

Human Rights in Thailand May-June 1977Introduction

After increasingly systematic study it now seems that there are altogether six different categories of political prisoners being held in Thailand at the moment, namely:-

1. Those arrested before the October 6th for communist, rioting, and conduct likely to cause a breach of peace charges
2. Those arrested at Thammasat University (or related to the events at Thammasat University) on October 6.
3. Those arrested for endangering society.
4. Those detained under article 21., relating to the March 26th abortive coup.
5. Those arrested in sensitive areas with communist or communist sympathiser charges.
6. Those arrested in sensitive areas with more serious charges (attempting to murder officials etc.)

In the first category there are at least those groups, those arrested with Supap in Om Noi on March 31st 1976 (nine in all two of whom were released on bail and have jumped bail), and those arrested with Bamruang Chalanyamung in Buri Rum on June 11th 1976 (nine in all, three of whom are out on bail.) Both groups are being tried extremely slowly at present. The prison conditions of those held in Buri Rum are atrocious, with five of the six being held suffering serious skin diseases. The third group (in a slightly different category) is from Surin, and is composed of Thongchai alias Pong Srichan, Sao Sao Kaew, and Miss Boonrerng Sri Udom. They were arrested in a clash with police on June 23rd 1976, charged with murder, resisting police arrest, and illegal possession of arms. They were sentenced to death on June 15th 1977. We only include this last group, as we have no evidence on their guilt or innocence. They have 30 days to appeal.

In the second category 24 people are still being held in detention. 21 of these were remanded for a further 90 days on 16th June (see below), one is presently being tried (Boonchard), and the other two (Arca and Mahinth) will soon come up for remand. One prisoner (Crissa) is seriously ill from an injury received at Thammasat, and has been denied adequate treatment.

In the third category (about 1.108 people) the majority on investigation seem to be non-political (hooligans, vietnamese drug addicts, gangster, and even go go dancers and prostitutes). Probably only about 20% of these have been arrested for

truly political causes, and perhaps another 20%-30% because they are of Vietnamese origin. However all 1,103 are being held without specific charges and without recourse to any legal defence. Generally the conditions of these prisoners do not seem too bad. Significant numbers of the "political endangering society" prisoners are being released.

In the fourth category 22 military and civilian officials, and journalists are being held for between five years and life for their alleged involvement in the abortive March 26th Coup. They were sentenced under article 21. Two further people sentenced to life imprisonment are still at large. Others involved in the Khmer border smuggling and massacre of border villagers have also been sentenced under article 21. The prison conditions of these people are quite good.

V. Quite large numbers of people have been arrested before October 6th and after as communist sympathisers. Often almost whole villages seem to be hauled in for interrogation and "re-education" it appears that no systematic records are held of this category of prisoner, and thus we have no idea how many are being held. However since in some districts 50 or 60 people are being held the number could easily run into the thousands. Generally the conditions under which these prisoners are being held are very poor, and there are frequent stories of mistreatment, torture and even murdering of these detained.

VI. Some of these arrested in V) above, and others picked up after clashes with government forces (often only because they are in the vicinity) are charged with much more serious charges (see 3 arrested in Surin mentioned in I. above). In this category we are so far only aware of two groups, one group of eleven people being held in Bangkok having been arrested in Makorn Sri Thammarat, and tortured to obtain confessions (tied in sacks and thrown in a burlap), and another group of six people also being held in Nakhon Sri Thammarat. However it is almost certain that there are others in the same category.

Details of all the above prisoners are included in the main body of the report. Finally it should be mentioned that there are strong and recurrent rumours (unconfirmed) of various "Young Turk" military officers, and other rightists also being detained by government.

Despite the large number of people being detained very few trials are taking place. That of the Surin three is complete, that of the Om Noi, and Buri Rum groups continue at a snail's pace. The trial of Boon Chard (for Lese Majeste) which is a sort of trial run for other October 6th detainees, seems according to our observer

to be proceeding very favourably for Boonchard.

Most of the others being detained, after being arrested at Thammasat, have been remanded for a further 90 days (from June 16th). This time however the remand took place in a military court (for the first time) in the Ministry of Defence on the communist charge only. This substantiates information we had already received, that the prosecutors department has found that there is insufficient evidence to prosecute any of the 110 still being held from Thammasat on any of the 10 charges for which it is responsible. Only the communist charge is the responsibility of the military prosecutor, and this is why this recent remand had to take place for the first time in military court. Thus it seems that for those arrested at Thammasat there will be no trial for another 90 days, and when the trial actually takes place it will be on the communist charge alone in a military court.

Finally the increasing use of article 21 for all categories of people (political and other) should be deplored. There is no due process of law or right of appeal for those sentenced under article 21. Often sentences are carried out before they are announced. Often the cases leave a nasty feeling that article 21 is being used to protect higher up people. And always these executed are executed in such a rush that they are not able even to bid farewell to their families. It seems all in all to be promoting a gruesome interest in the Thai society, since every alleged rapist, drug peddler, smuggler or whatever immediately becomes a national celebrity, as in a few days his blood spattered body might be splashed across the front pages of the newspapers. For a Buddhist country where the first precept is "I will not take life" the increasingly frequent use of article 21 must be strongly opposed.

II. Prisons, Training Centres, and Other Places where Political Prisoners are detained.

A. Bangkok

1. Bangken II Corrections Centre (Vocational Training Center)
Address: Bangken Police Private Training School
Superhighway, Bangken district, Amphur Bangken, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Corrections Department, Police Department.
Prisoners: Endangering Society (about) 90 odd People, most of whom political
2. Bangken Temporary Prison
Address: Bangken Police Private Training School.
Superhighway, Bangken district, Amphur Bangken, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Corrections Department, Police Department.
Prisoners: October 6, 14 People, Under Banishment.....People.
3. Klong Prem Central Prison (Iard Yao)
Address: Ngam Wong Wan rd., Iard Yao district, Amphur Bangken, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Corrections Department.
Prisoners: Accused of being Communists.....People, (Ex. Supap, Pisit and others 5 workers), March 26 (article 21).....2.....People.
4. Women Punishment Camp
Address: Iard Yao district, Amphur Bangken, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Correction Department.
Prisoners: October 6, 2 People (Ex. Miss Suchaera, Miss Sngiem).
5. Special Prison of Bangkok (Klong Prem Light Jail)
Address: Maha-chai rd., Amphur Pomrab, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Corrections Department
Prisoners: 6th October. 11. People (Ex. Crisa I-yarawonwuth), Criminal Charge
.....People (Ex. 10 Innocent People from Nakhonsrithammarat)
6. Bangkwan Maximum Security Prison
Address: Near the Central Hall, Amphur Muang, Nonthaburi Province.
Organization Responsible: Corrections Department.
Prisoners: 6th October 7 People (Ex. Boonchart, and Sutham group),
26th March (Article 21) 12 People.
7. Sethsiri Detention Centre
Address: Sethsiri rd., Samsen, Bangkok.
Organization Responsible: Sethsiri Special Security Police Constabulary,

unit 6 (in area 1),

ISCC (in area 2).

Prisoners: Communist Suspects.....People (Ex. Mr. Jarun Distha-pichai,
area 1), (Ex. Mr. Viruth Te-rin, area 2).

B. Central Region

1. Ayudhya Corrections Centre (Youth Punishment Camp)

Address: Youth Punishment Camp, Amphur Muang, Ayudhya Province.

Organization Responsible: Corrections Department, Police Department.

Prisoners: Endangering Society.....People (most of whom not political)

2. Nakorn-swan

C. North Region

1. Karoonthen Corrections Centre (ISCC Information Centre)

Address: Opposite Suanproong Hospital, Nhong-Buak-Hard, Chiangmai Province.

Organization Responsible: ISCC

Prisoners: Communist Suspects.....People, Hill-tribes Men.....People.

2. Pisanulok.....?

D. North-East Region

1. Korat Corrections Centre

Address: Tambon Lardbuakhao, Sikhin District, Korat, Nakorn-rajsima

Organization Responsible: Corrections Department.

Prisoners:

2. Ubon Ratchthani.....?

3. Udon Ratchthani.....?

E. South Region

1. Democracy Training School (The Communist Detention Centre)

Address: 3rd Company

Border Patrol Headquarters, Phumphia District, Surat-thani Province.

Organization Responsible: Corrections Department, Police Department, 4th

Army Region.

Prisoners: Communist Suspects.....People.

2. Nakorn Sri Thammarat.....?

3. Songkla.....?

F. Thousands of local police-stations and military camps and BPP headquarters.

(Many people have been held in various police-stations for more than 3-4 months)

before transferring to corrections centres. The conditions in police custody are worse than in corrections centres).

NOTE: It was officially reported on 23 June 1977 that a total of 1,108 suspects have been detained in various prisons, under the responsibility of the Corrections Department, throughout the country on charges of being detrimental to the society (political endangering society).

The detainees, the Corrections Department said, are reported in a breakdown of 237 in the North, 284 in the South, 170 in the North-East, 328 in Ayudhya and 89 in Bangkok. They were also said to be sent to separated prisons, thirty days after their arrests, in Ayudhya, Ubon Ratchthani, Pitsanulok, Songkhla and Bangkok.

Only the numbers of prisoners in a few categories that have been known for certain are being filled in this report because according to our present estimation the total number of political prisoners is much greater than that of officially reported, and only facts and checked information should be informed. It should also be noted that the prisoners of conscience presently detained in Thailand can be brokedown into at least six categories (not one as informed by the Corrections Centre), and many places where such prisoners have been detained were not mentioned by the department, and in some places where few political prisoners have been detained were contrarily reported by the department that lots of political prisoners have been detained there.

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III. The Trial of Boonchart Sathionthammani and Supas group

Boonchart Sathionthammani

At Criminal Court Throne 8th Bangkok

30th May, 1977. 9.25 A.M.

Charged on Lese Majeste (not more than 7 year imprisonment).

First Witness : Seni Pramroj (the Prime Minister when the event occurred.)

Prosecutor :

First Seni was asked generally about the demonstration, the evaders of the demonstration, and the spreading of demonstration to other provinces throughout the country, and about the drama of two workers being hanged at Nakorn Prathon.

Seni said that on 5th October, 1976 he saw the picture of two people being hanged in the Bangkok Post (in the morning) and Dao Siam later. He saw that it looked like the Crown Prince which was Lese Majeste. So he called a meeting of the cabinet and high ranking police officers.

The Prosecutor asked about the situation outside Thammasart University. Seni said that there were policemen around keeping peace since the morning of 6th October 1976. And when the fighting occurred, the police took action. The Prosecutor asked whether there were people following the police. Seni said according to the newspaper there were village scouts and people following. The Prosecutor asked what they felt. Seni said they were very angry because they thought that the student whose face was made up like the Crown Prince was Lese Majeste.

The prosecutor asked about the Village Scouts at Pra Barommarupe Song Ma. Seni said according to newspapers the people got very angry because of the pictures they saw in the two newspapers.

The prosecutor asked what Seni himself felt about the pictures. The court did not give permission to ask that question. The prosecutor asked about the meeting of the cabinet and High Ranking Police. But the answer was not loud enough. We could not get what Seni said.

Defence :

The defence lawyer, Mr. Wasan Panich, asked about the return of Thanom in December 1975 which caused the students to protest strongly. Seni said that, after that, the students' demonstration usually were disrupted by Red Guards. And when

Marshal Prapass came back in August 1977 the Red Guards came to harass the students. Two of the students were shot dead.

The defence lawyer asked about the second return of Marshal Thanom in September 1976. Seni said the government was not involved in this and had also asked Marshal Thanom not to come back. When Marshal Thanom came back, the students did not demonstrate at once. But they sent note to the government to send Marshal Thanom out of the country. And Seni also said that there were guards who did not let people to go into the place where Marshal Thanom was ordained. About Tamnak Banjop benjana where Pra Thanom stayed (in wit Bovornivejvi-hara.) He did not know whether there were preparations for Pra Thanom before his coming or not.

About the Drama at Lan Bodhi (the ground around Bodhi tree) in Thammasart. Seni informed the court that there were special branch police watching the programme, but there was no report about Lese Majeste. He knew that there saw that drama when he read Bangkok Post and Dao Siam. He felt that the pictures looked like the crown Prince. But in other newspapers there were no pictures of students looking like the Crown Prince.

On 6th October, he tried to contact the many people who were responsible for Thammasart. But could not get in touch with them. And in the morning he ordered the police to suppress the students according to the law. But people said that there were also the Border Patrol Police and Pa-Wai Soldiers involved in the suppression as well. On the fighting the police informed that their weapons could not fight the students who were heavily armed.

The defence lawyer said that Mr. Sutham Saengprathom with his friends came to see Seni as the Prime Minister. Seni said that he did not know before hand that anybody would come. He, just, knew that at 7-8 am. But he did not know whether they had informed the mass-media or not about that meeting.

Besides, the defence lawyer asked about the politics of the Bangkok Post and Dao Siam, and wondered whether Seni knew that the Bangkok Post used to published that Lao had Ho-chi-min Portrait on their bank-notes and had also said that Vietnam would attack Thai-land which were all false. About the politics of these two newspapers Seni said he did not know but about the news said that he had heard these sorts of news, but did not know that they had come from those newspapers. And he also heard that the Bangkok Post used to be interfered by the CIA.

About Dao Siam the Defence lawyer asked whether Seni knew that Mr. Prasan Yee phuongsart was charged with having of a big mouth and that a columnist of Dao Siam

(even though Dao Siam said that their newspaper was for the Nation, the King and the Religion) was charged of lese majeste. The court did not permit this question, because it would cause bad name for the people who were mentioned

The defence lawyer asked about Chat-Thai Party's involvement in the coming back of Marshal Thanom. (for example this party had cut out some part of the government declaration against Thanom coming back), About this Seni said he did not know. Then the defence lawyer asked about the conflicts between the government and this party. But Seni just side-tracked. In between, the defence lawyer enquired about the Red Guards who had Colonel Sudsai Thephasdin Na Ayuthaya as their leader. But the court stopped that question too.

Second Witness: Mr. Narong Weramitwanthai. Photographer of Dao Siam who took photographs of the Drama.

Prosecutor:

The Dao Siam photographer informed that he had been a photographer for 5 years. On October 4, 1976 he went to Thammasat to take photograph of the demonstration. Having not an idea in his mind that this show was related to lese majeste. So when he finished his photographs, he sent them to be developed straight away. He confirmed that there was no touching up of the film. When the photographs were developed, he saw that in one of them there was a person who looked like the Crown Prince. This picture was very scandalous amongst the people. But he, himself, did not see the difference from other photograph of other newspapers.

When the prosecutor asked about what reaction the people, who gathered because of the lese majeste issue, gave to that picture. The photographer said that the mob was not gathered on the lese majeste issue.

June 10, 1977

Defense:

Lawyer: Did you go to take photographs of the demonstration on October 4, 1976.

Witness: Yes, I did. Dao Siam Newspaper sent me there. I have been photographer for 5 years.

Lawyer: What was the Drama about? Are there any performance that seemed like Lese Majeste to the Crown Prince?

Witness: No, there were no talk or performance that seemed like lese majeste to the Crown Prince.

Lawyer: Were there a lot of people when the drama was on?

Witness: Not many.

Lawyer: Did you remember that the picture in the newspaper was from your film?

Witness: Yes, I did.

Lawyer: Why was it written on the envelop of the film that the film was by Suthep Dao Siam.

Witness: He was my photographers' friend. After October 6, 1976, the suppression police came to ask for the film. I did not know whether the editor was in or not. But the police came to take film from Suthep. And it was Suthep who signed it.

Lawyer: When the police came, were you be there?

Witness: Yes, I was there. But I did not know why they did not let me sign it. About the film, when I finished it I just gave it to the Dao Siam office. I did not ask to look. I took ten photograph about the play. I used a film which could take 36 photographs.

Lawyer: When you went there and took photographs did you notice the face of actors? Did they make up their face a lot?

Witness: Just only a little.

Lawyer: Did you have any impression that the actor's face had any similarity to the Crown Prince?

Witness: No, I felt nothing.

Lawyer: Do you know whether the film was touched up or not?

Witness: There was no touching up.

Lawyer: Could it happened that a photograph might not look like a real person? Like sometimes people can have pictures more beautiful than themselves or uglier than themselves.

Witness: Yes, it could be.

The witness could develop photograph also. And when the lawyer asked about Dao Siam Newspaper giving false news about the movement of the students and the people. He said he did not know. The lawyer asked other questions about Dao Siam Newspaper so that it would help people to understand the direction of Dao Siam Newspapers.

Supap Fas-ong and his friends

The witness of the prosecutor was brought to the court. He was a mini-bus driver, who was hired by a friend of Supap, (Mr. Boonna who was not arrested) to move things to newly rented house on March 29, 1976, before Supap and his friends were arrested on March 30, 1976.

The witness informed the court that on March 29, 1976, Supap and his friend had hired his mini-bus to carry things from two places (which were identified) to a new house. (Supap and his friends had to move from the old house because the owner pressured them to move from that house). He did not know their names. He discovered them only when the police told him. He said that they carried two things, which were a table and a sack. He did not know what was inside the sack. After these rather dull proceedings, the defence lawyer told us that this witness had nothing connected with the charges. Up to now the trial has covered eleven witnesses, and there are 48 witnesses more on the prosecutor side. There will be a trial every Wednesday from now on.

The charged who were arrested on October 6, 1976

On June 17, 1977, out of 24 people (including Sutham and his friends), who were held in various detention centre, 21 were brought to the Military Court in the Ministry of Defence. (The other three are Boonchat Sathienthammani, A-rom-Pongpa-ngan and Mahin Tanboonperm. Boonchat had begun his trial already in the criminal Court. For Arom and Mahin their time of remand was not finished yet).

