

SWEET, SWEET FREEDOM!

"THE 18 trouble-makers have been released," declared *Tawan Siam* in its headline yesterday evening.

Assuming an indifferent tone in its report of the amnesty for the defendants in the October 6 case, *Tawan Siam* said in its Page-4 gossip column that "it was glad that humanitarianism finally emerged from the Dark October case."

Writing in the column, Mon Free hinted that he had doubt if the released October 6 defendants would really go back to their study or to "conduct investigations again."

It was better to make heroes out of the Thammamat 18 on the campus than "to breed more tigers in the jungle," Mon Free quoted Prime Minister Kriangkaj Chomanan as

saying, "It would certainly be a big mess if comrades Khaiseng Sukjai, Thirayuth Boonmee and Seksan Prasertkul come out of the jungle and stroll on a city street today," he continued.

He said that the decision to grant amnesty to the students reflected Kriangkaj's pragmatism in administering the "two-wife government," but did not elaborate. Former Interior Minister Kriangkaj Chomanan as

ter Samak Sundaravej lashed out at the Government for its decision to grant amnesty to the October 6 defendants during a special lecture in Peich-buri last Saturday, Dao Siam reported in its lead.

"Just a very lousy government," Samak commented.

He said that the government stepped out with the wrong foot by referring to the amnesty as a desire of His Majesty the King.

"Who knows if HM the King really said so or not," he was quoted as saying. Dao Siam also reported that a police patrol unit had spotted a pickup truck loaded with a score of young people - presumably vocational students - cruising in front of the Bangkokwang Prison.

The paper devoted three full columns on Page 3 commenting on the amnesty. Phya Mai said in one of the columns that he would

dered if the national reconciliation as desired by Gen Kriangkaj as a result of seeing the October 6 defendants would possibly turn out to be a "disintegrating."

The amnesty, he said, was a confirmation that those released were actually wrong-doers.

In another column Chupong Manceon commented that he was looking for an answer to his speculation of the motive behind the amnesty. Usually avoid committing

themselves with comments on such sensitive issue - quoted Premier Kriangkaj as saying that the move to set free those implicated in the case was initiated by His Majesty the King. Thaharn Kao said in his column in *Siam Rath* that from now on the real threat to the students taking up arms in the jungle was not the law, the police or the government.

"The only danger to them now is the communist insurgents themselves."

est," he said, explaining that those who are now operating in the jungle and want to return to city life after the amnesty are facing a precarious life," he said.

"Those who want to come back please be careful because they (the terrorists) would not tolerate seeing them flee from the jungle without taking any action," he said.

"They will certainly be dealt with death," he warned.

In DAILY TIME Sermsin Ekkachai praised His Majesty the King and the government for their mercy in granting the amnesty to "the poor students" who had to suffer for two years in prison.

"Those who committed the bloody crime will eventually pay for it," she said.

When time moved so slow for many

MOST, if not all, of the October 6 defendants—2 girls and 17 men—must have spent Friday night tossing and turning throughout, because of the uncertainty as to the time of their release from detention, and



Boonchart Sathienthananee

One who got his

Kriangsak
 warns chef
 gain...

Premier warns amnestied 19 to behave well

PRIME MINISTER Kriangsak Chomanan yesterday warned the 19 former Oct 6 defendants to be humble in giving interview to the Press and demonstrate proper behaviour to the public.

The Minister Kriangsak Chomanan turned a gain yesterday when he went into his kitchen to cook curry fried rice for the former defendants of the Oct 6 case who visited him yesterday at his residence to thank him. The former leader of the National Student Centre of Thailand, Sutham Saengprathum, represented the group in presenting a bouquet of flowers to Gen Kriangsak upon their arrival.

Addressing the 19 released defendants who were called on him at his Bangkok residence yesterday morning, Gen Kriangsak said: "I believe all of you are loyal to the nation, religion and monarchy and strongly desire to build the country. We must cement our opinions and reasons for the sake of the nation."

The Premier reiterated that he believes in the 19 persons' patriotism and added that he had never regarded them as communists "I want you to go back to your classes. I am glad to learn that your respect to your teachers has not faded."

"Let's forget the past and consider it a bad dream. Now we should have an understanding and start our lives anew. We must know the facts and theories and listen to each other's reasons in order to

build the country," he said.

The speech which lasted about 30 minutes was made to the 19 after they had their breakfast with the Prime Minister, his family and few senior government officials.

Present during the down-to-earth talks were the Premier's advisor Dr Arthit Urairat, the Premier's Secretary General

Porn Thanaphum and television commentator Pichai Vasanasong.

The 19 were led to Gen Kriangsak's residence by Mr Pichai, a former prisoner in connection with the March 26, 1977 abortive coup.

