



Associated Press

LAOTIANS DENOUNCE THAI TAKEOVER: In Vientiane, Laotian youths stage a demonstration protesting against the military move that brought down the government in neighboring Thailand on Oct. 6. Raids against leftists are taking place all through Thailand, even to the Laotian border. Page 12.

The New York Times

Published: October 17, 1976

Copyright © The New York Times

Thai Government Holds at Least 200 Leftists, Including Intellectuals

By DAVID A. ANDELMAN

Special to The New York Times

BANGKOK, Thailand, Oct. 16—Thailand's military junta said tonight that it was holding at least 200 leftist leaders, including a number of leading intellectuals, writers and politicians.

They were seized over the last two days under a special martial-law directive allowing the police or army to detain people suspected of being "potential dangers to society" for 30 days with no charges and no bail.

At least twice as many people were understood to have been detained and released, at least temporarily, and an even larger number are still being sought by detectives and military officers of the Central Intelligence Division.

Some 500 students out of more than 3,000 detained as a result of the bloody clashes between the police and students the morning of the coup here Oct. 6 are still in custody and most of the rest, released on bail, are still awaiting hearings before military tribunals.

1,000 Curfew Arrests Reported

The civilian police said today that at least 1,000 violators of the 10 P.M.-to-4:30 A.M. curfew were arrested last night, and today the junta asked Bangkok's movie theaters to stop the popular 7 P.M. showings as well as their late-night shows to "guard against possible terror attacks."

Meanwhile, a number of leftist leaders who had been trying to flee to Laos have reportedly given up in the face of sharply increased Thai security along the Mekong River border and some returned to Bangkok today.

The seizure of the editors, writers, stu-

dents and politicians over the last two days has reportedly been done with varying degrees of benevolence or harshness.

Pansak Vinyaratn, the publisher of one of Thailand's leading left-wing weekly magazines, was detained as he was about to board a plane to Hong Kong yesterday afternoon with his wife and two children. Tonight, his wife, Didi, an American citizen whose right to leave Thailand has been revoked by the junta, said that she was allowed to spend much of the day with him in an air-conditioned detention cell at the Central Intelligence Division prison.

Author's Farm Raided

Near Korat in northeastern Thailand where a major American air base operated during the Vietnam war, the police

raided a farm belonging to Khamsing Srinawak, one of Thailand's leading authors. His stories, published by the Oxford University Press, have won wide acclaim in the English-speaking world.

Mr. Khamsing reportedly fled into the jungle with several friends, with the police in pursuit.

Western diplomats watching developments said initially that the crackdown

would have the effect of removing a number of student agitators from the already overheated political situation. Now the diplomats are concerned that elimination of agitation, particularly in the provincial areas, may be used as an excuse for settling long-standing grudges.

"No proof is required," observed one diplomat. "It never has to go to court. What better way to settle an old score?"

The New York Times

Published: October 17, 1976

Copyright © The New York Times