The military Court ordered another remand for 90 days up to September 17, 1977. The prosecutor said that the investigation was nearly finished. He expected that they could start proceedings next time. The Court was informed that after September 17, 1977, they could be held for 3 months and 13 days more. Then they had to start the trial or release the charged. The military prosecutor said that he was examining evidence and was asking the police for more investigations. Those charged wondered that while the prosecutor was asking for more investigations, why there were no further questioning of those charged and thought that this "further investigation" was an excuse. The court replied that investigations, then, were continuing around witnesses and other evidence.

The Prosecutor said that the trial may start before three months was up. The charged made a petition to the court to hurry up the prosecution of their cases. Because such a long detention caused them a lot of problems. The court said that they were being very quick already, and that those charged should wait only a little bit more.

The relatives of the detainees who went to listen to the court were not allowed into the Ministry of Defence. When detainees asked the court however they were informed that their relatives were allowed to be in the court. If they cannot pass the front gates of the ministry of defence how can they enter the court?

STOP PRESS:

Charged dropped against 36 students arrested in connection with the October 6 incident:

The Prosecution Department finally decided on 24 June 1977 to drop charges against 13 female and 23 male students who were taken in Thammasat University together with over 2,000 persons who had been released earlier, due to insufficient evidence. The 36 suspects were arrested on several charges ranging from illegal possession of firearms, attempting to assault other, treason, assembling with more than 10 persons in public and refusing to disperse despite authorities' order.

Meanwhile, the remaining 74 suspects arrested in the same incident are being detained in several separate detention centres; they have been subjected to a number of charges including being Communist sympathisers. However, 51 out of the 74 suspected have been released on bail.

Suparp was as a writer. He wrote a number of articles which awakened the youth of his time to a greater political consciousness. Another very important role of Suparp was as a writer. He wrote a number of articles which awakened the youth of his time to a greater political consciousness.

After graduating from K.U. with a B.A. in Agricultural Economics, he decided continue his studies at the masters degree level. In Germany. After about 2 years he obtained a M.A. and came back to Thailand in the mid of 1970's at the peak of the activities of the progressive students' movement. However he joined his friends indealing Pisit in the Labour Movement activities as both an organiser and educator. This was because the workers needed help in these aspects from more educated and sophisticated people very much. He worked in Omnoi Workers Union in the suburbs of Bangkok.

However in March 1976 he was arrested with eight of his colleagues (3 students and 5 workers) in Nakorn Pratom (near Bangkok) where they had tented a house to stay.

Pisit Patana-seree

Pisit was arrested with Suparp. He had been working in the Labour Movement some months before Suparp joined in. Before that, he was one of the most active students in Chulalongkorn University (C.U.) (studying engineering) and was one of the founders of C.U.-Peoples Party which was the center of all progressive activities in the university. He doesn't speak much, but works patiently and sincerely and is very sympathetic to the poor and the oppressed. He decided to drop out from university to devoted himself to struggling for justice in the society. Other activities he joined (before his last kind of activity) were campaigning to abolish imperialism in Thailand, organizing demonstrations, helping the farmers' movements in rural areas, organising seminars amongst students, leading students of the bourgeois class to become aware of the poor situation of the people in the slums and in the countryside and so on. Pisit comes from middle class family. His parents are the owners of a rubber plantation in Trad Province. During his school days he lived in a house his parents rented for their children in Bangkok staying with 4-5 other sisters and brothers. He finished his high school at Amnuoy Silp School in Bangkok.

Both Suparp and Pisit are Radical Marxists and do not believe in non-violence. But they never joined or advocate any violent activities.

plantations and para rubber plantations and they also run a small business. They moved from Songkla to Rayong in 1957. Now they are living in Rayong.

2. Education

1960-63 Kwong Hua Primary School in Rayong.

1964-66 Prathom 5-7 at Rayong District School.

1967-68 Mathayom 1-3 at Sitabutr Bamloong School in Bangkok.

1969-70 Pre-university school at Amnuoy Silp School in Bangkok.

1971- Engineering, Chulalongkorn University

3. Activities

September-December 1971

Involved in movement against Japanese imports, and began to be involved in the student movement.

October 14, 1973

Involved in the student movement.

March 1974 - April 1974

Leaders of the Democracy Campaign in Rasisai District, Srisaket. This was part of the Democracy Campaign Project run by the State University Bureau

May 1974 - March 1975

- A committee member of Chulalongkorn University Students Organization for Social Development.

- Head of 'Up Country Project' and a committee member of the People's Development Work Camp of Chulalongkorn University. Run by the Students Organization for Social Development.

- A member of Central committee and the Head of the Committee of Chula-Peoples Party (a party within Chulalongkorn University)

April 1975

A worker at the National Coordinating Center of Labourers, and counsellor of the Federation of Samutsakorn Textile Labourers' Union.

May 1975

Head of Labour Relations Project of NSCT.

1975-76

Counselor to many factories such as Pacific Textile, Aekawang, Wijitaroon Thai Porcelain, Far-East Textile, Watana Winiltile, etc.

March 30, 1976

Arrested on a charge of communist action, and rebellion to the Kingdom.

I was born in 1956 at House Number 17, Ban Sauhae, Mu 10, Tambon Pochai, Amphur Panompra, Roi-et Province, am 20 years old, of the Thai race and nationality. I finished Pratom 4 at Sawangwittayakarn school at Ban Sauhae. I have 8 brothers and sisters. I am the fourth. My parents are farmers who have their own land.

1) In 1971 I came to Bangkok to look for a job. I got a job at Thai Sereewattana Factory at Tamboon Bangpakok, Bangkok. My duty was to print colours on cloth. I earned 190 baht per month. I resigned after about 4 months' work. After that, I became a gardener for a land-holder, named Ammart Pra Pisan. I cannot remember his last name. His house was at King RamaXI's palace. I got 170 baht per month. After I has worked there for one year, I asked to leave to visit my hometown. But he did not give me my last month salary. I stayed at home for 3 days and came to Bangkok again. But I would not work with that man who cheated me.

2) I worked at a gazage at July 22 Circle, got 150 baht per month. I resigned after 2 months' work because I had to work all day without a break. I was unemployed for many days, sometimes starving for a whole day. Then I got work at a textile factory, with 150 baht salary. After one month I resigned, for here, I had to work from 8 am- 8 pm without a break and got only 2 meals a day.

3) I worked at a bakery factory at Bangkae, with a salary 150 baht. Here the employer cheated me of my salary and threatened me of dismissal. So I informed the police. Finally, the employer gave me my money and dismissed me. He said I was intractable, because I dared to go to the police. After that, at the beginning of 1973, I worked at Wattana Nil Thai Factory at Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province. I got 300 baht salary. While I was working there, there was the 14th October mass demonstration in Bangkok. I was in the demonstration every day until it ended. After we had won, I came to work again, but was dismissed with many other workers after a few days work. They said we helped the workers in a strike.

4) After the dismissed, I worked at a Sriyuthya Chalk Factory at Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province. I got 500 baht salary. Here, the son of my employer was always aggressive, threatened me and stole my clothes. I could not stand this, so I resigned after about one year. I went to Chanburi Province and got work at a cassava grinding factory at Amphur Bamrung. Before I got this job I had no money at all. I ate cassava instead of rice for many days. I worked there one month and resigned. I walked barefoot to Amphur Panomsarn, Chachurngsao

Province. Here I got a work in drying cassava. I worked in the sun for 15 hours a day, from 6 am-9 pm without a break. I got 300 baht salary. I resigned after one month.

5) I came to Bangkok again and got a sales job, selling cosmetics from house to house. I starved because I could not sell anything! So I changed my work to a bakery factory an Amphur Bangrak, Bangkok. I got 150 baht salary. It was the beginning of 1974, after having worked there for one month, here I had to work overtime from 6pm-12 pm and got no overtime payment. So I was dismissed.

I worked in an ice factory, riding an ice tricycle. I got 300 baht per month, worked from 5 am-12 pm without a brake, with no food prouded. After I had worked for 15 days, my tricycle crashed with a motor-tricycle and I had to pay 80 baht damages. So I resigned.

6) In 1974, I worked at Thai Sereewattana Factory with the same duties. I got 290 baht per month. Later, I resigned and went back to my hometown, helping my parents in the rice field. After the harvest time, I came to Bangkok and applied for a job at Thai Sereewattana Factory again. I was sent to its branch, Sripaiboon Factory at Tambon Wad Raiking, Amphur. Sampran, Nakorn Pratom Province. My duty was to pring colours on cloth. I got 400 baht salary. I worked from morning till late at night, without a break and overtime was not paid. Therefore I resigned after 6 months.

7) In September 1975, I worked in the Thai Technic Co Ltd at Tamboon Taimai, Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province. I got 400 baht salary. Having worked there for 5 months, I joined a strike in February 1976 becuase the salary was below the legal minimum wage. We were 14 days on strike and finally came to an agreement. On March 3, 1976 we worked again. I got 810 baht salary, On March 30, 1976 I was arrested at Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province under a communist charge. When I was arrested I was 20 years old. Now I am 21 years old.

WIMUT SUMRAM (MALE)

I was born on May 9, 1950 at house Number 34, Mu 6, Tambon Kogtalang, Amphur Lemplaimad, Bureeram Province, and am of Thai race and nationality. I finished Pratom 4 at Wad Ban Kogpradu School, Tambon Togtalang. My parents are farmers, and owned about 50 rai land (one rai=3.39 acre) I had 8 brothers and sisters, I was the second. I entered to the priesthood for 14 years, staying at many temples in the North-East of Thailand.

I left the priesthood at the beginning of 1974. After that I came to Bangkok, got work at a land holder's house at Soi Ekamai. His name was Luang Vicham Tanakorn. I was a gardener and a driver. He promised to give me 400 baht salary. I worked there for 2 months, but got only about 200 baht from him. When I asked about the money, he said that he had already given me about 4-5 baht daily and did not regard me as a worker, but a relative. So I resigned and became a driver at a wood factory near Rama IX Road, and was paid 700 baht per month. I stayed there for 3 days and was dismissed. The employer accused me of encouraging the workers.

I applied for a job at Hong Kong Transpack Co Ltd. at Soi Arce-athavee, Klongton, Amphur Prakanong, Bangkok. I got 10 baht daily. One month later we went on strike for 3 days to ask for higher wages and welfare. Ten days after that I and 10 other workers were dismissed. We were accused of being the leaders of the strike.

In November 1974, I got a job at Sri-ampol Co Ltd. at Tambon Om-noi, Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province, and got 14 baht daily. While I was working there, there was a strike for higher wages. An agreement was reached that the employer should act according to the Provisions of the Labour Law and the workers continued with their work. Fifteen days later, the employer dismissed me and 31 other workers, saying that there was no work for us. On that strike I was not the workers' representative.

After this dismissal I went back home, and stayed there for 6 months. In August 1975 I came to Bangkok. After a few days I got a job at the Metropolitan Plastic Co Ltd. at Tambon Om-noi, Amphur Kratumban, Samutsakorn Province. I got 20 baht daily. After I had worked for 89 days, I saw that it was beyond the time that the employer should give me more wages, according to the law so I asked him about this, and I was dismissed.

When I was dismissed, I asked for some shelter at the Textile Workers Union at Samutsakorn, of which I and Pramma Nanok, another defendant, were members. I stayed there for 2 days. One day, a man, whom I know later was Narinth Apornram, the seventh defendant, came to the Union and asked me about the labour law, because he and his 10 other friends were going to be dismissed. I told them that if the employer had a right to dismiss a worker according to the law but he had to do it correctly, However it was possible to sue the employer

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for false dismissed with a labour official.

In October 1975 I came to Bangkok to look for a job. One November 10, 1975 I got a job at the Thai Technic Co. Ltd. I worked in the afternoon from 4 pm-12 pm and got 13 baht daily, later I was paid 150 baht monthly, including food.

My friend and I saw that the payment was below the minimum wage, so we all signed a petition to the employer on February 9, 1976. I and Want Rungfa-the fourth defendant, and five other workers were elected representatives to negotiate with the employer. There were discussions for 8 days. A provincial labour official joined the negotiation. However, we could not reach an agreement. So the workers went on strike. After 111 days of strike we reached an agreement at the Labour Department, Ministry of Interior. The Deputy Director General of the Labour Department, Porn Udompong joined the negotiation and acted as conciliator.

On March 3, 1976 we began to work again. During the strike the seventh defendant, Narinth Arpornram came to see me and stayed in the factory for 4-5 days and left.

After that I rented a room outside the factory. I paid 300 baht for it on March 5, 1976. Ten days later I moved to live there. On March 25, Narinth came to see me at the factory in the evening, so I let him stay over night with me at my house.

The next day I was ill, therefore, I did not work. I rested in the factory. At 9 pm Narinth came to see me again. While we were talking, Tongleur Mongkolard, seventh defendant came to see me. I told them to wait till 12 pm, because Wanta Rungfa and Promma Nanok, who were working, promised to stay overnight with me as I was ill. After the the two had finished work, my four friends and I went to my house.

At 5 in the morning, the policemen surrounded my house, opened the door, and searched my house without showing me warrant for the search. And we were arrested.

Mr. Narinth Apon-rum

Mr. Narinth Apon-rum, a Thai of Thai nationality, was born on 10 October, 1955 at 54 Moo 6 Ban Skuan, Tumbon Mueng-pai, Amphur Kra-sung of Buri-rum Province. His father and mother are peasants whose names are Mr. Cheoy and Mrs. Ruan Apon-rum respectively.

He finished his P. 4 at Wat Dhamthavorn School, Ban Kunroong (Ta-sek) Moo 6, Tumbon Mueng-pai, Amphur Kra-sung of Buri-rum Province.

In 1968, he had his ordination into novice-hood at Wat Dhamthavorn for a year.

Then in early 1969, he moved to continue his Dhamma study at Wat Chantra-prasith where he was awarded the second-ranking Dhamma student.

After leaving his novice-hood in early 1971, he moved to stay at Tumbon Huaykwang in Amphur Kosompisai of Mahasarakham Province. He continued his preliminary education in P. 5 class at Niponth-Prasith-Vidhaya School, which located at Wat Klang Kosoom, for 3 months. Then, he moved to stay with his relatives at Ban Leb Nguek in Tumbon Koksumrun of Ban-pai, Konkaen, for 2 months. After that, he went back home to work in his own field until the "paddy-sprouts transplanting" season was over; then he went to work at a Sack-Producing Company in Parkchong District in the middle 1973 and received 300 baht a month.

Late in 1973, he engaged in a strike asking a 5-baht increase of the payment. Afterwards, in May that year he was arrested with his two friends by the guard of the company and policemen; they were accused of stealing the possessions of the company. In spite of their innocence, they were forced to confess by being severely beaten for two whole days; the court, however, granted them releases after being detained for 29 days in Korat Prison. But, he lost his job and his remaining salary was swindled.

Returning to his home at Amphur Nang-rong in Buri-rum Province, he sought his employment by being a worker in a corn-field. With 10 baht a day, he had to pay the rent for his house and buy food to feed himself and his parents; he could stand the condition for 5 months before went back to Park-chong to stay with his elder sister and work in a corn-field there. One day his friends, who were fired out from the company where he used to work, came inviting him to collect his things and ask for his remaining salary from the company together with them.

They all reached the company by one o'clock in that afternoon, but were not allowed to enter. Meanwhile, they were severely beaten by the guard, the chief-worker and policemen. They went to Park-chong police-station to notify the police of the attack; instead of receiving any help, they were arrested and charged with possessing knives and arms and injuring governmental officers.

After a serious argument; they, however, were released. On the same day (might be 17 December 1973) they all rushed to Bangkok to make a petition to the Labour Department and Provincial Police Special Section. A month later on, the company agreed to pay them compensation. All the workers went back homes except him.

He stayed at the Labourer Co-ordinating Centre which was located at Soi Jaruwon, New Petchburi Road, by the time. He still worked at the centre when it moved to Pratoonum near Indra Centre. During the period, he joined many labour-movements ;

in all possible ways--gathering, demonstration, strike, pinning-up posters in public.

In July 1975, he worked at the Siam Chemical Company, which was located in Bang-poo of Smooth-prakarn Province, with wages of 25 baht a day. However, he was mistreated by other workers so he resigned after a short period of ten days. He went to the Smooth-prakarn police-station to notify the incident but resulted in nothing.

On 29 July, 1975, he started working at Tetra Thai Company and received 25 baht a day; but he was dismissed in early the following year and the company agreed to pay him a month salary in compensation. In February 1976, he went back to his home in Park-chong and came back quite immediately to Bangkok to seek a job at waiting for a job a company in Om-noi. He was arrested on March 30, 1976 while he was still at the Siam Strainless Steel Company, Tumbon Suan-Luang, Amphur Kratoombaen, Smooth-prakarn.