Gen Kriangsak said he

decided to push through the Amnesty Act after being granted an audience with His Majesty the King recently at Puping Rajani- ves in Chiang Mai.

"I am not involving the King in this matter. But I was permitted by His

Continued Page 3



The 19 former Chomanan to thank

Celebration

STUDENTS of eight masat University came home-coming celebration of the Oct 6 case.

The celebration will see the 19 and their relatives at Thammasat University food to 99 monks and other temples.

After the religious ceremony at Lam Poh in the campus to have their blessing, President of Thammasat University, Nutcharas, will introduce the celebration.

At 9.30 am, Rector of the university, Chulalongkorn University, will later hold talks with the 19.

In the afternoon, the 19 will be invited to the Chulalongkorn University to meet their teachers.

Chulalongkorn University will hold a home-coming celebration for the 19 at the Pong Building in the campus.

The 19 will be invited to the "Hall of Technology tomorrow" (the Hall of Technology).

On Friday, students will hold a "To the People" ceremony.

COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS DRAFT

THE ADVISORY Committee for the Administration Regulations of the Prime Minister will discuss a draft on regulations to control the work of government officials aimed at preventing them from getting lazy on Wednesday.

The essence of the draft is for the superintendents of all units of the government agencies to come up with specific schedule for work to be done by their subordinates who will be required to complete their work within a fixed time.

According to the committee, which is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Sompob Hotrakit, the drafted regulations will give emphasis on those government agencies dealing directly with the public.



One of the 19, Sutham Saengprathum, presents a bouquet to Premier Kriangsak upon their arrival at his residence.

Satellite plunges back into atmosphere

WASHINGTON—Pegasus 1, one of the largest satellite ever shot into space, plunged back into the atmosphere early yesterday over Africa, space agency officials said.

The satellite re-entered the earth's atmosphere over northern Angola at 2.12 am EDT (0612 GMT), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said.

Several hours after the fiery re-entry there still were reports of visual sightings. NASA officials had predicted the satellite could scatter flaming pieces over an area 2,715 miles long and 125 miles wide. However, NASA said that the danger of anyone being hit by debris is slight.

NASA initially reported the re-entry took place just west of the west coast of Africa but revised that location after a better tracking information was supplied.

The satellite, launched in 1965, measured meteoroid concentrations with two wing-like arms which spanned



M-E SUMMIT TOWARD A

CAMP DAVID, Maryland—US President Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin concluded a 4½-hour summit meeting moved toward a close.

The outcome of the nearly two weeks of talks remained a mystery as Carter attempted to bring Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat together.

Begin had cancelled tentative plans to attend a performance of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington.

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Continued Page 3



The 19 former defendants "wai" Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan to thank him for the amnesty at his residence.

Celebration time

STUDENTS of eight universities will swarm Thammasat University campus today to participate in a home-coming celebration for the 19 former defendants of the Oct 6 case.

The celebration will be kicked off at 6.00 am with the 19 and their relatives and colleagues as well as Thammasat University Rector Prapas Auychai offering food to 99 monks invited from nearby Wat Mahathat and other temples.

After the religious ceremony, all of them will proceed to Larn Poh in front of the Arts Faculty in the campus to have their breakfast together.

President of Thammasat University Club, Krisdang Nutcharas, will introduce the 19 to people attending the celebration.

At 9.30 am, Rector Prapas will preside over a traditional "Bai Sri" ceremony to welcome the 19 who will later hold talks with interested students until midday.

In the afternoon, two of the 19, Sutham Saengprathum and Surachart Bumrungsuk, both students of Chulalongkorn University will go to their university to meet their teachers.

Chulalongkorn University students also plan a welcome celebration for the two at a lawn near Chakrapong Building in the campus.

The 19 will be invited to King Mongkut's Institute of Technology tomorrow to a celebration at "Sala Virachon" (the Hall of the Heroes), starting from 1.00 pm.

On Friday, students of eight universities will again hold a "To the People's Embrace" celebration to wel-
Continued Page 3



Sutham Saengprathum, pre-Premier Kriangsak upon residence.

INSIDE

Art Buchwald
A NEW
BUILDING
FOR THE
SENATE
P 2

CAIRO
PESSIMISTIC
ABOUT
RESULT
P 4

Business '78
MUAY THAI
TURNING
INTO BIG
BUSINESS

18 SEP

M-E SUMMIT MOVES TOWARD A CLOSE

CAMP DAVID, Maryland—US President Jimmy Carter and Prime Minister Me-
Sweden, at the Middle

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Vol. 3 No. 588

Kriangsak turns chef again...

Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan turned a chef again yesterday when he went into his kitchen to cook curry fried rice for the 19 former defendants of the Oct 6 case who visited him yesterday at resident to thank him.

