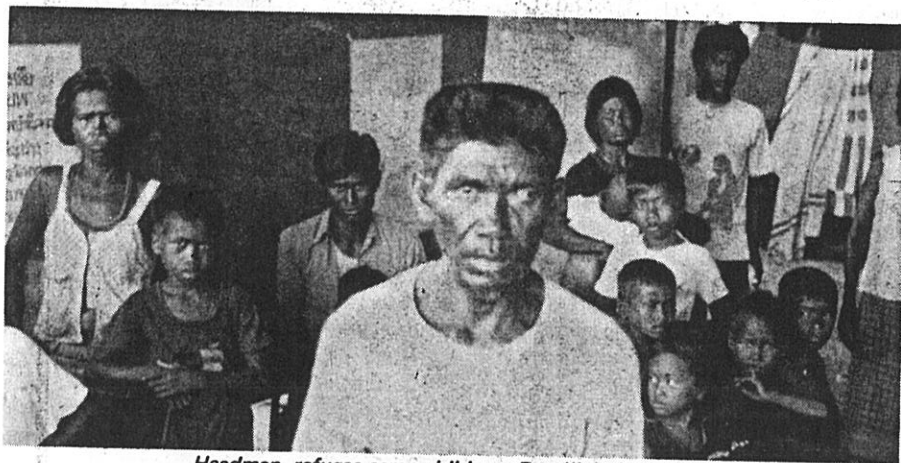
These 18, the Government charges, were involved in the communist conspiracy which the military blocked by a coup against Seni Pramoj's democratic government and declaring martial law on the same day. But along with a sweaty tangle of foreign television crews, correspondents, embassy staff, overwrought parents and the 18 young and excitable defendants, a host of dormant political issues has been crowded into the stuffy little courtroom tucked away behind the massive facade of Bangkok's Ministry of Defence.

Ironically, the legitimacy of last October's coup will be closely linked to how well the prosecution makes out its case of communist activities, treason and *lèse-majesté* — conviction on any one of which could mean execution by firing squad.

Any hopes that the defendants themselves might defuse the situation by throwing themselves on the mercy of the court were banished by the broad smiles and victory signs they sported on entering the courtroom. All subsequently pleaded innocent.

The outline of the students' defence is foreshadowed in a letter written by their relatives to Prime Minister Tanin Kraivixien, and echoed in the statements of each defendant, often cut short by the presiding judge. They deny the authority of military courts to hear their case under martial law decrees passed after the coup which deny them the right of appeal and legal counsel.

Moreover, they claim they were protected by the democratic constitution of 1974 which, until the coup, allowed them the right to organise and demon-



Headman, refugee camp children: Recalling the horror.

area of rubber trees, banana clumps and tapioca northeast of the Thai-Cambodian border crossing point of Aranyaprathet.

Ban Sa-Ngae has been attacked by Khmer Rouge (officially) and a group of 35 Cambodian spies (officially) was shot down by Border Police. This must be the first time that a band of men, women and child spies has advanced over a frontier to spy in broad daylight, but they did not live to set the record right.

GRENADES: As far as the attack on the village is concerned, the identity and numbers of attackers and dead seem to change with every group of reporters visiting the place. The 49-year-old sergeant in charge of the defence of the village, Chamlong Sornsee, saw service in Korea and Vietnam and told the REVIEW that the 2.30 a.m. attack was heralded by a flurry of rocket-propelled grenades which caused (still visible) damage. It ended with 14 villagers dead and 13 guerillas claimed dead but taken away by their comrades on the back of a stolen water-buffalo.

The attack appeared to have certain

way. Clearly, it suits the Thais to say that all incidents in the area are initiated by the Khmer Rouge rather than admit the CPT is behind them — even if they are.

It has also been argued that the Khmer Serei anti-communist Cambodians picked fights with Thai villages and were responsible for past killings. But talking to Thai soldiery on the ground left this correspondent in no doubt that they have a two-way fight on their hands: by day they watch the Cambodian border for Khmer Rouge and at night they must also be on their toes against CPT guerillas in the mountains of the L behind them. Whether the raiding groups are CPT or Khmer Rouge seems to matter little; they act in collusion and by their attacks are bringing a new dimension to CPT action.

Of Ban Sa-Ngae's normal complement of 740 villagers, only 200 remain: the rest are in a Thai refugee camp in nearby Ta-Phraya, where the headman of the neighbouring village told the REVIEW that his lasting impression of the assault on his village was seeing his four children tossed up into the air onto the bayonets of the black-clad attackers.

strate. "Charges that they organised the Hara textile factory and Dusit Thani Hotel strike (critical to Thailand's nascent labour movement) may not stick. Even if the students were involved it was legal under the labour laws at the time," a sympathetic lawyer commented.

"The same goes for the charge of arranging a People's Republic of China exhibition which the Government claims was intended to incite communism... Thailand was opening diplomatic relations with China at the time after (former premier) Kukrit's visit to Peking in 1975. And the students had a police permit for the exhibition."