Mr. Fromma Nar-naok

Mr. Fromma Nar-naok, aged 20, is a Thai of Thai nationality who was born on March 21, 1957 at 19 Ban Lao Mocl, Tumbon Ta-Kua-Pa, Amphur Nongsonghong of Khonkaen Province. His father is Mr. On Jai-thieng, mother Mrs. Bua-punth Jai-thieng; they are peasants who have owned 50 ^{1/2} ais of barren field. He finished his preliminary education at Wat Klang Sra-karn School of Tumbon Ta-kua-pa. He worked in the field till the year 1973, then he came to Bangkok and worked at the Thai Puthana Textile printing Factory which located at Nongkaem District of Bangkok. He had worked there for a year with wages of 5 baht a day; before his resignation, his three fingers were broken by a cloth-printing machine and he could not work properly with one of his hands but his boss gave him only 100 baht in compensation for the loss of his three fingers. He went back home and stayed there for half a year, then came to work in Bangkok again. In 1974, he worked at Maha-chai Textile-printing Industrialized Company, Tumbon Suan-luang, Smoothsakorn. Due to the low wages, all the workers of the company engaged in a strike which resulted in the increasing of daily payment from 8 baht to 20 baht. Five months later on, he changed his job to work as a construction worker at Dao-kan District with wages of 25 baht a day. However, it was unlucky for him because the construction project finished after he had worked for only 15 days. So, in July 1975 he had to apply for a new job at Thai Technic Factory. Here, again, he received only 11 baht a day while the minimum rate according to the law was 25 baht by the time.

18 February 1976, all workers of the factory went on strike asking for an increase in wages. On 3 March 1976, the employer agreed to pay them 25 baht a day and promised to increase two baht more in the near future. But, on 30 March 1976 he was arrested and charged with supporting communism.

\$ 1.57 (1) *finger!*

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The auto-biography of the 7th accused: Mr. Tongluang Mongkon-arj

Tongluang Mongkon-arj was born on April 2, 1952 at Ban Muang Noi, Rob Muang District, Amphur Muang, Chaiya-poom Province. The present address is: 12 Moo 7 Kud-Choom-Sang District, Amphur Nong-Bua-Dang, Chaiya-poom Province.

He had finished his primary education at Ban-Nong-pang school in the year 1959-1965 and his secondary level from a vocational school in the year 1966-1969. In 1972, he had his ordination into monkhood at Wat Pa-Chai-Won in his home town.

In 1973, he was a worker in the Sack Producing Company at Pak-Chong, Nakornrajsima Province with wages of 8 baht per day. Then he changed to be a mechanic working in the 4th spinning section, C-turn. The payment received was 45 baht per day. (This included bonus and meals expense.) Late in the year 1973, he was promoted to be a chief assistant in C-turn of the second Plant in the same section. Two months later on he was fired for he had a quarrel with the boss who always forced the workers to work till exhausted and fired some out without any fault. Another reason was that he had accidentally broken down the company trade mark printer and could not repair it.

In December 1974, he spent his time travelling with an old colleague of him. When came back to the factory about 8 p.m. one night he saw some policemen and the factory guard hit and threw the workers, who just came back from the trip, out of the factory. Mr. Tongluang and his friend tried to help but useless. Both were threw out as well and the police tried to knock them down violently. He hid himself in the tracken behind his friend's house, and then till 2 a.m. the next morning he rushed to another house of his friend at Ban-Ma-Now.

On December 17, 1974, he together with his friends (30 persons odd) went to the factory to ask for their remaining payment and their things. Arriving at the front of the factory, about 50-60 gangsters suddenly came and hit them cruelly. He could not stand seeing the incident so, he hit those gangsters with a lump of wood in return. He could remember only one of those hit by him; the man was identified as Mr. Prom, the chief of the spinning section, turn-B. He himself was broken in his arm and one of his ear was torn, and his body was badly injured. During the fighting, 4 gangsters threw him into a Land-Rover car. Knowing that the policemen always push the victims into a car and hit them to death, he was afraid to be so, so he quickly jumped out of the car. However, he was finally arrested, by the group, together with his friends. He tried to notify the police but it was resulted

in vain. Then he went to Pak-Chong Health Center to have his wounds cured. After that ; he and his friends came to Bangkok to make a petition to the Labor Department , and had their temporary resting -places meeting hall of the Governmental University Bureau.

In his jobless period , he used to stay at the offices of Thai Socialist Party and the National Co-ordinating Center for Laborer at Soi Charurat , Pratocnum, Bangkok. He always joined his laborer friends in various workers' strikes whenever he had chances .

To name a few , those strikes took place at---

---Indo Thai Factory, Bang-Pa-Inn , Ayudhya.

---Sack Producing Company , Jo-Bo , Nakorn rajsima.

---Sahason Textile, Kaeng -Koi, Sara-buri.

---Standard Garment.

---Dusit Thani Hotel.

In 1974, he was elected to be a workers' counselor of Sahamit Commercial Factor Bangkok.

In June 1974, he got a job in Thai Industry of Bangkok Printing and Lyeing at Bang-Poo, Samooth Pra-karn with wages of 118 baht per day. He work in the chemical section of the factory. for 20 days before being dismissed.

July to September 1974, he lived at the Textile Labor Union. Then he applied a new job at the Thai Pottery Factory , Oom Noi District Amphur Kratoom-Ban, Samooth-Sakorn Province. In the first two months he received 20 baht aday and 2months later on 25 baht. Besides he worked for the Labor union by delivering newspaper to others factories in the areas of Oom Noi and Oom Yai . He worked in the Thai Pottery Factory till March 1976, and lost his job again.

Then he paid a visit to his home town and came back to Oom Noi in March 2 1976 and stay at Mr. Vimut's house , soi Sri BoonRuang, Suan Luang District, Amphur Kra toom ban ,Samooth- Sakorn Province .He was arrested in March 30 , 1976 together with his 9 friends ;they were charged with being communists

Reccorded on June 7, 1977.

P.S. Father : Mr. Cheon Mongkon-arj ; Mother: Mrs. Bao Mongkon-arj.

Race and Nationality : Thai. Brothers and sisters : 3 persons.

Family occupation: paddy farming . His family owns 150 rai of ricce field, some parts have been sold and some given to his alder sister.

V. Orissa: Lack of proper medical treatment

On October 6, 1976, Orissa Iravanvat was shot in his chin. He had an operation at Siriraj Hospital. After that he was sent to Bangken Correction Centre. In February the wound became infected, because the bone was not yet healed. Thus another operation was needed. He asked for an operation at Siriraj Hospital. But authorities brought him to Klong Prem Detention Centre Hospital. Nothing was done there because of a lack of the required instruments. In March, he asked to ~~move~~ ^{be moved} to Siriraj hospital or the Police Hospital. The director General of the Correction Department refused the petition, even though the guard thought that he should be ~~move~~ ^{moved} to another hospital. His mother sent a petition to Director General of the Police Department, and said that she would willingly give money for the operation, and also would agree to have Orissa put in heavy chains so that he would not escape. But the Director General of Police Department said that it was in the responsibility the Director General of the Correction Department.

In the middle of April, the police at ^{Correction Centre} Bangkaen Correction Centre* told him that if he went to Bangken* they would ask permission to send him to Siriraj Hospital or the Police Hospital. But when he really did return, the Prison Department authorities who were also in charge of the Correction centre together with the police did not let Orissa have an operation at the hospital mentioned. They made an excuse that he could be sent to others hospitals only when he was sent to Klong Prem Detention Hospital first. And then the doctors there could ask for permission for Orissa to have an operation else where. And in May he was transferred to the special Bangkok Metropolitan Correction Center, but there they had even less medical instruments than Klong Prem Detention Hospital. It was now five months after he got infected. His infection*^{was} very much worse, he can only eat a liquid diet, and the small pieces of bone are coming out. Despite the fact that he has been transferred to almost all Bangkok Prison he has still had no adequate treatment. After further protests from us and from his lawyer he was finally sent for a check up at Chulalongkorn Hospital on June 9. The doctor then (Dr. Porchanath) said he would need to have his wound drained first, and would need four consequently weekly treatment. Appointments were fixed for every Thursday from June 16. However on Thursday 16th June the police refused to take him to the hospital because it was too much bother for them.

VI Report from the South---May 1977

Surat-Thani (Southern Thailand): On 11 May, 1977, 10:00 am., Fourth Army Commander Lt-Gen Pin Thammasri and some military officers and Surat-thani Governor Chalit Phimolsiri presided over a ceremony to release 72 communist sympathisers who had completed re-education courses at the detention and training centre of the 3rd Company, Border Patrol Police Headquarters in Phunphin District of Surat-thani Province.

These 72 were arrested in December last year and January this year during the Army's "One War" operation, and were accused of giving support and assistance to communists. On release six of the 72 were immediately taken back into police custody to face charges brought against them in neighbouring Nakhon Sri Thammarat Province.

Of those who were release (66), seventeen were taken to Wat Klang Mai temple where they were ordained immediately as novitates for three days before their formal ordination into the monkhood on 15 May 1977. The remainder included 10 women.

All the 72 were arrested either at Wieng Sa^{Amphur} or Ban Na San Amphur in Surat-Thani Province

On May 21st we went to Surat-Thani province to investigate, and as well as the above information we discovered that the six rearrested suspects were Mr. Plion Chu-noom (aged 39), Mr. Nimitre Sae-Lim (aged 21), Mr. Suree-yum Rod-kaew (possibly Mr. Suree On-rod, aged 24), Mr. Oad Rod-kaew (possibly Mr. Ood On-rod, aged 21), Mr. Prajuab Kum-glin (possibly Mr. Somjet Kum-glin, aged 19) and Mr. Boonchip Duangkaew (aged 24). For further details of the last four, see Annex 6. All these six people are presently detained at the Central Prison of Nakhon Sri Thammarat under the responsibility of Nakhon Sri Thammarat police, and will have to face their fate in a military tribunal. We also received the names of those 17 who entered the monkhood after their release. (Annex 3)

A direct source confirmed that all these 72 people were arrested at Wieng Sa and Ban Na San, the first group was arrested on 25 December last year. Most of these people were innocent villagers and lived near the sites of insurgency incidents, though some had sometimes talked with the communists they were not communists themselves. Often after an encounter with the communist guerrillas, soldiers and BPP arrested innocent villagers as suspects and held them for months as communist sympathisers. For instance; these 72 people had been held for at least four months, without having a chance to prove their innocence, until they had completed re-education courses and were only released when the authorities could not find any proof against them. However, the six who were rearrested were transferred to another province to face other charges brought against them.

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We discovered that whenever there is a clash between the communist and government sides or whenever a suppression operation is launched, the villagers who lived nearby hide themselves in the jungle in mountainous areas, for such places are the only safe places known to them. More often than not, after a communist squad ambushes government soldiers or policemen they will move through the nearby villages to their hiding places; which puts the villagers in difficulties. Thus, it is not surprising to discover that brutal treatment of innocent villagers by the armed forces and BPP units is widely practiced in the region. This mistreatment plays into the hands of the communists as they create propaganda around this to persuade villagers to join them. At times, the army people persuade the local villagers likewise to be government secret agents but are generally less successful because the army people in charge of psychological warfare hardly speak the local southern dialect. Often these local secret agents are killed by the communists. In general the communists are gaining more popular support throughout most of the southern peninsula, even though they too indulge in considerable killing. In one village known to us alone, over 20 young men have gone to be jungle-fighters leaving behind only the aged children and women. The red army appears to be larger, since in 1967 the communists had to defend themselves in mountainous jungles from the offensive operations of the government, whilst in 1977 the communists were able to blow up police-stations in the market-places.

Governor Chalit Pimolsiri reported this month that since October 6 about 200 student activists from the central and southern parts of the country have gone into the jungles of Surat-thani. In Amphur Kanchanaditalone 32 students, four of them girls have joined communist elements. Full-time guerillas are currently assumed by ISOC to be around 800 for Surat province and 1600 for the six provinces of the mid-south, with 4000 to 5,000 part-time guerillas. (Those figures are all from official sources. We do wonder how they manage to be so precise.) Only quite recently, the communists have changed their tactics from mass-instigation to armed attacks on government forces causing considerable loss of life.

The Governor also added that the armed communists operating in this province have been divided in four main groups. The first and second groups are centred around the village of Ban Nua Klong in Amphur Wieng Sa, the third group operates in Amphur Ban Na Sarn and the fourth roams the jungles of Kanchanadit. Wieng Sa, is said to have long been one of the major communist strongholds in southern Thailand. As claimed by him, at present about 200 villagers in Wieng Sa have

applied to receive arms training from government security forces and have even volunteered to guide regular units into the jungle to track down communist bands.

Two government offensive operations "Southern" and "Thai Darling" --- have been launched, as follow-ups to the "One War" operation carried out in December and January, aiming to flush out communist guerillas from the jungle strong-holds of Ban Na San and Wieng Sa. A monk of a certain wat in Amphur Na San told us that there is about one clash everyday and at least three or four people are killed in each incident.

An 8 pm-5 am. curfew has been imposed since March in about six amphurs in Surat-thani province, three in Songkhla province; and seven in Nakhon Si Thammarat province which has latterly been relaxed by an hour in some areas. Meanwhile, a 9-hour curfew has also been imposed in several more villages in Satun province this month by the military authorities so as to facilitate suppression campaigns against the communists. (For details about the curfews see Annex 9). All individuals in the areas have had to surrender their arms and ammunition to the authorities or face a two years' jail term and/or 10,000 baht fine. This is an unpopular move in the areas where a weapon is considered the best guarantee against the hazards of life. The order also empowers officials to set up check-points and to arrest any individual who is suspected of providing and transferring supplies to the communists. Since March 1, villagers living in the sensitive areas in Surat-thani had restrictions imposed on the sale and possession of certain commodities. (see Annex 8). Besides these, they will be issued with "security" cards in addition to their identity cards. Anyone who cannot produce this security card when searched by authorities is held as a communist suspect, said the Surat-thani governor (who is presently taking orders from the 4th Region Army commander.)

The strict controls and the large-scale offensive actions have been heavily operated in Surat-thani in recent months because of many reasons. To explain a few important ones: first, the political situation of Thailand has critically changed since October last year and Thai leftists have believed since then that armed-revolution is the only solution owing to the rightists' brutality; second, more and more idealists and student activists have joined the communists so the government decided to take swift action to prevent the expected stepping up of communist activities; third, it was reported by the end of January that the communists have organized an estimated 100 rai "collective farm" for villagers in at least three villages of Wieng Sa in what was believed to be the first case of

a, compare-style cut-off being found and the government treated this as a highly sensitive issue; fourth, Princess Vibhavadi Rangsit was shot dead in February while on a helicopter flight over Ban Nua Klong of the communist-infested Ban-song-district in Amphur Wieng Sa. //x

Then, "All-out War on Reds in Surat and Nakorn" was declared. One battalion of reinforcements from Petchaburi province, two battalions from Bangkok as well as Marine forces from Pattani and Narathiwat plus artillery pieces were moved to Surat-thani and Nakorn Sri Thammarat by the end of February. A part of the armed forces moved toward Ban Krung Ching in Amphur Tha-sala to seize a large strong-hold there to be used as a head-quarter later on. Meanwhile, heavy bombardment of suspected communist strong-holds continued.

A monk told us that he knew from a Ramkhamhaeng student of southern origin who claimed to have fled from Krung Ching that this rather large strong-hold was captured by government forces. Many defeated communists hid themselves in various caves of the area, and were killed afterwards when the armed forces used tractors to cover up the entrances of the caves. Any of the rest who could not speak local dialect were shot dead, the remainder were arrested. He told the monk that many medical students from Bangkok were killed, especially women and he also estimated that at least 20-30 students were slaughtered. Not only did lots of leftist activist die in this operation; but lots of soldiers, governmental officers and innocent villagers were also killed.

The Bangkok Post on Feb. 15 this year reported that a police superintendent had been assured by village witnesses that at least five women, believed to be students, were killed in an attack. On Feb. 26, Bangkok Post reported that 20 dead bodies of males and females believed to be students, aged between 24 - 28, were found in Wieng Sa. It was in the same area that the guerrillas were said to have killed Princess Vibhavadi. This same kind of news was announced from time to time since February to March. Two monks told us (not simultaneously but coincidentally) that they had often heard of the massacres of the students, who were on their way to join the communists in the jungles, by the government forces. However, we also heard from government sources that these young people were shot dead while trying to flee from the insurgents. And we were also informed from time to time of the governmental "Back to Home" propaganda in efforts to persuade these students to return home in safety!

It is quite clear that most military operations are kept secret because



almost all operations orders specify the killing of communists as the main objective. The mass-media are used widely by government authorities to make propaganda.

"Misguided youths" are supposedly welcome home; groups of villagers and students suspected of being killed by communist insurgents are often found, schools are set up for "communist-brainwashed villagers" who continually surrender to authorities voluntarily, and converts are set free or granted authority-sponsored ordinations.

Since the October 6 military take over, a total of only 104 communists have been captured in Surat-thani; according to the governor as reported in Bangkok Post on May 12. But we have discovered from local sources that a great number of communist guerrillas and suspects have been arrested and killed in the three recent "clearing" operations. Moreover, there has still been another kind of mass-arrest which should be called "monthly arrest". Many innocent villagers have been arrested this way because the village defence volunteers (Or-Saw, O.S., in Thai), who are regarded as "basic information" - "sources", wrongly reported to suspected communists to the Amphur-Heads. Usually, the O.S. hardly ever dare to go searching for informations outside their living-places because they might be shot dead if they go further than one kilometre from the military camps located in the market-places. Many of them have been hooligans or bullies who were disliked by both ordinary villagers and communist personnel. So., by the end of a given monthly period, the O.S. list some names as suspected persons to fill their "quota" and present them to the Amphur officials. Then, lots of innocent people have to be arrested as communist suspects. (Of the charges received, these people might face more severe penalties and charges than those arrested as "endangering society" in other parts of the country.)

recall
Nai Chum
and
Non De
hooligans

One of the monks who entered the monkhood after his recent release told us of his own experience and some other related information. He was arrested at Ban Song on Dec. 25 last year, and detained without charge for 20 days at Amphur Wieng Sa police-station. Only then did he know for the first time that he had been arrested as a communist sympathizer. He was later transferred to be detained at Chai-ya police-station for 4 days and Bangken in Bangkok for 7 days. Then, he was transferred back to Surat-thani and held in the Democratic-Education School for over 3 months by the governor's order. No proof had been found against him so far, so he was granted a release all together with other innocent people and was ordained immediately in a group of 17 at Wat Klang Mai.

monk
held 4
months
without
charge

According to information he provided, there are communist detention centres

in almost all provinces of the southern peninsula. There are lots of police-stations, army camps, and Border Patrol Police headquarters in every southern province. Communist suspects are usually detained in the province where they are arrested. Those arrested by the police are held in the police-stations; those arrested by the army are held in army camps unless there are not enough rooms for them there, when they are transferred to some police-stations for a period. Before there was not many arrests, but in recent months hundreds if not thousands have been arrested. For example, in Nakhon Sri Thammarat several hundred people were arrested on one occasion and detained for up to 20 days for investigation before being released. However, this monk did not mention such practices in any other province and did not confirm of any wide-spread brutal treatment of those arrested by the authorities, except for two cases mentioned below.