Former leader of the National Student Centre of Thailand, Sutham Saengprathum, represented the group in presenting a bouquet of flowers to Gen Kriangsak upon their arrival.

After receiving the bouquet, the Prime Minister walked straight to the kitchen to cook the rice while some women reporters gave helping hands by passing him spices and dressings.

Sutham and his colleagues, in a jovial mood related their daily lives in prisons. Sutham said he cultivated orchids which were bred by Mr Pichai Vasanang, who was formerly detained at the same prison in connection with the March 26 abortive coup.

Sutham and former labour leader Arom Pongpa-ngan and seven others sat at the same table as Gen Kriangsak during breakfast while the rest had their meal with the Premier's wife, Khunying Virat, and his son Pong-

Continued Page 3

Premier to be humble in giving interview to the Press

PRIME MINISTER Kriangsak Chomanan to be humble in giving interview to the Press

Addressing the 19 released defendants who called on him at his Bangkhen residence yesterday morning, Gen Kriangsak said: "I believe all of you are loyal to the nation, religion and monarchy and strongly desire to build the country. We must cement our opinions and reasons for the sake of the nation."

The Premier reiterated that he believes in the 19 persons' patriotism and added that he had never regarded them as communists "I want you to go back to your classes. I am glad to learn that your respect to your teachers has not faded."

"Let's forget the past and consider it a bad dream. Now we should have an understanding and start our lives anew. We must know the facts and theories and listen to each other's reasons in order to

build the country," said.

The speech which about 30 minutes made to the 19 after had their breakfast the Prime Minister family and few senior government officials.

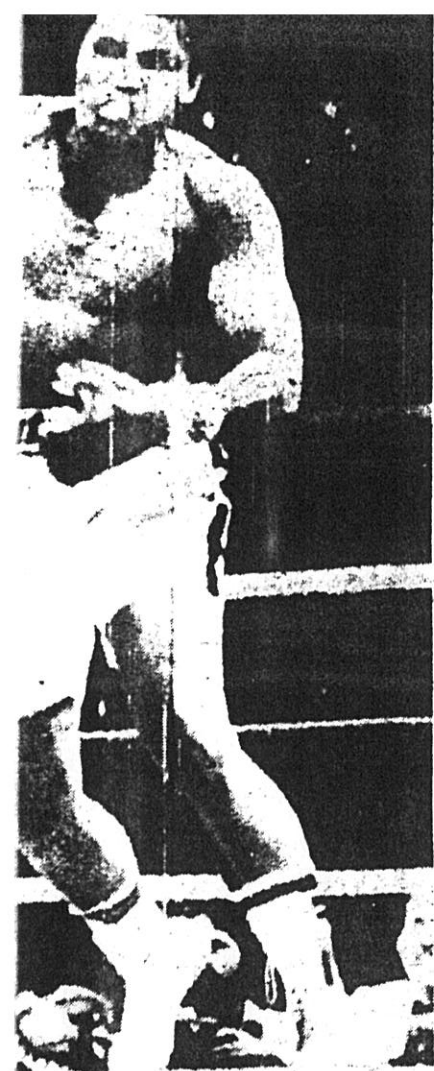
Present during down-to-earth talks the Premier's advisor Arthit Urairat, the Premier's Secretary Ge-

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According to the Committee, which is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Sotat Hotrakit, the drafted regulations will give emphasis those government agencies



It a ducking WBA champion Leon Spinks in New Orleans. — AP

Boxing

were wild now as Ali appeared slightly tired. But the former champion rushed in to land two good rights to Spinks' face. — Ali's round.

ROUND THIRTEEN

A right by Ali landed on Spinks' forehead. Spinks came back with a short right to the stomach. Spinks' frustration at not being able to hit Ali seemed to sap some of his confidence. Ali hurt Spinks with a right uppercut to the jaw. Another right by Ali caught Spinks on the chin as he came in. — Ali's round.

ROUND FOURTEEN

Ali caught Spinks with a lunging right to the face. Spinks found Ali's body with a left hook and a right cross as the champion came in low. Spinks was still offline with most of his punches. Ali usually was able to tie up Spinks when the champion rushed in wildly. — Ali's round.

ROUND FIFTEEN

The remarkable Ali was

Satellite plunges back into atmosphere

time in accusing the ASEAN of 'going counter to the aspirations of the Southeast Asian peoples for genuine independence, peace and neutrality.....', the agency said.

"Now, Moscow has changed its mind and decided to court the ASEAN's favour. And without the slightest hesitation Hanoi declared its 'agreement' with the ASEAN's aims," the agency said.