The emotive and complex issues in this case are likely to be judged quietly in people's homes where the Thammasat 18 may become a *cause célèbre* symbolising defiance of martial law. The Government's best chance to win the case there is to establish clearly the alleged link between the defendants and a communist conspiracy reaching back to December 1973 to overthrow the monarchy.

STRONGMAN: The key to the Government case could be proof the students intended to hang in effigy Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn at the crest of the demonstrations against the return of exiled former strongman Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn. The "hanging" followed a mock trial meant as a protest against the killing of political activists by a provincial official.

Photographs in the local press showing a remarkable resemblance between the student playing the accused in the mock trial and the Crown Prince provoked a flood of royalist Village Scouts to back the right-wing groups who set the siege of Thammasat on October 6.

However, the Government so far has only produced at best circumstantial evidence in a separate trial of one of the actors in the mock hanging event. The prosecution has also charged another 32, mostly former student leaders still at large, in addition to the 18 in court. The names of many of these have figured in recent Communist Party of Thailand radio broadcasts and communiques.

At the same time, it could be embarrassing for the Government to leave unexplained the deaths of at least 46, mostly students, who were beaten and lynched by right-wing activists during a hysterical five hours of bloodletting inside Thammasat.

Diplomatic observers note that the Tanin Government has stuck close to its own rules in dealing with the Thammasat detainees. Over 3,000 of those initially arrested were released. Those held were reasonably well treated throughout most of their detention. Tanin has assured open trials. And the defendants have been allowed legal counsel outside the courtroom.

Ironically, some comment, the main difference between the defendants and the military in whose courts they are



Student Sutham: Defiant.

being tried is that the former is charged with plotting the overthrow of a democratic government, while the latter actually accomplished it.

The prosecution claims to have over 200 witnesses which at the normal pace of the Thai courts would stretch the trial out for years. Insiders say the best hope for the defendants is an act of mercy from above. Many are looking towards the King's birthday on December 5.

SINGAPORE

Retraction keeps Raman in jail

By A Correspondent

LAWYER Gopalan Krishnan Raman has retracted a confession that he had accompanied Dr Poh Soo Kai (now under detention) to treat an injured urban guerilla. Revealing this in answer to a parliamentary question on the continuing detention of the 39-year-old lawyer, Home Affairs Minister Chua Sian Chin said Raman was being held because he was required for further interrogation over the visit to the guerilla.

In a handwritten statement following his arrest on February 10 under the Internal Security Act, Raman said that in December 1974 he went with Dr Poh to Masai, Johore, to see the guerilla who had been injured in a bomb explosion in Still Road, Singapore, earlier that month.

The Home Affairs Minister told Parliament on September 2 that Raman had since retracted what he had said. Commented Chua: "... after that bomb incident the police issued a statement

requesting doctors and hospitals to report any person seeking treatment for injuries from the incident. For a doctor to have clandestinely gone to the aid of and to treat the injured terrorist was a serious matter.

"On February 28, 1977, G. Raman was brought before a District Judge before whom he made a voluntary statement reaffirming his allegation that Dr Poh Soo Kai had gone to Masai to treat the injured terrorist.

PROPRIETY: "As both statement and confession reflected on the propriety of Dr Poh's professional conduct, Raman was brought before the senior state counsel to enable the Attorney-General's Chamber to lodge a complaint with the Medical Council against Dr Poh Soo Kai. At this juncture Raman retracted that portion of his statement relating to Dr Poh and the Masai trip. He must have known that the Attorney-

General wanted to use his evidence for legal action against Dr Poh. Raman, being a lawyer, must have also realised that his own part in the Masai episode could be reported to the Law Society for disciplinary action against himself."

Chua said that Raman was being held under a two-year detention order. Government policy was to release detainees who renounced communist involvement and denounced the use of violence as advocated by the Malayan Communist Party to topple the elected government. "Many, including those involved with Raman, who have satisfied these conditions have been released," added Chua.

When the Ministry of Home Affairs announced Raman's detention earlier this year it accused him of working with a group of Eurocommunists through the Socialist International to exert pressure on the Singapore Government to release hardcore communist detainees. Raman was also said to have tried to instigate local groups, including students and workers, to resort to agitation as part of a plan to rebuild the communist United Front in Singapore.



Points at Vichai Bailmood during yesterday's identification: "He the car..."

pesticides

The Nation Review
Sept. 24, 1977
p. 1

beans

e in Taipei's

ential rains

Eighteen people died and five others were injured in hours of torrential rain which also caused a major failure in nearly half of Taipei city, police said.

The rain, which started late Wednesday night, totaled 315 millimetres (12 inches) of rain and turned the city into a sea of muddy water this morning.

Police said the victims, including two children, died when their houses were flattened by the rain on the outskirts of the city. Many cars broke down, blocking traffic in the city.

The weather bureau said it was the worst downpour in Taipei in 325 millimetres (12.5 inches) of rain since 1945. Reuter

not ready monorail'

privatized monorail system, a German

He recommended that the Government should lay down a good city plan in which sewerage and drainage systems also make sense, he said.