1. torture: some were tied to trees and left there without having food or at best given a bowl of rice a day for five days; after undergoing such torment, their hands became tender and were unable to be used for months.

2. murder: Mr. Sum-rerng Thani-ruth was packed in a hempen sack and drowned in Feb. 1977 (see Continuing Arrests and killings)

He thought that these malpractices were more commonly done by the local soldiers than the police. Policemen preferred to beat the victims to death.

We also knew from him that the communist detention centre at the 3rd Company, Border Patrol Police headquarters in Amphur Phuphin of Surat-thani province, is called the "Democratic-Education School". It is an old BPP camp which has been repaired for detaining communist suspects. The living conditions inside are not so bad though it is overcrowded. Two meals a day are given to well-behaved detainees.

Wat Klang Mai is a rather big Buddhist temple located 5 kilometres away from Wat Phathanaram in Ban Don. One-fourth of the area has been changed to be BPP camp. A helicopter landing can be seen at the central ground of the wat. Nearly every night, a music show of the BPP unit is present to pander the audience living near-by. Seventeen people released from the Democratic-Education School were recently ordained at this wat. All these means that the head of the wat is in close contact with the authorities; in other words, this Buddhist wat is being manipulated by the suppressive forces like many other places in this southern peninsula.

All in all it seemed to our investigation team that despite possible good

intentions of government and communist leaders (far from the real scene of operations), unnecessary killing of innocent people and atrocities are probably frequently committed by the rank and file of both sides. In such an unfortunate (and unnecessary) civil war situation, where it is difficult to differentiate friend from foe and where spies abound (30% of Surat-thani samlor drivers are rumoured to be spies) killing tends to become a way of life. This cannot possibly help anyone in the long or the short run.

In fact ^{so}er bad is the situation in this province, that even the rich, who could generally be considered to support the government, are migrating in large numbers to Bangkok, and other so far areas.

VII. Report from the North (18-22 May 1977)

Phisa-noolok : The number of people arrested for endangering society in this province is unknown. We learnt from an ex-prisoner that those held under arrest are first detained at the Central Police Station which is located on Pra Baromtra-lomkath road opposite to the municipal building. They are later transferred to the Somdej Pra Naraysuan army camp on the west bank of the River Nan, a short distance further north of the provincial central hall. Finally, they have to be detained at the Phisa-noolok Police School which is located on Suko-thai road of the province. Nevertheless, eight persons arrested by the end of last year as "endangering society" were transferred to Bangkok Prison in Bangkok. (These eight persons were released on May 12, 1977, see Annex). As suspected by an ex-prisoner, two special detention centres may be located in Phisa-noolok and Chiangrai province of the north region.

At present, Mr. Preecha who is a teacher at Phisa-noolok Teacher Training College is said to have been detained at the Somdej Pra Naraysuan army camp.

Chiangmai: At least 41 people were arrested as "endangering society" soon after the October 6 military takeover. They had been detained at Karoonthep Corrections Centre. Five of them were released after being detained for a month, 36 were released on December 14, 1977 after they had completed the re-education program of the centre for a month. One student is said to still be partly detained there. Among the recently released detainees, there were university teachers, college and school teachers, students, graduates, and peasants. According to our data, we estimate that not less than 25 % of the detainees are peasants. Moreover, some peasants and hill-tribe farmers have presently been transferred from Chiangrai to be detained at this corrections centre.

Karoonthep Corrections Centre is an ISOC information centre for investigating political prisoners, especially communist suspects arrested in the northern region of the country. We have learnt from a recently released prisoner who has completed the psychological re-education course that most prisoners are being treated well.

Lampang: Clear information is not known to us at present for we still have no network in this province. We have just learnt from various sources that soon after October 6 last year there were local people being arrested for endangering society but all were said to have been released.

Chiangrai: It is one of the most sensitive provinces of the northern region. It

is a border province where opium, gold and gems smuggling syndicates are widely operated. Apart from common people, it is a province of interest to military people, hill-tribes men, communist guerrillas, and refugees. The local political situation of Chiengrai is confused. The army has recently announced of setting up many hill-tribes squadrons to fight against the communist guerrillas.

Our voluntary reporter confirmed that lots of people have been arrested since last October, but the total number is unknown. However, he gave us details of some cases (which are mentioned in the annex 4 of this report). Apart from students and teachers, many hill-tribes men have been arrested as well.

In Amphur Chiengkum there is a refugee camp for Laotian, hill-tribes and Cambodian refugees. An estimate of 5,000 people were kept in this refugee centre which was said to have been supported by the United Nations. However, a source told us that insufficient food and commodities were supplied so the officers allowed some refugees to work in the tobacco curing factories nearby in the day-time.

VIII Report from the North-East (May 1977) on visiting detainees' families.

Ubon-rach-thani: We intended to visit Mr. Sundaeng Laenkikun's family at Ban Pone Thong, amphur Umanjajarn, Ubon-rach-thani province. Mr. Sundaeng was arrested in Ra-yong for endangering society and was transferred to be detained at Bangkok.

The side-road to Ban Pone Thong village is made of laterite. We had passed many other villages over a distance of 10 kilometres before we reached the village. On the way, lots of fully armed soldiers on alert could be seen patrolling from Ban Boke village; the collars of their shirts were embroidered with a skull and cross-bones pattern. When we passed Ban Nhong Noe village, about ten fully armed soldiers were patrolling watchfully up and down both sides of the road even though it was day-time. Ban Pone Thong was the terminal of the minibus we took. At first, none of the villagers were willing to talk with us, as we were considered as outsiders; neither could anyone tell us where Mr. Sundaeng's house was. So, we went to see the village-head who, too, was unwilling to tell us anything until he knew that we were from a religious group which he mistook as the Religion Department. He then treated us well and many villagers crowded around watching us.

We knew from the village-head that Mr. Sundaeng was not a Pone Thong villager, but had once lived there and helped mother Nuan work in the paddy-field because he doted on her daughter who however did not fall in love with him. Though

mother Nuan's daughter had married another man, he still kept on writing to both mother and daughter even after he was arrested. When mother Nuan came, she told us that Mr. Sundaeng was originally from Ubon and used to live in Ban Pone Thong village for about 2 years. Before we left, we gave the old mother 100 bahts.

While waiting for a mini-bus to take us from the village, we had a chance to talk with a young sister who was going to leave the village. We had learnt from her that she came to bring her aged parents to live together with her in Ubon where she had lived for 30 years. She came early that morning and was going to leave the village as soon as possible in the evening with her frightened parents. Even her husband and her brother dared not come to Ban Pone Thong because it was a too sensitive village. At present, the villagers are afraid to plant and harvest in the mountainous areas nearby. There are clashes from time to time and some villagers have been shot dead as well. After 6 pm. everyday, the road to the village is closed and the village is infested with fully-armed soldiers. The soldiers and policemen set up their head-quarter at the police-station of Sao-na-nikom sub-amphur which is also a check-point; anyone passing the station has to produce his identity card.

Nakorn-rach-sima: We went from Amphur Nangrong of Buri-rum province to Sombuthjaren village at Sungtakien district, Amphur Kornburi of Nakorn-rach-sima province, in order to visit Mr. Su-poln Kamoldéj's family.

The village is in deep jungle, it is about 50-60 kilometres from the main road along a side-road and about 1-2 kilometres from this side-road. The path to the village is a muddy narrow road cut through the jungle. Under difficulty, we finally reached the house of Mr. Su-poln's father-in-law whose name is Mr. Sward. Mr. Su-poln's wife, Mrs Sum-arng, stayed with her father because Mr. Su-poln was arrested and she needed someone to help her look after her two-month old baby, and in her state she could not earn a living by doing hard work.

Mrs. Sum-arng, aged 28, is the eldest of the 7 children of Mr. Sward and Mrs. Name. This family is very poor; they all live in a small poverty-stricken cottage, own a small piece of land where insufficient rice is produced to meet the needs of the family. Mr. Sward and his older sons have sometimes to work as labourers in order to find money to buy rice. Mr. Sward, a very thin old man, had just returned home (at the time we met him) from a corn-field where he worked as a day labourer. Mrs. Sum-arng's youngest brother was recently burnt by hot water all over his face and shoulders; his sores inflamed and swelled, and his temperature was breathtakingly high, since the family could not afford to bring him to see a doctor, nor could they give him any medicines.

About ten days before our visit, her younger brother's wife became unconscious for two whole days after she gave birth to her second child; all members of the family thought she was dead by that time. These poor people were left to fate, which for once was not too cruel.

Mrs. Sum-arng was glad to see us, as she expected that we would bring messages from her husband Mr. Su-poln. We learnt from her that Mr. Su-poln was arrested while living together with her at their home in Ban Kok-tom village of Surin province. At first, 60 - 70 policemen of the province made a raid on their house but did not find him for he was at work in town. The second raid also failed. Then, early one morning ten policemen came and Mr. Su-poln invited them to come up to the house. But his invitation was refused, and the policemen invited him to the police station instead of having a talk aimed at reaching mutual understanding. He was arrested and detained at Amphur Prasart. After his arrest, Mrs. Sum-arng went to see the Amphur head-official and asked for an explanation. She was informed that her husband was accused of "political endangering society" because he possessed a tape-record containing leftist conscientization songs. Mrs. Sum-arng affirmed that her husband was not guilty of anything and he was unjustly arrested. All the neighbouring villagers loved Mr. Su-poln, so they helped her by buying cakes made by her so that she could collect a little sum of money for travelling to visit him. After being detained at Amphur Prasart for 30 days, Mr. Su-poln was transferred to Bangkok. She could not afford to visit her husband since then, and since she was going to have a baby at that time she went to stay with her parents.

Before we left, we gave her 100 baht to pay her debts and 200 baht for family expenses. Then, we asked her mother Mrs. Name to go with us to the market-place and bought her some essential commodities for the baby and the family. On the way, we heard the burst of machine-gunfire for several hours. We know from Mrs. Name that many forests around the village were already closed, and no villager was allowed to go there especially in the night time otherwise they might be shot dead by the armed forces. The story of villagers being shot through their heads by the soldiers by mistake was not just a rumour but a frequent occurrence.

IX. Summary of Newsa) Article 21

- 10 May 1977. Prime Minister Thanin Kraivixien, exercising his absolute power under Article 21, summarily sentenced 18 persons (arrested in connection with the March 26 abortive coup attempt) to severe jail terms ranging from 5 to 20 years' imprisonment. He also sentenced two other main suspects still at large to life imprisonment in absentia.
- 21 May 1977. An execution order under Article 21 was carried out in Nakhon Nayok, at the scene of the crime instead of the usual site of execution in Bangkwang, against Mr. Sompong Pumwong who was a 25-year-old suspect accused of raping and murdering a 12-year-old girl.
- 14 June 1977. Three traders were executed, under Article 21's provision, before dawn at the provincial prison of Prachinburi. They were Mr. Munkok alias Mun Boonprasert, Mr. Yoo Chark, Mr. Tia alias Somchai Chantra. All were accused of being the key culprits in colluding with communist Khmer troops in smuggling and in massacring Thai villagers on Jan. 28 in the "Aranyaprathet Border Scandal". Of the 40-odd remaining suspects, some of the five police officers and 30 customs officials and other local officials were reportedly "acquitted"; the rest were going to face summary punishments under article 21 in proportion to their extent of guilt in the case. It is interesting to note that no Border Police Patrol (B.P.P.) were either arrested or sentenced in this case, even though all reconstructions of the case inevitably assume an important role for BPP elements.
- 14 June 1977. Defence Minister Lek Naewmali told the press that summary punishments had also been proposed for an alleged rapist-killer and three suspects arrested recently on charges of narcotics trafficking.

b) Communist Suppression Activities1. The South

- 11 May 1977. Fourth Army Commander Lt-Gen. Pin Thammasri and Surath-thani Governor presided over a ceremony to release 72 communist suspects who had been found innocent and had completed re-education courses. Six of them however were immediately* arrested and taken to a prison in neighbouring Nakorn Sri Thammarat to face other charges. After the release, 17 were taken to be ordained immediately into the monkhood.

- 12 May 1977. Due to increased communist activities in the southern provinces, Internal Security Operations Command (ISCO) Zone 4 had imposed a curfew in several more villages to facilitate suppression campaigns against the communist elements.
- 24 May 1977. The ISCO in the southern provinces had introduced a plan called "Back to Home" in efforts to persuade students who had joined the communists to return home. According to intelligence reports, there were about 200 students from Bangkok and the southern provinces who fled into the jungles of many sensitive areas in the South.
- 1 June 1977. Mr. Panya Panuraj, a top brain of the communist movement in Nakorn Sri Thammarat who was arrested on charges of endangering society, escaped from his cell at Na Bon sub-district police-station by slipping out through a hole he sawed on the wooden floor of his cell while a policeman on guard was asleep. He was reported still at large despite a massive hunt for him. He held a master degree from a university in the US and later on joined the communist movement.
- June 1, 1977. Satun Governor told the press yesterday that "hundreds of communist terrorists have left their hideouts in the two southern provinces of Nakorn Sri Thammarat and Surat-thani following the government action there and have formed a new base on Banthad Mountain Range which links the three further southern provinces of Trang, Satun and Pattalung". Fighting against insurgents on Banthad Range was difficult due to the government armed forces' lack of experience in mountainous terrain. A government group, the governor said, had recently trained over 20,000 villagers on Banthad Range to protect their homes and fight against communists by themselves.
- 1 June 1977. Pattani Governor told the press yesterday that "Muslim separatists in South Thailand are linking up with guerrillas of the Communist Party of Thailand and the Communist Party of Malaya. (This was confirmed on June 6, 1977 by Gen. Yuthasak an army general who was said to have proposed to the Government the launching of operations for checking up on the identity of people in remote areas to disrupt the growing "triangular relations".)
- 2 June 1977. Yala Governor told the press that "a drive named Prab Trai Jak, which is the first large scale operation against the separatists since last October, is going to start on Monday". This was a task force comprising troops, policemen and civilian volunteers aimed at zeroing in on hideouts of separatists in the area where three southern provinces of Pattani, Yala and Songkhla meet. He also said that the CPK armed force had increased to about 2,000 men strong following the arrival of

of about 500 others who abandoned their strongholds in Sadao when the Thai-Malaysian border task force swept into Sadao during the operations Big Star One and Two early in this year. He and the Pattani Governor called for the urgent direction of the Thai-Malaysian joint operations against the separatists too, in addition to guerrillas and Communist.

- 3 June 1977. It was reported in a Thai newspaper that the officials of the Malaysian Foreign Ministry had disclosed to a French newspaper that their government planned to set up a new joint operation with Thai government, but no further detail was reported.
- 4 June 1977. Tra-won-siam newspaper said that the Police Department had sent 100 policemen from the central region, ranging from police-colonels to police lt. colonels, with up-to-date battle equipments to co-operate with the armed forces to clear up the communists in the infested areas of Surat-thani province.
- 10 June 1977. The Fourth Regional ISOC issued an announcement saying that "search-and-capture" operations were going to be conducted swiftly within the week. Operations comprising military, police and civilian personnel, "will surround and search from house to house in every village and every district where Communist insurgents are believed to be in hiding". The area covered by the operations were in the southern provinces of Trang, Satun and Pattalung.
- 10 June 1977. In a new move to fight Communism, Prime Minister Thanin Kraivixien announced the establishment of a "Psychological Warfare Institute" to produce specialist research work and documents aimed against Communist infiltration in Thailand.

2. The North and North-East

- 23 May 1977. Gen. Pralong Virapree, a chief of the army general staff, presided over a ceremony to supervise the social and economic research group of the National Self-Protection and Voluntary Development Project. This project is aimed at establishing agricultural co-operative villages in the communist-infested areas by using armed forces to besiege and clear-up the villages before rehabilitating the villages by providing them with vocational training. Strict measure will be imposed on well-organized communist communes, all communications and supply-lines of the villages had to cut by using all possible operations no matter how violent-for example, in the called Non Din Daeng.

He also said on the same occasion that many hill-tribes squadrons had been set up and trained to fight against the communist guerrillas in the northern border-provinces in order to let hill-tribes men fight against hill-tribes men. Besides, it was planned to train and bring up hill-tribes children in the Lopbur-

X | Special Warfare Centre and transfer them to continue their studies at the Army Training School (Nai Sib School) afterwards.

c) Psychological Warfare

- 11 May 1977. A young worker was arrested and found possessing communist propaganda documents written by the leftist ex-leaders whose names were Thirayooth Boonma, Sarn Leudwonghud, Prasarn Ma-ruerkapitakse, Visa Kuntup, Prayong Mool-sarn and Kai-saeng Sook-sai. All the articles written were aimed at strongly attacking the government and the system.