"Isn't it distasteful to see Hanoi dance to the tune of the Kremlin to the extent that it does not

Hartling told newsmen at Kuala Lumpur airport that he would fly to a refugee camp, housing about 5,000 Vietnamese refugees, on the east coast of Malaysia today to take further measures for the welfare of the refugees.

He said Malaysia was playing an important role in dealing with the problem of resettlement of the Vietnamese refugees passing through this country since the end of the Indochina war in 1975.

Since 1975, Malaysia has harboured more than 20,000 refugees, mostly Vietnamese, who fled the Communist rule in their homelands. The arrival of Vietnamese refugees in Malaysia increased this year, and at present more than 13,000 of them are waiting in camps on the east coast for repatriation to western countries.

Hartling said another \$25 million would be allocated for the care of the refugees in Southeast Asia, and 60 per cent of this sum would be spent in Thailand which was giving shelter to more than 100,000 refugees from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

Hartling later called on Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen for talks on the resettlement of the refugees still remaining here.

United States and Australian officials are currently vetting the refugees for resettlement in their countries at the rate of more than 1,000 a month.

Hartling will also meet Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn and Home Minister Tan Sri Ghazalie Shafie before leaving for Singapore on September 20 on the last leg of the tour. He has already visited Thailand, China, Laos and Vietnam.—Reuter

From Page One

WARNS

Majesty to clarify the truth to the people," he said.

He added: "I am not seeking political support by releasing all of you. I do not want assistance from anybody. Releasing you will on the contrary be a risk to me. But I think what I have done is right and just."

The Premier reiterated that he had no intention of using the 19 as a campaign instrument but "I know very well that some people are trying to use you as an instrument for their interest."

Gen Kriangsak posed with the 19 for photographers at his residence after the speech. They returned at around 11.00 am.

BREAKFAST

pipat at a separate table. "I could not sleep well in prison for it was very bright with lights at night but they switched off the lights at my house," Arom told the Premier.

Sutham thanked Gen Kriangsak for "pushing us out of the prison before we expected. And even

one minute of freedom is precious to all of us."

Gen Kriangsak and Khunying Virat gave "Luang Poo Waen" coins to each of the 19 after breakfast.

SUMMIT

were at "a critical stage." The source said they could end in a full or partial agreement or with failure.

Earlier Begin's press aide said the American news media were being too optimistic and the Egyptian press too pessimistic about the Camp David summit.

Dan Pattir gave no hint of the state of the talks in a telephone interview with Israel Radio.—Agencies

TALKS

bases from which the United States backed its war effort in Indochina, as well as Hanoi's acceptance of the continued presence here of American forces does not necessarily prevent better relations with Manila.

Diplomats believe that Hanoi's desire to build up its war-torn economy and border tensions have prompted Vietnam

soften past criticism of ASEAN as Western-inspired and to seek a closer relationship to protect its flanks. Neither side seem to believe that Vietnam is interested in joining the organisation at present.

While his officials were talking yesterday, the 72-year-old Premier had a relaxed motor-tour of Manila, government sources said.

Apart from talks yes-

CELEBRATION

come the 19 at Chulalongkorn University's big auditorium.

A "Bai Sri" ceremony will also be held at the university on the same day. The ceremony will be participated by Chulalongkorn University Rector Kasame Suwannakul, students and workers.

SATELLITE

96 feet.

NASA had predicted about 21,000 pounds of the satellite and its attached rocket stage would burn up from re-entry heat, but that about 1,600 pounds of stronger metals might survive and hit the earth although they would be broken into perhaps hundreds of pieces.

The satellite originally orbited 325 miles up on a path that took it 31 degrees north and 31 degrees south of the equator. It had been tugged back toward earth by atmospheric friction to approaches as close as 158 miles from earth.

