

Coup Driving Leftist Leaders in Thailand Into Hiding

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BANGKOK, Thailand, Oct. 9—Scores of left-wing students, intellectuals, professors and politicians have gone into hiding in the wake of Wednesday's coup by a group of right-wing military officers in Thailand.

A number of left-wing sympathizers reportedly have been arrested, particularly in the hours immediately following the major police action Wednesday morning at Thammasat University, the center of the student activism, and demonstrations that preceded the military takeover.

Some of the first students arrested were released today on bail of 30,000 baht, or \$1,500, and told stories of police firing into crowds of students who waved white flags of surrender and of police forcing students down five flights of stairs, kicking them and beating them with rifle butts along the way.

One student said they were told that trials before a military tribunal, with no counsel permitted, would begin Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Thanin Kraivichien, the Supreme Court justice who was named Prime Minister late last night, reportedly began a series of meetings today, and it was believed they would lead to formation of a new military-backed government within two weeks.

Talks on Ministers Reported

The new Prime Minister, who is not formally affiliated with any political party, was said to be talking with a number of leading right-wing figures in an effort to decide on his principal ministerial appointments.

At least one prominent spokesman for the intellectual community in Thailand—one of the most vocal and articulate in Southeast Asia, particularly during the past four years of democratic government here—left the country two days ago.

Close friends of Dr. Puey Ungpakorn, the highly respected rector of Thammasat University, said he feared retaliation from military officials who believe that he did not make sufficient efforts to convince students to abandon their demonstrations against the return to Thailand of the exiled military strongman, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn. He reportedly arrived in London yesterday.

Students said that a number of left-wing politicians who were close to students and their organization, the National Student Center, had left Bangkok, many of them heading to remote areas of southern Thailand to "wait to see which way the wind is blowing," as one put it.

Dormitories Will Be Closed

Students have been told that all university dormitories will be closed tomorrow and police guards posted until the universities formally reopen.

Few expect classes to resume at least until after the anniversary of the 1973 uprising on Oct. 14, traditionally celebrated by the left with demonstrations against the military regime overthrown on that date. However, most believe universities will not reopen until at least Nov. 1.

The police have seized more than one million copies of books in raids on five universities and on bookstores in Bangkok since Thursday, it was learned today. Police sources said the books were all "pro-Communist publications," but it was learned that such books as the works of Edgar Snow, a journalist friend of the late Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung of China, were among those seized.

Twelve of the nation's leading daily newspapers began publishing today under a series of strict censorship guidelines. Some editors shrugged them off as being little different from those that prevailed during the reign of Marshal Thanom, the former military strongman and his deputy, Praphas Charusathien.

A Seven-Point Press Code

The guidelines, a seven-point press code published in full today on the editorial page of the English-language Bangkok Post, forbid the publication of any "material and illustrations which violate the institution of the monarchy or regency, make accusations or give distorted or contemptuous or insulting impressions about Thailand and the Thai people or which may cause other countries to lose respect for Thailand, which make accusations or give distorted or contemptuous

or insulting or damaging impressions about the government, or which promote Communism."

Publication of pornography or official secrets also is banned.

One of the students released today, a 19-year-old girl, said this morning that she had gone to Thammasat late Tuesday night. "Before dawn they began firing

through the gates into the crowd," she said. "Several students held up white flags, but the police kept shooting and they were wounded."

She described students being driven before the advancing police until they reached the river. Many dove in and police boats opened fire from midstream, she said.



United Press International

King Phumiphol Aduldet of Thailand signing the decree that made Adm. Sa-ngad Chaloryu chief of the military junta. The admiral kneels before him; a naval aide stands at left.