- 21 May 1977. The Nation: A three-year scheme to prepare the Thai people for the "take off" stage of development of democracy in the country was approved in principle by the Cabinet on 17 May 1977. The scheme which will involve nearly 570 million baht for implementation consists, briefly, of the following steps:

1. Educate civil servants and the general public to make them have faith in the system and encourage them to participate in preventing and suppressing Communist insurgency.
2. Training and seminars for civil servants and administrators at the grass-roots level will be held periodically to make them have a clearer understanding on their duties and responsibilities.
3. Experts educators will be posted at various district offices throughout the country to see to it that the scheme is carried out as planned.

- 21 May 1977. Siam Ruth: Yesterday, a small group of people, at Banglampoo and Ta-prachan (the areas near Thammasat University), distributed red-covered pocket-books (containing a copy of King Rama 7th's writing called "King's kindness" including an article called "Blood to Blood" and an interview of Dr. Somchai Rakvijit) to interested passers by. All the articles within the book were reportedly intended to attack the present government. However, the Police confirmed no arrests of those who distributed the book had been taken place yet.

- 14 June 1977. The Nation: The Religious Affairs Department has described as successful the nation-wide lessons in Buddhism programme launched since last years. The instruction the Education Minister said, was initiated by the Religious Affairs Department, the Interior Ministry, the Police Department, the Community Development Department, the Accelerated Rural Development Department, the Internal Security Command and the Central Security Division.

d) Arrests

- 21 April 1977. Mr. Borvorn Sangkhanak (26), an assistant district officer of Chum District, Chiangmai, was arrested on a charge of being detrimental to society and for

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"supporting the communist movement in Chun and Therng districts in the past few years".
He was a resident of Panas Nihom Amphur of Chon-buri province who had graduated from
the Political Science Faculty of Chiengnai University in 1975. He was appointed as
assistant district officer of Therng district after graduation and later moved to Chun
District of Chiengrai Province.

- 28 April 1977. Fifty four Vietnamese refugees were arrested and detained on charges of
being "a threat to national security". They, reportedly, possessed 11 of documents pur-
ported to back Communism, 200 tubes of medicine and some correspondence showing contacts
with foreign countries. All were refused bail and are being detained at various police-
stations in Muang, Ban Phu, Kumphawapi and Sithat districts of Udon-thani province; they
might be transferred to be rehabilitated at the Karunthep Camp of the province. Eight
of the detainees are women.

Two more Vietnamese refugees were later arrested bringing the number of refugees arrested
in the major crackdown in this province to 56. The two were Ngien Ngiengnok and Yuang
Manchang; both were shop owners.

- 11 May 1977. A leader in the Vietnamese refugee camp in the southern province of Song-
khla accused three North Vietnamese refugees, who were picked up from their raft in the
Gulf of Thailand by Thai fishermen in early March, of secretly supplying ammunition
and weapons to communist terrorists as well as performing subversive operations in
Thailand. The three identified as Vo-Xuan-Hunct (20), Voto-Tri-An (24), and Vo-Quoc-
Phu (20) were reportedly said to have been attached to the 22 nd Regiment in Ha-Tinh
Province of North Vietnam.

- 12 May 1977. Trawon Siam: At 10:00 pm. of May 10th (Sieng Puang Chon--at 00:10 am. of
May 11th), 4 patrol policemen found a young man was distributing leaflets to the pedes-
trians in front of Hollywood Cinema Theatre, Bangkok. (Sieng Puang Chon--three guiltily
looking men were searched, two of them who were Ramkamaeng University students were
found to have nothing illegal, the third one was found possessing communist documents.)
The policemen ran after the man and found that he had two illegal books, under the name
"Unity for the Liberation and Democracy of People", with him. He was identified as Mr.
Rithi-Rong Manee-karnj, aged 25, who lived at 50/2 Nakornbarn rd. Tambon Nai Muang,
Amphur Muang of Ubon-rach-thani province; he worked as a labourer and lived at a house
(no address) near Klong Prapa, Bangsue, Bangkok. (Sieng Puang Chon--he worked as a
labourer, lived at a house (no address) near Wat Chong Lom on the New Eochburi road).
The document were written by a group of leftist leaders whose names were Thirayooth

Boonme, Smarn Leudwonghud, Prasarn Ma-ruekapitakse, Visa Kuntup, Prayong Mool-sarn and Kai-saeng Sooksai. (Sieng Puang Chon--the same).

- 15 May 1977. Bangkok Post: Mr. Kanha Sitthisri (51), a kamman in the Chaibarn Sub-district of Udon-thani province, was arrested Friday night together with his nephew Sompong Sitthisri (30) during a police raid at their house. They were charged with being communist leaders who led an attack on Chaibarn Sub-district police station on May 3 in which three policemen were killed.

- 29 May 1977. The Nation: A third-year student of Mahidol Medical University and a villager have been arrested by military personnel in the jungle of Loei Province, while both were on a food buying mission. The student, who was not named, told the soldiers that he had been persuaded to flee into the jungle after October 6, last year.

e) The Press

- 16 May 1977. Burapathai newspaper, a newspaper in Chonburi province, was ordered to be closed for criticizing the use of Article 21 against the late coup plotter Chalard Hiranyasiri.

- 21 May 1977. A Fortnightly magazine, Sapa (despite its title, it was in no way connected with the Parliament), was ordered closed for one month for carrying a controversial interview with the former Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman as having carried "falsehoods" considered insulting to the government, the country and the Thai people.

- 21 May 1977. A Press Bill, called for registration of reporters and severe jail terms for editors who refused to publish retractions by any person who claimed to be affected by a newspaper article, was postponed to next parliamentary debate. This 27-article Press Bill, earlier approved by the NARA's legislative screening committee, was aimed at amending certain parts of the Press Code which has been in force since 1941. Mr. Chakchai Chariyavejwatana, who spearheaded the Bill, insisted that the Bill had been drafted on his own personal initiative and denied that he had been a "tool" of some other people; he only admitted that he had consulted with advisers of the Prime Minister and "some experts in journalism". However, all newspapers had come out strongly against the Bill and the Lawyers Association of Thailand issued an open-letter in support of the Press campaign to have the Bill dropped.

- 28 May 1977. It was reported that the national legislative body voted down the Press Bill after two hours of deliberation behind closed doors.

X // - 13 June 1977. Former editor of Siam Mis daily Thai language newspaper, Mr. Prayad S. Nakanat who is currently chairman of the Press Officers' Advisory Board, was handed a one-year probation and fined 3,000 baht by the Bangkok North District Court on libel

charges. He was sued by Dr. Puey Ungpakorn on March 22 last year for the reports published alleging that Dr. Puey attempted to change the structure of Thammasat University by adopting the Communist commune system.

Right Wing Plot

f) Alleged Plan to Assassinate Samak Sundaravej

- 20 May 1977: Two young men were arrested in front of Chulalongkorn University's Secretariat Building (where the "Boss" worked) accused of conspiring to assassinate Interior Minister Samak Sundaravej. A third suspect fled the scene when a team of policemen swooped on the three. The two men were identified as Chattri Term-ngarm, 22, who had previously been Assistant Secretary General of the Vocational Students Association (a right-wing organization); and Chirapong Rodthong, 23, a Ramkhamhaeng University student and the son of Deputy Chief of the Defence Ministry's Secretarial Department. They disclosed all details of the plot and also their previous abortive attempts, soon after a roughly sketched map of the Minister's house and a note of contact with another co-plotter were found in their pockets.

- 21 May 1977. Chulalongkorn University's Vice Rector Prapanpong Vejajiva was arrested in connection with the probe. (A source told us that he used to have close-contact with the powerful authorities in Prapas regime.) He denied any involvement in the alleged plot but admitted he had known the two because they had come to see him for petty cash whenever they ran short of money. At 5:00 pm. on the same day Minister Samak told the press that he could not understand why some people wanted to take his life and thought that the plot must have been subtly planned intending to create conflicts among rightists.

- 27 May 1977. Mr. Prapanpong Vejajiva was released on a 400,000 baht bail. Mr. Chattri's and Mr. Chirapong's detention were extended.

- 2 June 1977. Interior Minister Samak Sundaravej left Bangkok late at night for a three-week trip to the US and Europe during which he planned to meet Thai students abroad "to give them the correct image about Thailand."

g) Special Incidents

- 5 May - 5 June 1977. It had been reported from time to time in newspaper that over 40 people comprising five high-ranking police officers, 20 odd customs officials, 8 local merchants and other local officials had been arrested continuously since late April. The number of suspects arrested had been brought up to 43 by June 5. All were charged on a number of counts varying from issuing illegal ID cards to Cambodian refugees, collusion in smuggling, negligence of duties and being a threat to national security. These "Aranyaprathot Border smuggling" suspects were detained separately in various

They know of abuses of ^{big game} officials whom they could implicate.

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prisons of Bangkok, Krabin-buri and Prachinburi provinces; they were expected to be punished under Article 21 of the Constitution. However, many arrested custom officials told reporters that they were not afraid at all.

- 8 June 1977. A jungle heroin laboratory was found between Amphur Muang and Amphur Fai in a remote valley of Mae Hong Song Province near the Burmese border. It was described as "one of the biggest" in the country. The raid on the lab was conducted by a team of high-ranking officials led by Police Lt. Gen. Chumpol Lohachala.

- 9 June 1977. At 8:00 pm., Defence Minister Admiral Sa-ngad Chalawoo issued a very short statement confirming that the armed forces were in close cooperation with the Government. Squashing what he described as "malicious rumours", he said "a group of people" who entertained ill-will against the armed forces and the country had created a situation by smearing individuals within the government circle and thus creating misunderstanding and suspicion between the Thai armed forces and the government.

Earlier in the morning, a group of reporters who went to the residence of Gen Yos Thephasadin were told by one of his aides that there was "absolutely no foundation to the rumours".

* Also, it was reported that Gen Serm and his high-ranking party had left Bangkok early in the morning for the Ninth Division Headquarters in Kanchanaburi where they were going to attend the celebrations marking the sixth anniversary of the founding of the division.

- 10 June 1977. Gen. Sa-ngad Chalawoo charged that some non-military people with a strong economic base were trying to "return to power" by spreading rumours among certain military personnel. Throughout the whole night of June 8, he said, he was in touch with the First Army Division General. He also denied rumours that a group of military officers had met Army Commander-in-chief, Gen. Serm na Nakhon very late the previous night.

- 10 June 1977. While attending a party at Pattaya for participants in the technical seminar for students in the psychological warfare course, Gen. sa-ngad said that some former politicians "both on the right and left" had temporarily joined forces to instigate trouble against the government. He also blamed astrologers for having advised the plotters in choosing an "auspicious date" for their big operation. He also said any suggestion for changes in personnel in the government "must be substantiated with concrete reasons - not just empty demands."

- 11 June 1977. Deputy Supreme Commander, Gen. Kriengsak Chamanan said that he personally thought an "Anti-Rumour Centre" should be established.

Annex

Bangken II Corrections Centre, (Vocational Training Centre), Bangken Private
Police Training School, Bangkok

An adapted gymnasium is used for confining some "endangering society" detainees. Most of these detainees were arbitrarily arrested either separately or in groups by executive order under the Proclamation of the National Administrative Reform Council decree 22 section 5-6 (political). Newly-arrested detainees are initially held for 30-40 days for interrogation either in some secret holding centres or in the jails of the Local and Central Police Stations. For zone 1 (the central part of the country), those arrested in Bangkok for "political endangering society" are detained 30 days or so in the jails of various Bangkok-located police stations then transferred to Bangken II for extensive imprisonment. But for those arrested in other provinces of zone 1 (either with charges or without charges) after being detained 30 days in the local police stations, some were transferred to Ayudhaya detention centres for further detention. Then those found guilty of other charges (robbery, attempted, and other crimes) are detained there for a further period, but those accused of "political endangering society" who were arrested in a few other provinces and zone 1 except Bangkok seem to be rapidly transferred to Bangken II after their preliminary one month detention in Ayudhaya detention centre. However, during the last few months "political endangering society" prisoners have been transferred from their home towns to Bangken II almost immediately. This has been a common practice to separate them from their acquaintances so that no one would be able to know where they were and what had happened to them. The political detainees at Bangken II are invariably held without trial and have no limit on the length of their detention according to the act's provision. However, their cases should be re-investigated by the officers once every two months. Recently, 43 of 101 Bangken II "political endangering society" prisoners known to us were released after being held without charge for many months. Some were said to have completed their re-education courses. The re-educational programs of Bangken II Corrections Centre have been designed to indoctrinate all political detainees without exception in order to bring about a psychological change in the behaviour of these so-called "misguided citizens". However, it should be noted that any police officer may without warrant arrest any suspected person, which means that any innocent person can be arrested and detained for months without having a chance to prove one's

strategy
similar to
Chile &
other L.A.

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innocence; and it should be noted also that any released prisoner might be re-arrested anytime either under different sections of the same act or on criminal charges. Those still being detained at Bangken II are of very varied backgrounds - opposition leaders, students, journalists, trade unionists, businessmen, workers, civil servants, farmers, peasants and hawkers; but poor socio-economical status is more common. At present, more than half of the detainees are poor farmers and peasants living in rural areas, after their being transferred to Bangken II, their families could not afford to visit them. An ex-prisoner recently told us that political prisoners there were often threatened by the prison staff that they would refuse to review the cases of those who had contacted any outside sympathetic group; besides, most of the useful things given by sympathizers to the prisoners were confiscated by the prison officers claiming that they belonged to no one. At the moment, the cells are grossly overcrowded which has made it difficult for the prisoners to obtain certain essential facilities. Accounts from ex-prisoners received by us indicate that the hygienic conditions in Bangken II are bad. There is insufficient water supply, sometimes the prisoners had to use water from the wells dug with their own hands; no baths were allowed on week-ends and official holidays. Prisoners received only two meals of bad and boring food a day, in the morning and evening. Besides they were prevented from cooking their lunch by themselves and were indirectly forced to buy food and soft-drinks from the officers' families at very high prices. Officially, only prisoners' families were allowed permission to visit them once every week day for 30 minutes at the most; but most prisoners' families lived in other provinces. As a sympathetic group, we are harassed by the prison officers at present and have found difficulty in having direct contact with those detained; so it can be said that the prisoners seldom receive visits. Hard and slave-like labour were imposed on the prisoners as penal servitude; and as a reward for their work, they were forced to buy what they had planted and harvested with their own labour at high or than the market prices. Reading material was restricted to a few officially allowed books, and books and letters were all censored. Prisoners were allowed to send letters to their families and friends only on Mondays and Fridays; if the warders disliked any of them, they kept their letters and threw them away or tore off the stamps to resell. In Bangken II some kind of gross mistreatment is being practiced though not institutionalized, on some of the detainees by some prison officers.

(In early November last year, a drunken policeman severely hit and threatened to shoot a detainee; on 10 March this year a detainee was battered, kicked and knocked so hard that he fainted while he was picking up a soap he had carelessly dropped.)

Ayudhaya Correction Centre

Ayudhaya is in the central region of Thailand. It is generally a peaceful province, only a few crimes have been committed in this province in the recent months.

The central prison and the corrections centre of the province are separated. Local people name the corrections centre "Youth Punishment Camp" after its old name, the camp has changed its objectives to rehabilitation of prisoners since last November. The buildings of both police and prison department officers are not newly built like those in Bangken. Though they are old, these two-storied buildings are strong. The correction centre is 100-120 metres away from the main road, about a kilometre from the town-hall which is one of the community centres. It is a rather quiet place located nearby a contemplation centre sponsored by the government for rehabilitating the youths. There are three iron gates barring the path to the area where the prisoners are detained. Looking through the gates, one can see there is a wide area containing two big halls each about 6 metres wide and 27 metres long; these two halls are said to be used as working and meeting places of the prisoners.

An officers told us that almost all prisoners detained at the centre were non-political ones, those being arrested as "political endangering society" had already been transferred to BangkenII. On 13 March this year, 232 prisoners were released from this corrections centre of Ayudhaya; and 260 prisoners were left being detained there. All there 260 had been arrested from various provinces of the central region or the first zone. Visits are presently allowed on Mondays and Thursdays.

Karoontherz Corrections Centre, Chiangmai (ISOC Information Centre)

The centre is located at Nhong-Buak-Hard, opposite Suanproong Hospital, Chiangmai province. It has been used as a detention camp for political prisoners. In October last year after the formation of the Sa-ngad-Thanin government, 34 people who were teachers, students, and farmers were arrested and detained there.

However, the prison conditions as perceived during the detention period were quite good. In Karoonthep Corrections Centre, the food given (three meals a day) was quite good because the warders had meals together with the prisoners. On every working day, every prisoner had to attend a lecture or indoctrination on ^{right-wing} ideology, concentrating on loyalty to the Nation, Religion and Monarchy, and on the rules of being good citizens. On Saturdays, there were bus trips with an agricultural group; and prisoners were allowed to have their wives or girl-friends with them during the trip. Sundays were free-days.

After one month of detention five people were released. Four of the first group released were janitors and another one was Mr. Sawaeng who was a teacher at Yuparach College.

By the middle of December 1976, all the rest of the 34 arrested were released. And on New Year day, all were invited to celebrate the festival together at the Karoonthep Corrections Centre. At first, the released political prisoners offered to spend their own money for the feast; but it was later agreed that the rich military officers took responsibility for all the expenses of that celebration partly with their own money and a partly from ISOC's funds.

Every released political prisoner from Karoonthep-Corrections-Centre has to report personally to the officers at the centre once every month if he does not want to get himself into real trouble.