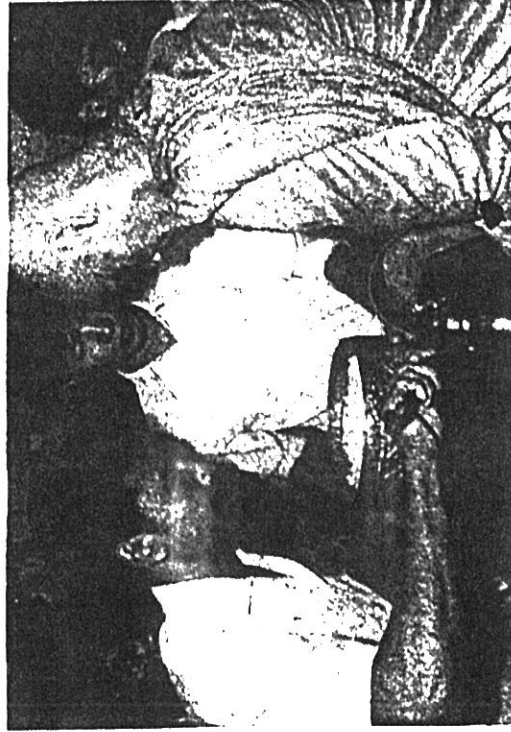
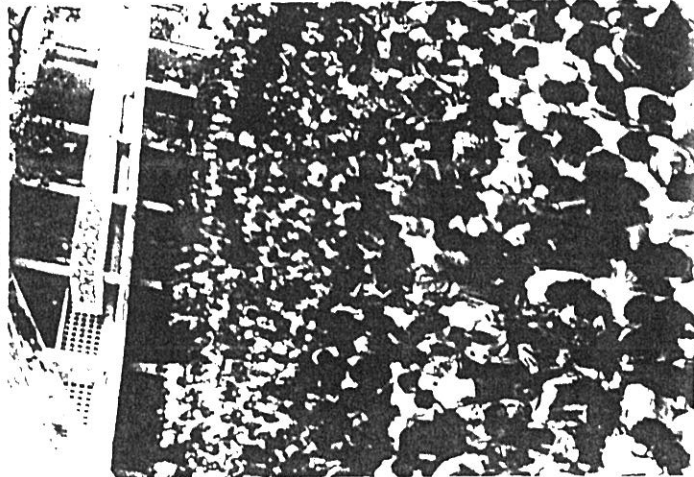
Two other Pegasus satellites also were launched in 1965. Pegasus 3 re-entered without fanfare in 1969 over the Pacific Ocean. Pegasus 2 is still in orbit.



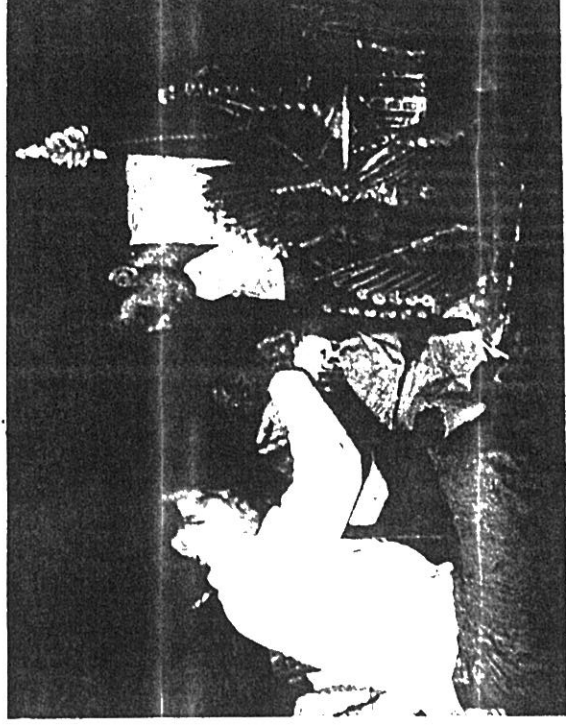
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LOCAL NEWS



Pictures show, clockwise, students warmly welcoming the 19 released defendants at Lam Poh in Thammasat University campus. One of the 19, Sutham Seengprathum, is seen offering food to a monk during the religious ceremony in the morning. Some of the 19 then pose for photographers with their relatives and defence lawyers. The poster behind them reads: "Welcome the Innocent People". Deputy Chulalongkorn University Rector Prapapong Vejjajiva is shown in the last picture tying a white cord around Sutham's wrist during a "Bai Sri" ceremony at Chulalongkorn University's big auditorium.



Warm welcome for released students

MORE THAN 1,000 students from various institutes turned up at Thammasat University yesterday to warmly welcome the 19 former defendants of the Oct 6 case who were released last Saturday.

The celebration began after dawn with a religious ceremony. The 19 joined other persons, including their relatives, students and lecturers, in offering food to 99 monks in front of the university campus. The celebration began in the afternoon, with students warmly welcoming the 19 released defendants. Sutham and Suvachart also called on the university Rector Kasame Suwanakul, concurrently Minister of the Universities Bureau Minister to thank him for being a student who fought for their freedom. Suvachart, Bumrungrak of the Law Faculty, and another two released defendants at Ramkham-

Fake new 5 baht coins found F A K E sandwich-type five-baht coins were recently discovered.

Bess, Cherry wreak

lawyers. The poster behind them reads: "Welcome the illustrious Deputy Chulalongkorn University Rector Prapapong Vejjajiva is shown in the last picture tying a white cord around Sutham's wrist during a "Bai Sri" ceremony at Chulalongkorn University's big auditorium."