Continued Page 3

'18' Oct 6 defendants plead: Don't move site of trial

The eighteen defendants facing multiple charges over the October 6 riots are against the idea of moving the trial from the courthouse in the Defence Ministry to the Army's Quartermasters Department in Pakkred District of Nonthaburi.

In separate letters written on their behalf by their relatives to the Military Court and Judge Advocate General Lt Gen Saming Tailangka, they claimed that the trial in an army compound will create a "bad atmosphere".

"The Quartermasters Department," they said, "is too far and communication is inconvenient since there is only one bus line plying that route."

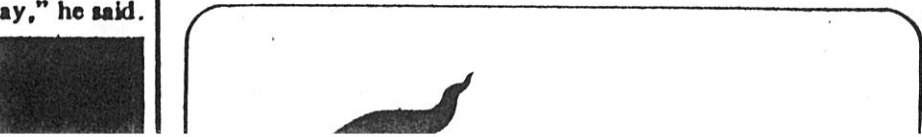
The defendants said they had earlier requested the trial be opened to the public in the Criminal Court where "the atmosphere will be better."

"If the authorities really want to move the trial to a new site, please open a temporary courthouse in the premises of the Police Private School in Bangkok where we are being detained," they said.

Lt Gen Saming earlier announced that the open trial will be moved from the Defence Ministry to the Army's Quartermasters Department where a new courthouse will be erected to accommodate about 2,000 to 3,000 people.

The next trial will be held on October 7 and 13.

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Two of the defendants, Sutham Saengprathum and Surachart Bumrungsuk (second and third from right) being escorted by wardens and policemen to the courthouse.

The Nation Review, Oct. 6, 1977.

Trial of 'Oct 6 accused' postponed to next month

The accused in the case concerning October 6 riots were summoned to the Military Court yesterday to be informed over the postponement of their trial, earlier scheduled for tomorrow and next Thursday, to November 17 and 24.

Police urge Art 21 for traffickers

The Police Department has proposed to the Interior Ministry the using of Article 21, authorizing the Prime Minister absolute power on criminals, against eight drug traffickers, six of them women, an informed source said yesterday.

The department said the eight had been implicated in several drug traffic with foreign traders and they were arrested on June 15 this year with two kilos of heroin in their suitcases, the source said.

They were identified as Miss Amporn Nisaicharoen, Mr Kongsak Purinharinchote, Mr Somkiat sae Kang, Miss Chitraporn sae Heng, Miss Sompong sae Heng, Mrs Varaporn Harnchirakajorn, Mrs Bunyiem Plaiyan and Mrs Supaporn Purinharinchote.

The court also complied to the defendants' earlier request for the public prosecutor's documents on lawsuit against them so that the defendants could thoroughly study them before the trials.

From Page One

Dan, was fined 80 dollars by the same court Sept 20, and is serving a two-month jail term because she could not pay the fine.

The prosecutor, Ustaz Saad Bin Saidin, said Lebai Omar's first offence with Doyah was two years ago when they were both fined \$264 and paid the penalties. After the second offence they were jailed for a month with no fines.

This time, the prosecutor appealed for leniency and said the couple now planned to marry, since Doyah has divorced her husband of 15-years.

Lebai Omar told reporters he met Doyah about three years ago when they were working in a sugar-cane plantation. "We like each other's company and get along very well."

Alert and quick with his replies, Lebai Omar told reporters he pedaled a bicycle to court during his trial from his house, five miles away.

The court also turned down another request made by the 18 defendants to move the trial site from the courtroom in the Defence Ministry to the Private Police School at Bangkok.

The trial will be moved to the Army Quartermaster Department as earlier announced by the Judge Advocate General's Department.

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MUCH WORK FOR NARA AT FINAL SESSION

Today is the last day of the National Administrative Reform Assembly's second session and it is expected to be a hard day for law-makers as eight bills are on in the agenda for deliberation.

Five of them, sponsored by the Cabinet, include the Insurance Bill, the bill on civil responsibility for radiation leakage, the amendment of the Land Law, the bill on the establishment of Sea Transportation Council and the amendment of the Civil and Commercial Code.

Law-maker Songsuk Pakkaseem introduces the bill on the establishment of Agricultural Council and the other two proposed by Mr Chakchai Chariyavejwatana are the Insurance Bill and the amendment of Civil and Commercial Code.

The NARA, meanwhile, reported that 38 bills have been approved by law-makers following 35 meetings in the second session which started from May 10.

Of the 38 bills, 37 were proposed by Cabinet including the Budget Bill, and only one was introduced by a member. The NARA also approved four Royal Decree submitted by the Government.

All of the passed legislations have been enforced, a NARA official said.

It was also reported that the high figure of 103 interpellations had been filed by law-makers and only 48 issues were replied by the Government.

Law-makers also submitted to the NARA 12 urgent motions requesting the government's clarification and eight of them were given their reply.

The House Speaker will read the Royal Decree to declare the closing of the session at the end of today's meeting.

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Bangkok disgruntled

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