This information received from an "endangering society" prisoner released from Chiang-mai. If the facts outlined are correct (we are currently checking the details) it shows that in certain parts of the country political prisoners are being treated well.

Police Custody Up-country (from a released prisoner)

The conditions of police custody up country are worse than those in detention center of the Corrections Department for the following reasons:

1. They put people on different charges together in the same cell, and leave the detainees alone without paying any attention to them. Sometimes, the detainees fight each other. Sometimes the detainees get beaten up by the police or by other detainees (ordered by the police).

2. The police cells are very dirty and very crowded. Usually they are about 4x3 square metres, and contain about 20-30 people. Thus, the detainees must take turns to sleep.

The conditions in police custody are worse than in corrections centers. Some people have been held in police custody for more than 3-4 months before transferring to correction centers.

3. Food is very bad. Only two meals a day are provided where I was in the North East, each consisting of only one handful of sticky rice and sauce and nothing also.

4. Those in charge of the police custody are often very corrupt. Because power is given to the local authorities without any checkup, those authorities sometimes use this to power to make extra earnings for themselves. Some people paid 5,000-10,000 for release. Detainees are sent to Bangkok from 19 provinces. Even though some of these provinces have their own detention centers. They still send detainees to Bangkok especially those who were arrested for "Endangering society". But if they are arrested on Communist charges they will not be sent to Bangkok. Sometimes such people just disappear. (The ones who are sent to Bangkok are usually well-known people)

When arrested people will first be kept in police custody. Later they will be sent to vocational training centers (but really more like ordinary detention centres than vocational training centers) such as at Konkaen, Nakornraichasima, Ayuthaya and Nakornsriphanom. These centres usually keep non-political prisoners. Normally political prisoners will be sent to Bangken for men and Lard Yao for women.

There is another kind of detention center which is called "education camps for communists". These may have different names such as Karunyathep Camp. Some of these camps are located in the following places, PaFak District, in Nakornpanom, Pavanlan Campat Ban Song in Surattani, a camp near Klong Chalerm in Pattalung, a camp at Muang District in Surattani, and the Soldiers camp in Sakhon Nakorn.

Detainees released on May 12, 1977 from Bangken II Corrections Centre

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Jareern | Montol | (23) | the Protection of Teacher's Right group | Province: Surin |
| 2. Chana | Nongdee | (26) | " " " " | Surin |
| 3. Pechre | Saitsujja | (31) | Farmer group | Surin |
| 4. Yen | Sai-yos | (34) | a farmer, Amphur Kapcherng | Surin |
| 5. Chaleoy | King-kaew | (36) | " " " " | Surin |
| 6. Nopharatrana | Kongyuen | (33) | a teacher, Amphur Kapcherng | Surin |
| 7. Samun | Singha-sena | (37) | a teacher, Amphur Tharatoon | Surin |
| 8. Lers | Jirasiri | (80) | a medical doctor | Nakorn- rachasima |
| 9. Rueng-yos | Chantra-kiri | (41) | Newsman of Chaturus and Prachacharth, RU. Student | Nhong-kai (Yala citizen) |
| 10. Rueng-dech | Chantra-kiri | (42) | TU. Student | Nhong-kai (Yala citizen) |
| 11. Teppitakse | Viriyar | (53) | a teacher, Amphur terng | Chiengrai |
| 12. Prapunth | Sae-Ueng | (50) | a merchant, Amphur Vieng Parpao | Chiengrai |
| 13. Manit | Viengkum | (28) | a teacher, Amphur Chiengkum, a member of Thai Socialist Party | Chiengrai |
| 14. Oon-rueng | Vichakum | (54) | the head of the village, Amphur Vieng Parpao | Chiengrai |
| 15. Jarus | Soodthanoo | (55) | a teacher, Amphur Parn | Chiengrai |
| 16. Viroj | Kunthachompoo | (57) | a teacher, Amphur Vieng Parpao | Chiengrai |
| 17. Saney | Soothorn | (58) | a merchant, Amphur Parn; an ex-member of the Assembly (Charthai-Dhamsungkom Party) | Chiengrai |
| 18. Jue-yoon | Sae-Lim | (66) | a worker | Pisanoelok |
| 19. Scooj | Munjarernsiri | (60) | a student, MVS. teacher Training School | Pisanoelok |
| 20. Prasit | Singhadech | (63) | VK. Teacher Training School | Pisanoelok |

21. Niponth Pra-phinpongkorn (61) (unknown) Pisanoolok
(possibly Pra-punthongsakorn)
22. Ovat Se-rie-tuntikul (59) (unknown) Pisanoolok
(possibly Senie-tuntikul)
23. Vasin Dee-inthra (65) teacher, Pisanoolok Pisanoolok
Pittayakorn School
24. Kriengsukde Putra-pongpunth (62) (unknown) Pisanoolok
(possibly Putra-panich)
25. Rerkchai Kunuprakarn (64) (unknown) Pisanoolok
(possibly Anu-prakarn)
26. Marinthre Somtusna (48) a teacher of Nan Province Chiangmai
School
- *
27. Dum Puekpoon (13) Surat-thani
28. Niyom Noochmitre (44) RU student, a member of Surat-thani
Thai Socialist Party
29. Keard Mathu-rose (15) a mine manager, Aek-ka-chai Surat-thani
Gypsum Mine
30. Tavee-suk Harachai (56) a teacher Nakhonphanom
31. Sundaeng Laem-gigum (69) a worker Ubontachathani
32. Jumrus Muang-yarn (68) a farmer Rayong
33. Peng Sundaengphai (45)
34. Vjithre Pongse-paethya (3)
35. La-ong Kaewsri-on (6)
36. Jareem Sri-jareem (7)
37. Yuern Kongkaew (14)
38. Nisid Jantramol (22)
39. Somyos Konkum (70)
40. Jarnkom Konkum (71)
41. Somboon Tungjaremsuthichai (72)

Note:

1. Forty three prisoners had been released on 12 May, 1977, 41 of them listed above had been detained for at least 6 months in Bangken II Corrections Centre (Vocational Training Centre) since November last year. Another one released on May 11 from Lardyao Youth Punishment Camp (for women) is Mrs Pimpain Poo-vapunth,

aged 46; the wife of Mr. Soothee Poo-vapunth who is an ex-member of the National Assembly as a representative of Surin. And one is unknown to us at present.

2. Mr. Dum Euekpoom, who lived at 11 Moo 6 in Amphur Wieng Sa of Surat-thani province, was immediately taken back into police custody to face the charge of attempting to kill government officers.

3. The numbers in the brackets are the orders of their names in the list of 101 people submitted in the last report. From an ex-prisoner who prefers to be anonymous, two missing names in the list of 101 people are known to be Mr. Pornchai Sae-Chi and Mr. Prasert Prai-son; but the sur-name of Mr. Sunth, number 93, is still unknown.

4. The names in the last column are the provinces where the persons were arrested.

5. At present, there are thirty to forty more people not mentioned in the last and present reports being detained at Bangken II; one of them is Mr. Phueng whose surname is unknown. Most of these have been transferred from southern provinces.

6. Most of the prisoners released are well-educated and those of better socio-economic status whose files were not pronounced of severe cases. It is also said that at least one of these released prisoners is an ISOC spy suspected by many ex-prisoners.

7. Most of those still being detained at Bangken II are employers, workers and farmers. The rest are said to have been severely accused of "endangering society". However, there are three detainees who have no "endangering society" background at all; an ex-detainee told us that these three being arrested as a result of personal grudges are Mr. Prasong Visassungkom who is a photographer of Kuru Spha and Stern Magazine, Mr. Udom Punjaporn (possibly Punjakorn) who is a drafted-soldier from Ubon-Rachathani, and Mr. Juntra Mai-sri who is a truck-driver of ETO lived in Chonburi.

List of the 17 communist suspects who entered the monkhood at Wat Klana, Mai, Surat-thani, after their release from the communist detention centre in Phunphin District on 11 May 1977

1. Mr. Prateep Kaew-som
2. Mr. Thavorn Mee-saeng
3. Mr. Sa-ner Thongsun
4. Mr. Dhe-cha Chob-pholn
5. Mr. Vi-klard Ruengsri
6. Mr. U-this Sumrith
7. Mr. Flueng Chue-sri
8. Mr. La-mai Rukse-wongse
9. Mr. Somkiet Oop-la
10. Mr. Vi-thoon Wam-kaew
11. Mr. Jomsukdi Pooti-ruthani
12. Mr. Phun Rod-roo
13. Mr. Somsuk Thanom
14. Mr. Thongchai Jitra-mark
15. Mr. Bunjong (Soln-thai) Chual-jarern
16. Mr. Kong Sookyao
17. Mr. Anun Bumroongsri

Six released prisoners who were immediately re-arrested

1. Mr. Plien Chu-noom
2. Mr. Minitre Sae-lin
3. Mr. Suree-yun Rod-kaew (possibly Mr. Suree On-rod)
4. Mr. Oad Rod-kaew (possibly Mr. Oad On-rod)
5. Mr. Prajuab Kum-glin (possibly Mr. somjet Kum-glin)
6. Mr. Boonchip Duangkaew

List of released detainees who had been arrested in Chiangmai and detained at Karunther Centre.

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------|
| 1. Mr. Srayuth Kaewpuangdao | teacher at Chiangmai Teacher College | Amphur: Muang |
| 2. Mr. Sivaporn Unmez | " | " |
| 3. Mr. Sompongse Boonlers | " | " |
| 4. Miss Chompoo-nooch Chittidhecharuksa | ex-student of Chiangmai University Faculty of Social Science | " |
| 5. Miss Soo-kunya Somsanga | an ex-reporter and a school teacher | Om-koy |
| 6. Mr. Chalerm Jarernmueng | a head-teacher of the amphur school | Doy-sa-ke |
| 7. Mr. Boonsri Wongchantre | a peasant | " |
| 8. Mr. Boonsri Wongchantre-kum | a peasant | " |
| 9. Miss Dara-nee Ti-moor-kieng | a teacher | Prao |
| 10. Mr. Kriengkrai Boonruernma | a teacher | " |
| 11. Mr. Pongse-chai Kumme-ru | a teacher | " |
| 12. Mr. Nopha-dol Bunta | a teacher | " |
| 13. Mr. Ma-noph Tunsupa-yonth | a teacher | " |
| 14. Mr. Lai-son | | Sa-merng |
| 15. Mr. Pisooth | | Mae-rim |
| 16. Mr. Toe-sura | a peasant | " |
| 17. Mr. Manop Manoe-chai | a peasant | Mae-taeng |
| 18. Mr. Tha Chai-ya-won | a peasant | " |
| 19. Mr. Moon | a peasant | " |
| 20. Mr. Tuan Toola-ha | a peasant | " |
| 21. Mr. Rith | a peasant | " |
| 22. Mr. Inth Tip-suwon | a peasant | " |
| 23. Mr. Itti-poln Mana-kasetharn | a teacher at Barn-ping-prachasawarn School | Sun-pa-tong |
| 24. Mr. Pun | | " |
| 25. Mr. Jongruk | a graduate from Chula University Faculty of Law | " |
| 26. Mr. Narong | a teacher at Barn-sai-mool School | Harng-dong |
| 27. Mr. Narinth | | Mae-jam |
| 28. Mr. Artha-korn | | Mae-eye (sub amphu) |
| 29. Miss Ar-ngoon Mar-lik | a Chiangmai University teacher | Muang |
| 30. Mr. Olarm | a Chiangmai University student | " |
| 31. Mr. Kriengsuk Rod-pralith | a clerk of the central library of Chiangmai University | " |
| 32. Miss Malee Sac-Ueng | a teacher | " |

33. Mr. Umnop Chitti-chai-won a graduate from Northern Technic College Mueang
34. Mr. Chu-sith Viriya " " " " " " " " " "
35. Mr. Manus a Ramkhamhaeng University student
36. Mr. Somsak Wongse-kuntun ** a first year student of Teacher College
37. Mr. Boonchuen Chai-ruth* the president of the Chiangmai University employee group
38. Mr. Nikorn Yana* a Chiangmai University employee
39. Mr. Kongkaew Kunti* " " " " " " " " " "
40. Mr. Anoo-ruksi Nims-rungsie* " " " " " " " " " "
41. Mr. Swaeng Mara-sam* a teacher at the Yuparach School

Note: *1. They had been released after being detained for questioning for 30 days.

- **2. Mr. Somsak Wongsak Wongse-kuntun was arrested on 20 July, 1976 (which was the day of the student demonstrations against the American Military Bases in Thailand throughout the country) together with his friend, Mr. Manop, who also a student of Chiangmai Teacher Training School. They were attacked by a Nawapol group while they were on their way to visit villagers in Amphur Mae-taeng; a Nawapol member let his gun go off by accident and pretended that Mr. Somsak and Mr. Manop had attempted to kill him. They were dragged to a police-station and the policemen charged them with intending to kill government officers. However they were released out on bail. Mr. Manop jumped bail but Mr. Somsak was re-arrested soon after October 6, last year. Having his name on the black list of those suspected of endangering society, Mr. Somsak was detained at Karunthep Centre. He has been detained at the centre until now; he can go working outside the centre in the day time, but has to stay in the centre at night. It was said that the director of the centre really cared for Mr. Somsak and was afraid that he might be refused his previous bail if he was allowed to stay outside the centre even after his release.
3. The rest were separately arrested as groups or individuals soon after October 6, last year. They were first detained at various local police-stations and were later transferred to Karunthep centre on Nov. 15 1977. It is reported at present that they all have been released on Dec. 14, 1977.

Twenty persons sentenced (under Article 21) in connection with the March 26 abortive coup attempt

Eighteen of the 20 had been arrested in a series of swoops soon after March 26. They were accused of having joined or assisted ex-Gen Chalad Hiranyasiri who was executed on April 21. Their earlier requests for bail had been repeatedly turned down. On 10th May 1977 Prime Minister Thanin Kraivichien, exercising his absolute power under Article 21, summarily sentenced these remaining 18 suspects to severe jail terms ranging from 5 to 20 years' imprisonment as follows:

20 years sentence, held in Bangkok

1. Mr. Pichai Vasanang, a well-known former TV commentator, an adviser of Chao Thai newspaper.
2. Pol.Col. Anop Phukprayoon, a former deputy special branch commander, one of the four celebrated "knights" during the region of former police chief Gen. Pao
3. Police Lt. Col. Manoj Charak, Crime Suppression Division.
4. Police Capt. Chirawat Luengsuphaboorn, Central Investigation Bureau
5. Police Capt. Deja Dissayossarin, Crime Suppression Division at Tha Rua Police Station.
6. Capt. Mattavudh Srivajarakul, the Kanchanaburi-based Ninth Army Division
7. Capt. Supoj Banyarak, the Kanchanaburi-based Ninth Army Division
8. Capt. Banphot Klanruengsaeng, the Kanchanaburi-based Ninth Army Division
9. Capt. Sawan Saengsorn, the Kanchanaburi-based Ninth Army Division.

15 years sentence, held in Iardvao Prison

10. Mr. Somboon Subphokphoon, Managing Editor of Chao Thai newspaper
11. Mr. Sira Diraphat, Deputy Managing Editor of Chao Thai newspaper

10 years sentence, held in Iardvao Prison

12. Mr. Raksak Watthanaphanich, former Public Relations Department Director General
13. Mr. Somchai Ruekdee, Columnist of Daily News newspaper
14. Lt. Chucheeep Parnvichien, Army

6 years sentence, held in Iardvao Prison

15. Mr. Vira Musikapong, Chao Thai newspaper columnist and former Seni Pramroj Government spokesman

16. Lt. Thamrong Pongsuwan, the Kanchanaburi-based Ninth Army Division.

17. Sub-Lt. Sampan Suwanpradit, Army

18. Sub-Lt. Itthipon Thongdi, Army

Prime Minister Thanin also sentenced two other main suspects still at large to life-imprisonment in absentia. They were Chao Thai newspaper director Sompote Piya-ui and former Army Transport Director Maj-Gen. Chalerm Khampong. The order said all these 20 persons had committed a treason in violation of Articles 83, 86, 113 and 114 of the Criminal Code. However without any trial, or due process of law, it is difficult to be sure whether these people are guilty or not, or have been sentenced because of personal grudges. It is also possible that various much higher lever people, far more responsible for the coup, because of their positions, have been let off free. (See Annex 14 for the profile of Mr. Vira Musikapong).

ANNEX 6

Continuing Arrests and Killings

1. Udon-thani: Kamnan (district-head) Kanha Sithisri (51) was arrested together with his nephew Kamnan (district-head) Sompongse Sithisri (30) during a police raid at their houses in Chaibarn district, Chaibarn Sub-Amphur of Udon-thani province, on Friday night of May 13 on alleged charges of being a communist leader who had led an attack on Chaibarn local police-station on May 3, 1977 in which three policemen were killed.

2. Surat-thani: Mr. Suree On-rod (possibly Mr. Suree-yun Rod-kaew, aged 24), Mr. Ood On-rod (possibly Mr. Cad Rod-kaew, aged 21), Mr. Boonchip Duangkaew (aged 24), and Mr. Somjet Kum-glin (possibly Mr. Prajuab Kum-glin, aged 19) were arrested at Ban Prupree, Prupree district in Amphur Na-sarn of Surat-thani province at the end of January this year. They were cousins and lived at Moo 7, Koe-thuad district, Amphur Park-panung, Nakorn-srithamarach province. All were arrested by chance on their way home, after they finished their days work of slitting latex from rubber-trees, as they were near a clash between the governmental officers and the local communists. They were suspected of being communists who performed the attack. Later on, the officers knew that they were innocent so they allowed them to be visited by their families. But, until now they have been strictly detained for months, at the Central Prison of Nakorn Sri Thammarat, without any prospect of expected release.