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The Lam Poh Lawn in front of the Liberal Arts Faculty was crowded with celebrants participating in a northern-style "Bai Sri" ceremony.

The celebrants tied white cords around the wrists of the 19 during the ceremony to welcome them back and wish them happiness in their future.

A couple of students stood on the stage to alternately read a poem depicting their struggle for justice and the regrettable death of their colleagues in their past activities.

Thongchai Thongpao, chief of the lawyers defending them during their trial, and three other lawyers were also present at the celebration.

The 19 released defendants were sometimes seen in a jovial mood and sometimes filled with tears when they related their involvement in the Oct 6, 1976 incident and their past two years in prison.

The celebrants and the 19 stood silently for one minute to commemorate the fallen students during the Oct 6 incident.

Former leader of the National Student Centre of Thailand (NSCT) Sutham Saengprathum announced to the crowd that his two years in prison had inspired him to continue struggling for justice without regards to suffering or discouragement.

Tearful Thongchai Vinijakul told the gathering that he felt sorry for the loss of some colleagues but, "today will be the last day that we will cry for them. We will cry no more."

The celebration ended before midday.

At Chulalongkorn Uni-

versity in the afternoon, about 1,000 students threw another "Bai Sri" ceremony for two of the nineteen released—Sutham Saengprathum, a student of the Law Faculty, and Surachart Bumrungruk of the Faculty of Political Science. Both were studying at Chulalongkorn University before they were arrested.

The ceremony which was held at the big auditorium was presided over by Deputy Rector Prapapong Vejjajiva.

Before the Chula cele-

brations, Sutham and Surachart also called on University Rector Kasame Suwannakul, concurrently Universities Bureau Minister, to thank him for being part of those who fought for their freedom.

Dr Kasame told the two that the university was willing to accept them in the next semester without any condition.

He expressed regret for the bloody riots on Oct 6 which he described as "a black spot in Thailand's history."

Sutham presented a bouquet of orchids to the

Rector and both of them vowed to upgrade the society.

Meanwhile, the homecoming celebration for another two released defendants at Ramkhamhaeng University appeared more colourful than at Thammasat and Chulalongkorn Universities.

The celebration was highlighted with representatives from over 30 university clubs presenting bouquets of flowers to the two — Mahin Tambunperm and Prayoon Akrabavorn — and the release of pigeons to mark their freedom.

The two received loud applause from over 10,000 students when they walked up a prepared stage together with Acting Rector Prof Sa-nga Linasamith.

Prof Sa-nga acted on behalf of all lecturers in congratulating the two on their freedom and wished them good luck in their future.

'Outsiders' can become ambassadors

OUTSIDERS, including military officers, are expected to be appointed as Thai ambassadors during the annual reshuffle in October, informed sources said yesterday.

Sources said the proposal to name non-officials of the Foreign Ministry as ambassadors was made in-

a Cabinet session recently.

Cabinet had fully thrashed out the proposal but no final decision has yet been made, sources said. Two Thai ambassadors, Mr Sakchai Bumrungrong attached to Burma and M.L. Suthisathien Svasti to Malaysia, are due to retire on September 30.

SRISAK MEETING HARTLING IN KL

DEPUTY Undersecretary of State for Interior Srisak Thammarak will head a Thai team to Kuala Lumpur today to discuss the refugee problem with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Poul Hartling, and senior officials of several other countries.

Pol Maj Gen Srisak who will be accompanied by Foreign Ministry officials said he would urge other third countries to take more Indochinese refugees from Thailand.

"The refugee population in Thailand currently recorded at 140,000 persons is a big burden and we can no longer handle the situation ourselves, he said.

Srisak yesterday chaired a meeting at the Interior Ministry to discuss vocational and educational assistance to refugees at various camps throughout the country.

The education will be provided by the Education Ministry under financial aid from the UNHCR, he said.

Fake new 5 baht coins found

F A K E sandwich-type five-baht coins were recently discovered for the first-time in circulation in the city a senior Bangkok Bank official said yesterday.

Mr Narongkiat Trachoo of the bank's Financial Section said the fake coins were quite similar to the genuine ones as they all had copper rings around them.

The new genuine five-baht coins are made of nickel with a piece of copper sandwiched in-between.

The fake coins has the same size and weigh as the genuine one but the inscriptions of the King and the garuda on both sides of the coin are rough, he said.

Smallpox totally eliminated

THE World Health Organization's offer reward since October last year of US\$1,000 (about 20,000 baht) to any person reporting the first case of smallpox has so far been unclaimed.

WHO reported that not a single case of smallpox has been found since October last year.

"That is tantamount to the total elimination of smallpox from the world," it said.

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Where like to Europe



orning in connection with were stabbed to death last

for stabbed him 23 times. He died on the spot. The knife accidentally cut Somchai's wrist.

Yongyuth reportedly jumped upstairs to snatch a key from Orasa to open the safe but she resisted. Orasa was stabbed and was seriously injured. Her 70-year-old grandmother was also hit on the head.

Police said the two arrested, Pongsak and Suvinai, jointly planned the robbery.

sued for extortion

olice private attached to Prachais sued in the Military (Criminal) court for assaulting a civilian.

Somchai Sae Heng, who filed a lawsuit against S. Sorntha told the court that Sorntha on June 7 on charges of extortion.

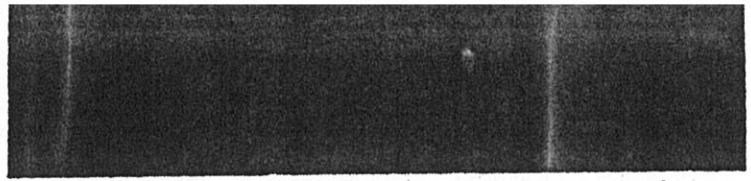
Sorntha asked for money in exchange but he refused to give him (Sura-)

ther colleagues then take him to a court and assaulted him, Somchai court to take legal action against

Industrialization

ese Technology to reflect a decision of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held in Vancouver two years ago.

Taking part in the meeting are representatives from Australia, Bangladesh, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USSR, United Kingdom and the United States.



PRIME MINISTER Kriangsak Chomanan last night told representatives of ten universities during a two-hour meeting at the Government House to give up their planned home-coming party for the 19 former defendants of the October 6 case at Chulalongkorn University.

The party, to be co-hosted by ten universities - Chulalongkorn, Thammasat, Ramkhamhaeng, Kasetsart, Silpakorn, Khon Kaen, Prasarnmitr, Mahidol universities, and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology at Bangmod and Lard Krabang, was scheduled for Friday.

Deputy Rector of Chulalongkorn University, Prapanpong Vejajiva, had earlier turned down the students' request to use the campus for the celebration.

Nine students representing the 10 institutes then went to the Government house where a Cabinet meeting was proceeding and asked to see Minister of the Office of State Universities, Dr Kasem Suwannakul to be informed of the government policy concerning the planned home-coming reception for the 19 former October 6 defendants.

However, the nine were later summoned by Prime Minister Kriangsak into a meeting which lasted from 7.15 to 9.10 pm.

Emerging from the Government House, the nine representatives refused to answer questions put forward by waiting reporters on the results of the meeting saying that a press conference will be held this morning at Chakkrapong Building at Chulalongkorn University.

Gen Kriangsak, however, said later that he disagreed with the proposed home-coming reception to be held at Chulalongkorn and requested the nine student representatives to give up the idea.

"I did it just for the sake of the country's survival," he said, but did not elaborate.

"If they want to hold such a party, they could simply do it at their respective campus," he said.

Asked to comment on the future role of the students he said: "I don't agree with their playing politics. Well, they could become involved after graduation.

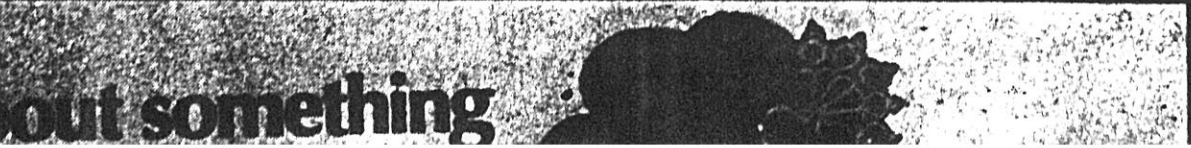
"But I am for the idea of activities aimed at upholding democracy on the campus," he added and again did not elaborate.

Early in the day the 19 former defendants were treated to a home-coming reception hosted by the King Mongkut's Institute of Technology (Bangmod) during which the October 14 heroes were also commemorated.

Speeches voicing their determined efforts to fight for justice in the society were also read out during the reception which was preceded by a religious ceremony in the morning.

Picture above shows one of the 19 former defendants, Atthakarn Uppathampakul, receiving flowers from a girl student of King Mongkut Institute of Technology.

The Nation Review, Sept. 20, 1976, p. 3



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SWEET, SWEET FREEDOM!

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Writing in the column, Mon Free hinted that he had doubt if the released October 6 defendants would really go back to their study or to "conduct investigations again."

It was better to make heroes out of the Thammamat 18 on the campus than "to breed more tigers in the jungle," Mon Free quoted Prime Minister Kriangkrai Chornanan as

saying. "It would certainly be a big mess if comrades Khaisang Sukjai, Thirayuth Boonmee and Sakkan Praserkul come out of the jungle and stroll on a city street today," he continued.