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3. Kal-sinth : On May 15, 1977, Mae Fed Forest close to Ban Na Kam village near Samka and Huay-peung Districts in Amphur Kuchinalai of Kal-sinth province was bombed three times by the aero-planes; many villagers were killed. (The number of the dead was indeterminate, but a source reported us that over 160 persons were killed as estimated by the army personnel after the clearing-up of the forest; however, the number is unable to be checked so far.)
- Almost all villagers were new settlers who had immigrated from other places; they were of different backgrounds, but all went to that forest for their survivals. In the last whole year, it had rarely rained in Kal-sinth owing to the destruction of the forests by bombs and massive tree-cutting; the rice sprout was burnt by heat and dryness. Many villagers moved to find low-paid and hard-working jobs but most of them received emptiness in return, and many moved to earn their livings in the forest left behind children and aged. Some went to the mentioned forest to plant corn in their newly settled fields, some fled to live there after

they had stolen or robbed of other villagers' buffaloes from the neighbouring villages. A young villager from a village nearby the forest informed that once there were policemen (of the ranks of sergeant or so) disguised themselves as buffalo-robbers and went practicing espionage in the forest because in the deep jungle next by Mae Ped Forest existed a communist strong-hold. Though the raid was pre-announced, but the communication route had been cut; and though the disguised buffalo-robbers had tried to suggest the villagers to leave the forest, but no one believed them. Early on an unexpected morning, the planes passed over the forest and the bombs were dropped and lots of innocent villagers died. As confirmed by the source, these villagers were not communists because the communists lived in the deep jungle further away from the forest.

The source thought that there might be an air-raid at Suanpung Forest, lao-hai-ngam District of Kal-sinth Province, soon. It was also reported that "if such an event is going to happen more, no villager will take the government's side".

4. Surat-thani: In February 1977, Mr. Sumrerng Thani-ruth who lived at Moo 6 Ban Kao Kok in Ban Song District of Amphur Viengsra was murdered by the military. He was preparing to have his ordination at Wat Ban Song by the time he was unfortunately arrested without charge by the soldiers. (This was witnessed by some monks.) The wat had been partly seized by the armed forces, and the man was being suspected as communist sympathizer because he was going to have his ordination into monkhood during the period which a clearing-up operation was widely operated. A few days after his arrest, his father came across his dead body in a jute-sack in the neighbouring Amphur Pra-saeng. The evidence implied that Mr. Sumrerng was stuffed in the sack and drowned to death by a military group.

5. Nakorn Sri Thamarat: A teacher named Mr. Udom Pkakrong was arrested and charged with attempt on governmental officers' lives and robbery of their possessions. But the real motive of the arrest was that Mr. Udom was a head-teacher who opposed against the corruption, in the "Shift to Up-country Project", of the local authorities. So, after a clash between the local communists and the local officers which resulted in the death of some officers and the fleeing away in safety of the communists, Mr. Udom was victimized. He was tortured by being put in a sack, and was later transferred to the Bangkok Special Prison for solitary confinement. He is expected to be sued in the Criminal Court on the 4,5,6,25,26,27th of July, 1977.

6. Pattalung : A Bangken II detainee recently informed that there were some Pattalung inhabitants went there to ask after their missing relatives. The four

disappeared persons

persons missing at the same time were Mr. Thongchai Sae-Jia, Mr. Iean Suraskul, Mr. Lek Boonnum and the fourth one whose real name was unknown. The exact time and the real reason of their arrest were not certainly known. However, it was suspected that they were arrested as communist suspects in the governmental "search-and-capture" operation. They were missing from a local prison of Pattalung. The prison officers of that prison told their relatives that they were shortly detained there and immediately transferred to Bangken Prison of Bangkok Province. But the officers of Bangken denied any knowledge of them. Their existence might be questioned, some

7. Surat-thani: Mr. Kierd Mathurose, the manager of Aekachai Gypsum Mine in Surat-thani, was arrested by the deputy governor when he went to the provincial central hall. He was charged with supporting the local communists by lending them his cars to pick up students to the communist strong-holds. But what was behind the case was that he refused to let a policeman squeeze him 800 baht, then an unjust report was made. In his condition, he had no choice but to let the local communists use his cars. All governmental officers, local authorities and armed personnel, knew to their hearts that they themselves also borrowed his cars for sometimes as well. He, however, was released on 12 May 1977 after being detained in Bangken II for many months without a chance to plead of his innocence.

good example of
village gangs
influence

Annex I

Relating to some of the stories of injustice mentioned in our last report we have managed to obtain some of the petitions, and further evidence relating to those cases. This evidence is reproduced below:

1) Mr. Chookiet Mai-tri-chit

11, 3rd Moo, Kong Darn,

amphur Bangboe, Samutprakarn

16 March, 1977

The Director of the Police Department,

Dear Sir;

Subject: Asking for Justice

I am Mrs. Muay Mai-tri-chit, and I live at the above mentioned address. I have been accused of assisting my husband to injure and murder officials, as you can see from the two here-appended copies of the papers of the police's fourth and fifth requests to the court for further detention of my husband.

Due to the unjust imprisonment of my husband for 75 days since his arrest I, together with my children, sincerely ask on his behalf for your help and careful consideration of his case

1) I have lived with Mr. Choo-kiet, my husband, for 4 years during which time we have made an honest living. Together we have 2 children, four and one year old respectively. My husband is a planter, and sometimes works as a labourer. He has always been of good behaviour, and is an incorrupt person, never having quarrelled with anybody before in his life.

2) On the day of the event, 1 Jan. 1977, after my husband had finished his daily work (as usual at 6 p.m) he went to have some food on his way home at the food-shop of Mr. Hom, an acquaintance of ours. This shop is located only 500 metres away from our home. Meanwhile, a group of 3-4 people who we later discovered as the Rural Village Internal Security Operations Mission officials (R.S.M) came to have alcoholic drinks near his table; they were very drunk and irritated him all the times. Their behaviour led to an aggressive quarrel. Immediately, an acquaintance of mine came to tell me about what was happening and asked me to bring my husband home as quickly as possible. I quickly went to bring him home

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before the quarrel exploded into real trouble. We then both thought to our relief that the accidental quarrel was over.

3) But before dawn of the next morning, at 3 a.m. the same R.S.M. group came to our home and tempted my husband to fight with them by abusing him rudely and obscenely. They also claimed to be in the company of Kumnan (district head) Jarern Musika who had influence over many villages in our area. Because my husband is a good citizen who has concerned himself only with earning a living for his family and has never joined any gang in the past, he was disliked by the Kumnan and his group. While these three or four R.S.M.'s were insulting my husband's father and mother, he calmly asked them to go back home and sleep for it was very late at night by then. Instead of listening, they attacked him until many neighbors who witnessed the incident came and separated them.

4) In the morning of 2 January 1977, the police came to arrest my husband without warrant and take him to the police-station. The investigation officers charged him with injuring and attempting to kill the R.S.M. officials. This seemed to be a very severe and unjust charge. Ever since I knew my husband, I had never seen him possessing a gun; (how could he afford one when he had always earned his living honestly and had to support his family every day?) besides there was no need for him to possess a gun. My husband was framed by influential people and treated unjustly by the authorities. This story is well known among all good people living nearby, but no one dares to speak the truth as they are afraid of the influence of the district-head and his gangsters.

Normally, my family is one amongst the poorest in our village. Since my husband has been trapped by this disgraceful frame-up, ^{put against} him and having severe and unjust charges, ^{of extreme poverty} my children and I have to face a cruel fate which tortures our minds and bodies to an extent that the rich can never experience in their lives. Even a sympathizer tried to bail out my husband using his land-deed so that he would be able to support the family and earn some money for spending, and according to his rights under the law struggle against his accusation, the bail request was inhumanely refused by the investigation officers. We see no one to rely upon for effective help; so I, on behalf of the family, earnestly plead for your help as a last resort. For the sake of my innocent husband and our two little young children who are in need of their father's presence

and warmth, please grant him a release on bail so that he will be able to prove his innocence and the truth of his being framed and persecuted by the local influential people.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs. Muay Mai-tri-dhit.

Editor Note

Illustrative
This case is representation of a large number of injustices that are occurring at the moment, and have occurred in the past.

2) Mrs Nhoce Lers-Sonklam's Family

Case of innocent villagers killed by accident in military action

I am writing this petition complaining about the event that occurred at Phuparn Sakol-nakon province. On 11 September 1977, military officers launched a purge against communists infested Phuparn mountain range in an area frequently occupied by villagers of a new village. The military officers did not make an announcement of this military operation so the villagers went to cultivate their maize-fields, or to cut down trees and to burn wood for charcoal as usual. However the military swept on the villagers and in total fourteen innocents were slaughtered by the operating officers. The rotten smell of death thoroughly covered the surrounding jungle. Five members of Mrs. Nhoce Lers-sonklam's family were killed at the same time. A few days later on, after an investigation, the military officers promised to aid the rest of her family; and the 2nd Region Army Chief Commander also claimed to be carrying out an investigation and sending the results to the government. Nevertheless officials said Mrs Nhoce followed them too persistently demanding that the promised assistance be provided, so the officers stopped dealing with the matter. I would like to ask you to help persuade the regional military officers of Sakol-nakon to keep their promises. As already is known, the military officers admitted that Mrs Nhoce's family were not communists. The five members of the family killed were Mr. Sommai Lers-sonklam (husband), Mr. Prasart Lers-sonklam (son), Mr. Narong Lers-sonklam (son), Mr. Bua-thong Lers-sonklam (nephew), Mr. Samorn Jutha-mit (nephew); all used to live happily together and earn their living by growing maize, cutting trees and making charcoal. I, on behalf of Mrs. Nhoce, ask you to inform the military officers of

. . .
Cl

Sakol-nakon province once again that her family was not communists'. Mrs. Nho
is an absolutely innocent villager of the New Village of Amphur Phuparn who is now
terribly exhausted by the burdens of bringing up her 7 little ones alone.

3) Mr. Prapunth Kaewkrajang and Mr. Wek Surakumhaeng

Thud-u-tis Rd., (6th Pom),

Hard-yai.

February 1, 1977

Dear.....

Subject: Hard-yai police killed defenceless arrestees

On Thursday 20 January 1977, a police corporal named Nerng together
with two other policemen who were all on patrol in a car numbered 014 arrested
Mr. Prapunth Kaewkra-jang and Mr. Wek Surakumhaeng without warrants and without
certain charges. Mr. Prapunth's wife and the relatives of both Mr. Prapunth and
Mr. Wek went to ask after them at Haad-yai police-station, but did not find them
there. In the morning after, all went searching for them again but failed. Mr.
Prapunth's wife asked Corporal Nerng if he had arrested Mr. Prapunth and Mr. Wek,
Corporal Nerng admitted that he had arrested them but had already released them.
However if they had been released, Mr. Prapunth would have rushed back home because
his wife was not very well but instead they disappeared after being arrested,
despite a thorough search for them by many relatives in a possible places where
they might be. Not until Mr. Prapunth's wife and mother went to Haad-yai police
station once again on the night of Saturday 22rd January, did they find out that
two unidentified men were found dead at Klong Toe Entrance in Kumpaengpechre
district of Amphur Ruta-pumi close to Amphur Haad-yai. When they went to have
a look at the bodies in the morning, they recognized that the dead were Mr.
Prapunth and Mr. Wek. The body of Mr. Prapunth was found tied and shot, through
the temples and the left part of his chest, Mr. Wek was not tied but shot to death.
Their corpses were bloated and odourful, their shirts and shoes were missing.
Who did all this if not the police! When the police murder innocent people,
then from whom we are going to ask for justice.

Therefore, we beg you to ask His Excellency Monthchai Punthkongchorn *

whether this is the way the police help solve the peoples' problems---guardians of the public peace killing defenceless innocents!

Note: Manthchai Punthkongchorn is director general of police.

ANNEX 8

Restrictions on the sale and possession of certain commodities.

The commodities subject to control are:

1. salt
2. shrimp paste
3. medicines
4. drybattery cells
5. medical equipments
6. rope
7. rice
8. sugar
9. knapsacks
10. fuel oil
11. tobacco
12. cigarettes
13. plastic bags
14. 100-litre oil drums
15. canned food
16. green cloth
17. jungle boots
18. type writers
19. carbon papers
20. communication equipment
21. instant food
22. garlic
23. onions
24. electric wire
25. fuse wire
26. meat.

Beginning March 1, anyone living in communist infested areas in Surat-thani province who possess or trades in the above mentioned commodities must declare his stock to the district officer within seven days. Traders also have to submit their sales records and accounts with all the names of his customers.

STOP PRESS

Endangering Society

According to the Corrections Department's *June 23 77* (23/6/77) official figures, it was presently holding 1,108 Endangering society prisoners. 1,923 endangering society prisoners had already been released this year. //

These 1,108 prisoners are being held as follows:-

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Bangkok (Bankhen and Iard Yao) | 89 |
| South (Songkla) | 284 |
| North East (Ubon Rachthani) | 170 |
| North (Phitsanulok) | 237 |
| Central (Ayudhya) | 328 |

These figures do not include those detained in local prisons prior to be transferred to 'vocational training central' (in brackets). As mentioned else where in this report people can be held in local police stations for 3 or 4 months. //

Jaran Dithapichai

Definite information has been received that Jaran is alive and well, and did not die as reported by some.

successfully escape from Setsiri Prison.

Reeducation of Suspected Communists:

The Prime Minister announced in the National Assembly (24/6/77) that 364 suspected communists were being detained for "reeducation". Over the past 10 years 12,934

people have been similarly "reeducated". These people are detained for reeducation without any specific charge.

At the same time the Prime Minister announced that there would be no general amnesty for students who fled to the jungle after October 6, 1976.

The three sentenced to Death in Surin

Mr. Thongchan Srichan, Mr. Sao Sao Koo and Miss Bunteng Sri-Udom were arrested on June 23, 1976. They were charged of attempting assassination of government officials.

They were sentenced to death on June 15, 1977, the sentence will be carried out on June 30, 1977.

ANNEX 14

Vira Musikanong (Detained for 5 years under Article 21)

He is 29 years old. He was born at Ranod District, Songkla province. His father is a teacher. His mother is a farmer. They have five children in the family. Vira is the oldest. He had come to study at Bangkok from the secondary level.

While he was studying at Thammasart University, he was a very good at debating and was a leading member of Foast Masters of Thailand Association. He graduated in law and passed the exam as a barristor-at-law.

After that he was a columnist of many newspapers including Siam Rath newspaper. In 1975 he was elected (S.P.), as representative of Prachathiphat (democrat) Party in Bangkok, won election, and was chosen as the speaker of Seni Pramoj's Government (1976). After October 6, 1976, he became ordained as a buddhist monk in the south for two months. And then he returned to be a columnist of Chao Thai Newspaper until he was arrested after the March 26, 1977's event. His special capability is that he can play Nang Ta-lung (Shadow play). His family has no problems. They have a lot of relatives to take care of them.

ANNEX 9Other restrictions imposed on villagers in some communist infested areas

Surat-thani : A 8:00 pm. to 5:00 am. curfew, effective as of March 28, 1977 has been imposed in five more tambons (districts) in Amphur Kiriruthniyom of Surat-thani province under the provision of the 4th Region Army Commander, Gen. Pin Thamsri's order no. 91/2520. The districts under curfew are Tambon Ta Knon, Tambon Ta Kradarn, Tambon Kapao, Tambon Yan-yao and Tambon Tumsingkorn. In addition, villagers in Moo 4 and 5 of Tambon Tumsingkorn had to surrender their arms and ammunition to local authorities, army personnel or policemen by 4th April 1977. Other amphurs under curfew, and where arms had to be surrendered are Amphur Kiensa, Amphur Prasaeng, Amphur Pnom, Amphur Puppin, Amphur Karnjanadith, Amphur Viengsra, Amphur Na-sarn.

Besides, villagers living in the sensitive areas in this province are being issued with "security" cards in addition to their normal identity cards. Villagers living in the communist-infested areas of Viengsra, Prasaeng, Na-sarn and Karnjanadith amphurs would be the first group ordered to apply for the "security" cards from their respective district offices. Anyone who could not produce a security cards when searched by authorities would be held as communist suspect and detained for questioning.

Nakorn-sri-thammarat: An order issued by the 4th Region Army imposed a curfew, from 8:00 pm. to 5:00 am., on four villeges in Tambon Tha-ngiew of Muang District; since April 21, 1977; and ordered the occupants to surrender arms and explosives by April 25, 1977.

Under the order no. 135/2520 issued by the 4th Region Army Commander Gen. Pin Thamsri, the curfew in Amphur Muang of this province has been changed to "from 8:00 pm. to 4:00 am." since May 17, 1977 owing to the problems faced by para-rubber planters who have to work very early in the morning.

The area under curfew in this province are Tambon Noppitum, Karaw, Mokklan, Hua-ta-parn, Klai, Sra-kaew of Amphur Chwang; Tambon Ta-pharn-nara, Nar-kra-cha, Kapeark, Mairerang, Na-ngae, La-si, Changklang and Kao-soon of Amphur Chwang; all tambons of Amphur Fiboon; Tambon Dao-kaew, Larn-ska of Amphur Larn-ska; Tambon Barnkow, Promlok of Sub-amphur Prom-kiri; Tambon Tha-ngiew of Amphur Muang. Anyone who needs to be outside his residence during the curfew is allowed to do so if and only if the 4th Region Army General grants him permission.