He said that the decision to grant amnesty to the students reflected Kriangkrai's pragmatism in administering the "two-wife government," but did not elaborate.

Former Interior Minister King.

ter Samak Sundaravej lashed out at the Government for its decision to grant amnesty to the October 6 defendants during a special lecture in Petichulalongkornrajavidyalaya on last Saturday, Dao Siam reported in its lead column.

"Just a very lousy government," Samak commented. He said that the government stepped out with the wrong foot by referring to the amnesty as a desire of His Majesty the King.

"Who knows if HM the King really said so or not," he was quoted as saying.

Dao Siam also reported that a police patrol truck loaded with a score of young people - presumably vocational students - was cruising in front of the Bangkokwang Prison.

The paper devoted three full columns on Page 3 commenting on the amnesty. Phya Mai said in one of the columns that he won-

ded if the national reconciliation as desired by Gen. Kriangkrai as a result of seeing the October 6 defendants would possibly turn out to be a "disingenuous."

The amnesty, he said, was a confirmation that those released were actually wrong-doers. In another column Chupong Manee-nod commented that he was looking for an answer to his speculation of the motive behind the amnesty.

"Politically, Kriangkrai would only get a negative image from the mass both left and right wing groups - by releasing the 18 trouble-makers," he added.

Most other papers yesterday greeted the amnesty with more enthusiasm and went out to report the news in full details. Refraining from making any obvious comments on the amnesty, Thai Rath - one of the papers that usually avoid committing

themselves with comments on such sensitive issue - quoted Premier Kriangkrai as saying that the move to set free those implicated in the case was initiated by His Majesty the King.

Thaharn Kao said in his column in Sam Rath that from now on the real threat to the students taking up arms in the jungle was not the law, the police or the government. "The only danger to them now is the communist insurgents themselves," said

es," he said, explaining that those who are now operating in the jungle and want to return to city life after the amnesty are facing a precarious life," he said.

"Those who want to come back please be careful because they (the terrorists) would not tolerate seeing them flee from the jungle without taking any action," he said.

"They will certainly be dealt with death," he warned.

In DAILY TIME Serum-Ekksachai praised His Majesty the King and the government for their mercy in granting the amnesty to "the poor students" who had to suffer for two years in prisons.

"Those who committed the bloody crime will eventually pay for it," he said.

When time moved so slow for many

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Boonchaat Sathienharnae

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MOST, if not all, of the October 6 defendants—2 girls and 17 men—must have spent Friday night tossing and turning throughout, because of the uncertainty as to the time of their release from detention, and not on account of the sentences to be handed down by the military court which had been handling their case up to the moment when the National Assembly voted 180-1 to approve the Government-sponsored amnesty bill earlier in the afternoon.

The ten defendants detained at Bangkok Detention Centre were informed of the good news by their prison guards in the evening that the bill was overwhelmingly passed and that the order to acquit them might come on Saturday morning. The rest were detained in Bangkok Prison and the Women's correctional institute.

Indeed, yesterday morning was rather unusual in that the crowd of relatives waiting to visit the defendants rapidly grew larger in size. They had heard of the pending good news as well. Those who still had not come to the detention centre with the same frame of mind as the days before were subsequently relayed the good news and in turn they promptly rang up their friends and relatives in trembling voices.

Words of excitement and joy were exchanged noisily through the bars between the defendants and their friends and relatives.

The hand of the clock appeared to be extraordinarily slow yesterday as people on both sides of the bars an-



A LOVE that nothing could bar. Orissa Irawanwat is hugged through the bars by his mother during her visit to the cell yesterday morning. The Amnesty International last year campaigned for a temporary release of Orissa so that he could have his bullet wound in his mouth treated.



VIROJ Tangvanich, one of the former October 6 defendants, receives the first kiss from his mother in two years.

ly in a better atmosphere. "I was stunned when I heard the news from the prison guards," said Thongchai Vinichakul who was vice president of the Thammasat University student government. "My friends excitedly shook one another's hands after the good news. But I don't really know how I felt at that time."

The good news came officially at about 3.30 pm—the defendants would be taken to hear the amnesty order at the Defence Ministry and that they should be ready when the time came



A "WAI" from their freedom.



SHOUTINGS, weeping as they leave the Krungthep arms of their relatives a prison.

THEIR HE

Sutham Saengprathum

"JUSTICE is justice and freedom is delightful," said the former secretary general of the now-defunct National Students Centre of Thailand (NSCT), Sutham Saengprathum who was born in 1955 in Nakhon S Thammarat.

Expressing his gratitude, Sutham said that he and his colleagues are very deeply grateful to the kindness of His Majesty the King who approved the amnesty fo