Loei : The target of the new military drive in this north-eastern province is the closure of six forested areas in the triangular areas straddling three amphurs of Muang, Thali and Chiangkhan where about 100 former university students who fled after the Oct. 6 coup are officially reported to have been hiding with the communists of Loei and Udon province.

ANNEX 10

COMMUNIST SYMPATHISERS DRAW DEATH SENTENCES

SURIN - The provincial court handed down the death penalty to three alleged Communist sympathisers on June 15th, 1977 on several charges including attempted assassination of government officials.

The three, Mr. Thongchan Srichan, Mr. Sao Saokaew and Miss Bunnerng SriUdon was arrested on June 23 last year when police raided a terrorist camp in Srikornphum District.

They also faced charges of illegal possession of firearms and obstruction the authorities in their suppression.



Pim-Forn JournalBackground:

Yun Pim Porn (false name) is the wife of an ex-politician. After the military coup she was arrested on 22nd October 1976 under the charge of 'endangering society'. She was detained at the local police station at Surin Province for 4 months without any trial. Thereafter was transferred to youth training camp, (accompanied by 24 other victims) for 2 months. She was released from prison on 11th June 1977. Six months and 18 days of detention without any apparent guilt at all.

The story as follow is directly told by Kun Pim-Porn herself.

I am a housewife who is simply interested in politics and events of the country. Being conscious of the fact that I happens to be the wife of a 'politician' I esteem it necessary to be susceptible to both disappointments and fullfilments.

My husband had already been arrested because of political reasons, and once was detained and left in prison for four years without any juridical process. I had always been patient about this. And right now was my turn.

Let me begin my story this way... Not long after the military coup, seven police officers, among these were one army captain, colonels and C.I.D. officials, asked for permission to search my house at Amphur Muang, Surin. Before that, rumours had spread that there would be a big arrest of politicians. My husband was expected to be on the list too. I waited for that day to come and got ready to face any situation. If my husband was arrested, there would be no one working for the family. I thought of the 1957 event under Sarit coup, when my husband was arrested, detained in Iard Yao Prison. Our family had passed those hard times, though. Now my daughters had all grown up. Thinking about this I was less worried.

At this time, my husband had another occupation, namely, a lawyer. He was at the moment running his business in a Bangkok court. This wasⁱⁿ luck because one friendly police officer told me secretly to prevent his return to Surin, or else he would be arrested. For in this province, he was loved by the people, relatives and friends whether civil servants, merchants or villagers in all Tambons. It was feared by authorities that if he was arrested in Surin, reactions might happen. This was the reason why the police officer had told me this news.

This made me believe that perhaps in our country there could be an some justice. I told my husband that I would go to Bangkok as soon as I had settled the affairs of our house.

And now the day did come. I remembered it was on the morning of 22nd October 1976. Two police officers came to see me, announcing that "higher officer" "Phu-Yai" demanded to search my house, as it belonged to a politician. The word "Phu-Yai" seemed to be polite enough for officers to deprive anyone of his liberty under political charges.

As for me, I had no interest in getting information as to who that "Phu-Yai" was, because I knew already well that if it ended this way, my case would certainly be passed to that "Phu-Yai".

I did not mind the search. In fact my house was always open to visitors and villagers, (because my husband was their representative (MP)). Even for students who lacked a place to stay when arriving at Surin were also welcome to stay. It happened, by chance, that my house was situated next to ISOC officers' bureau.

The 2 police officers and their followers were acquaintant with our family. Therefore, they were less strict. They complained of the poor reason for searching the house and seemed not to understand why they should do that because there was really nothing in the house. I let them, however, search in every corner. They showed their familiarity as well as my innocence by calling me "sister" and asking for "pardon".

They did make a real search, but found nothing. Things taken were like copies "Prachachat magazine" and "Chaturat magazine". Beside that, all the rest were thai books sold everywhere before the Coup.

Afterwards, they brought me a warrent for my arrest, saying, "I have to arrest you". "Under what charge?", I asked. The police officer said, "for being a "danger to society".

Because of this charge, I had to study the Decree Number 22 of the National Administration Reform Council (NARC), dated 13th October, 1976, which has nine charges, namely,

1. Behave with violence, use violence and threat towards others, or do anything that is frightening to people.

I deny this charge. I am the legal wife of an honourable politician, vice-president of a political party, at present a first-grade lawyer.

2. Being a vagabond.

How can I be a vagabond with my own house? It's impossible!

3. Earn a living in a way that is against the peaceful state of the country or against the morality of the people.

I don't think I am guilty of this. Especially when my husband is a member of the National Parliament, honourable enough to be trusted by his electors, I myself have to maintain this honour.

4. Storing firearms etc.

I deny this too.

Until now I could not understand about my charge.

5. Incite, arouse, encourage disorder, disturbance among the citizens.

Ah! I have it now! It must be this charge that they were using on me.

But I have to declare that I am the wife of a politician. A politician must stick to the people and listen to their troubles I accept that I have seen a lot of the troubles of these people, especially in this far province.

How should I begin? During 1974-75 when my husband was an M.P. by election, the problems we faced very often were those common in this land, the corrupted and unjust government officials. The only way I could help bearing the burden of my husband was to take their complaints and hand them to my husband; or if I saw that the problems could be solved by the local officials, I would help the complainers get in touch with them!

Is this why I was charged with being rioter and rebellion plotter?

The story began when I led the native people to the Nai Amphur (Head of the District) to ask for justices about the land, because these people sincerely asked me to do so. At that time I thought I would help them if I could but if they were

wrong, I would tell them to refrain from demonstrating.

Because of this and because my husband had talked about this matter in the House of Representatives, the Nai Amphur accused me of causing riot.

God! He had been at feud with me since then, thinking that I caused him trouble. At present, he has been promoted to a deputy governor in a province in the North-East of Thailand.

After I had been arrested, I was interrogated on this matter. There was an interrogation only once, in which I told them the facts that had just been stated here, and also told them that the reason I complained on behalf of the local people was because of the fact that those people have rights to do so, as there was still at that time constitutional law and basic human rights.

I was brought to the police station at Surin province. A narrow cell there was rather crowded. I was imprisoned with many other prisoners charged with selling narcotics etc. There seemed to be no other "rioter" like me. However, we

*Personal
minutes*

lived in the same cell, about 20 people altogether. It was hot in there and there ^{so} were many mosquitos. When walking, one had to step over each other's heads. How pityful and ridiculous it was!

Since that one interrogation I had not been interrogated during the whole four months of my imprisonment. But I know that they had informed to the "Phu-Yai" in Bangkok that I was obstinate, unchangeable and could not be trained. The inmates at the local police station were supposed to have vocational training. But the lack of rooms and trainers had made it impossible for the training. However, officials reported that the training did exist.

The way they 'trained' us was to ask us about our opinion towards the government, the present situation in the country, and also asked about our past background. Of course, they never got the facts.

One day, they brought us some food in leaking zinc plates. The soup dropped on our crowded heads and bodies I asked them to change the plates. Do you know what they said? They said, why should prisoners eat better food? And they did not pay any attention to us at all.

I could endure it no longer. One day, when they gave us food in these leaking plates again, I shouted loudly, "If you do not change the plates, we all will not eat this food." That was the politest protest.

But the protest did work. They changed new plates for us and we were all very pleased. However, I was reported to the higher officer as being troublemaker, who might incite uprising amongst the prisoners.

You see, I was almost charged with "Soup-Rebellion"!

Not long after that there were from time to time releases, but my turn never came. One newspaper reporter from Bangkok asked the police station head officer about this and was informed "We cannot release her because she talks too much".

I could not understand what he meant by the words "talk too much". He should have said that I had told him the truth for every question he asked. I could not imagine how my true and sincere answers during the interrogation could have become a charge against me and because of this charge, the authorities refuse to release me.

The charge "endangering society" seems to be very wide and airy. There was another woman arrested at the same time as me, - a narcotic agent, but she had committed this crime before Decree Number 22 of the NARC. The police, being unable to charge her with being a narcotics agent, gave her the new charge of "endangering society" instead. She did not worry much about this, though. She was single and hardened.

Later on, she was sent to Lard-Yao Prison in Bangkok.

It was sure that they would not release me. There was no interrogation, either. But if there had been one, I would have told them the same truth. There was no vocational training. Maybe the police were so busy that they forgot to do this.

And then, one day, I was informed that I had to change prisons. I did not know whether this change would lead to a better or worse situation. I thought that they might send me to prison for real training or to Lad Baukau at NakornRajserima Province, also for a real training, according to the ISCC's plan. But we (three altogether) were sent to Lard-Yao Prison in Bangkok. I did not know how long I was to be in there.

However, it was good to change place. Somehow, I might gain something.

We came from Surin by train. There was no one to see us off. I made myself feel as if I was going for a picnic. Lard-Yao is a prison for adolescents. But it was once a place for communists and political prisoners under Sarit's Dictatorship. My husband used to be imprisoned here too.

There was a high wall around the two-story building. The part closest to the wall was a nursing building but there were no beds yet. The outside doors of prison were guarded by men, the inside by women. At the entrance was the guard house. There were dirty seats for prisoners' visitors, and also a room for social workers, but there were no social workers working there for they did not hire any social worker. Maybe this room was just a "tourist attraction".

I passed the door of the prison, shrunken in spirit. The atmosphere was serious and dull. The officials were indifferent, treating inmates as if they had committed serious crimes. They had inadequate training and considered every inmate as a prisoner.

After having made a fill of our background, they took us to the nursing building, our future residence. There were bars all around. We lived in that hot building all day and night. The moment we stepped into the building, we knew that we were strongly confined.

The inmates had different charges (according to the officials) from narcotics agents to having immoral conduct. I was the only one charged with "endangering society", but there was also another worker who had political charges.

During the orientation, twenty-four of us had to stand in line. After a while came a first-grade government official, whom I discovered later was the governor of the prison. He hardly smiled and was followed by many warders. He told

us to sit down. We obeyed him but he was still displeased. He told me to squat on the floor which caused me trouble, but I had to obey him.

These officials asked us one by one and "re-educated" us to behave well, to be a good citizens to be loyal to the Nation, Religion and Monarchy. When my turn became, he did not ask me why I was arrested. Everybody seemed to jump to the conclusion that I am a danger to society, which was also a danger to them too. I'd like to say that when one wants to teach others to be a good citizen, one has to be good first.

I know that this hardly-smiling official of the Prisons Department was a most corrupted man. He made money on everything, even cigarettes.

How can the higher officials know about this? Anyone complaining would be reported as having bad behaviour. Consequencely they would have a longer time of imprisonment.

He said to me, "Hope to rule the country?" God! How could a first grade official get such a silly idea?

I made no response. Not long after that he knew that I was educated and not easily dominated, so he became more softened. Infart, I did not want anything. I just wanted Prisons Department to work more systematically and properly.

I ought to talk about my daily tasks. I woke up at five everyday, hurriedly did my personal duties and then did the work provided, such as cleaning the floor. We used a long stick rapped around with wet gunny bag. It was hard work but it gave us the only one chance to talk with each other. The others were not political prisoners; some had criminal cases before the coup, for example, immoral conduct, narcotics trading, or unemployment. But at that time (before the coup) they were not arrested, and now were all charged with on dangering society. How funny!

In spite of these different backgrounds, the custodians had no understanding about Psychology. They treated everybody as a "criminal". However, all the inmates were nice to me. I myself was helpful. Not long afterwards we became friends.

The confinement room was big and the floor was wooden. Although there were mosquito nets, there were still a lot of mosquitoes because of the holes. I slept on the blanket. One inmate, a worker, was ill. She did not have much friendship with others but I gave her food and medicine. Another was a striptease dancer. When protesting, she would walk naked to the bathroom!

They also trained us in new occupations folding paper into paper bags. They said, "so that you will have an occupation if you are set free." I could not

see how it could be an occupation, although everybody was longing for a job. I myself would not be in great trouble and thus would be unlikely to be occupied with this kind of work. But I did that training, anyway. Whenever the custodian was not pleased with someone's work, she would whip her with a rotten stick.

I was kept in Lard Yao for 2 months. Every Saturday my husband and children visited me under the watchful eyes of the custodian, although we did not talk about any secrets at all. In such situation there was nothing to talk about time passed slowly, though I wished it would go faster.

Sometimes there was moral teaching by an official of the Prison Department who used to be a Buddhist monk. They taught us morality, but they themselves watched carefully what profit they could make from us. This is morality!

The day I was set free was 11th of May 1977. My confinement to 6 months and 18 days.

They "re-educated" me many hours before my release. I had to sign a warrant for release, in which no guilt and no reason for releasing me were stated, quite different from court Decisions. At last I was set free! What was left was the memory of the charge "endangering society? How bitter it is!

I would like to make some remarks, namely,

1. According to the Decree Number 22 of the National Administration Reform Council, dated 13 October 1976, the arresting power under the charge endangering society does not count back to cases committed before that date.
2. The accusations were not clear, for example, I was accused of promoting agitation and rebellion of the masses. But, leading people to the officials for justice is not against the constitutional law.
3. I will make a petition to the court on this case.
4. The policemen's and the Prison Department officials' Treatment of the Prisoners is against the United Nations Charter on human rights!

Bamrung Charan-yanon's Case

Bamrung Charan-yanon, his wife and 7 other persons were arrested under the charge "Treason in the kingdom" and other 3 charges on June 10, 1976 at Amphur Prakonchai, Bureeram Province. At present (June 1977) six of the group are still detained in the local detention centre at Bureeram.

The arrest was motivated by the following incident:

The "Saengsomchai Bus Company" owned by Mr. Somchai Saengsomchai, (who is known under the nick-name "Ti-noi") had the franchise for a bus service in the province and evidently offered bad services, charged high fares and had his buses running on an irregular schedule. Therefore, passengers preferred to travel by private mini-buses which ran on subsidiary roads only. This made Ti-noi loose money and thus he used his influence over the mini-bus drivers by employing ruffians and even a policeman. The two policemen always arrested the mini-bus drivers, accusing them of using inappropriate vehicles instead of proper buses. They had to use this charge because the policemen themselves were not sure, if Ti-noi really had the franchise or not.

Before the incident occurred, a pregnant woman hired a mini-bus to take her to the provincial hospital to deliver a child. The mini-bus, reaching the main road, was blocked and sent back by a bus driver. The pregnant woman died because of the delay. The people were very angry and held a meeting on June 5. The Nai Amphur (Chief of District) joined the meeting. But when asked if the Bus Company really had a franchise or not, he did not give any answer.

On June 8, the people gathered at Amphur Prakonchai led by Khun Bamrung. There were no policemen working at Amphur Prakonchai, not even the Nai Amphur or the police station head officer, although there had been rumours about the demonstration before, because many people had been asked to contribute to the demonstration, including Nai Amphur, who also donated some money.

The demonstrators had ~~for~~ 3 demands:

1. withdrawal of Saengsomchai's franchise.
2. fair bus-fares.
3. transfer of the 2 policemen.

Only the third demand was answered by the Governor of the Province (Mr. Wuttinan Pong-araya). The two policemen were promised to be transferred. The Demonstrators were not satisfied and continued their demonstration until the next day.

On June 9, the Demonstrators appealed for the appearance of the Governor but this was refused. However the governor had their representatives talk with him. The repre-

representatives' request to see the franchise document was rejected. The Governor told them to appeal the case officially. At that moment, a man outside the hall was seen noting down the numbers of the mini-buses parked outside. The representatives, seeing this ran out of the hall for there were rumours that the mini-buses would be set on fire. So the meeting ended.

After that, the demonstrators marched through the streets of the province and the demonstration ended.

On June 10, Policemen from Burceram and from other nearby provinces, such as Surin and Rajsrima arrested 9 demonstrators. This was because authorities suspected that communists supported the demonstration, therefore, many policemen came. However, Ti-noi was seen sitting with the Governor in his car on that day.

On that day, there was again a demonstration, led by Kru (teacher) MongKon Sai-ngam, urging for the release of the arrested.

This time the demonstration ended quickly because an ISOC official promised that

1. The arrested would be released on bail.
2. The mini-bus could run on the controversial route.

However, these promises were not kept. The arrested could not be bailed, and though the mini-bus could run on the route they still faced the same problems of being bullied by the buses, without being provided protection by the police. Once, a mini-bus driver was hurt by bus-drivers, who banged his head against a bus many times. The policeman did arrest the busdriver that time and fined him 100 baht.

Teacher killed!

Not long after this demonstration, Mongkon was shot dead. One eyewitness claimed the assassin was a man in Ti-noi's group. The eyewitness was soon killed himself. The policeman arrested one man and released him shortly after.

The names of the 9 arrested demonstrators are as follows:-

1. Mr. Bamrung Charan-yanon
2. Mrs. Yau-varat Charan-yanon - bailed out to deliver a child.
3. Mr. Surasak Chaiprakon - asked for bail to take care of his ill mother, later asked for bail to join her funeral ceremony but was refused.
4. Mr. Tongchai Sa&law
5. Mr. Chamras Aram
6. Mr. Tongbai or Pravin Chinnawong - bailed
7. Mr. Pipatchai or Gad Yodked
8. Mr. Boonne Pubanchuen
9. Mr. Nim Pengprakon - bailed

They were arrested under following 4 charges:

1. treason in the Kingdom.
2. hindering traffic.
3. using an amplifier without license.
4. libelling government officials.

By June 1977, all witnesses living in Bureerum had appeared in court, but there are still many witnesses from other provinces to be called. What is remarkable is that there has been so few ordinary citizens as witnesses. Most of the witnesses were government officials. Moreover, the case was divided to 3 cases, namely, Prakonchai Case, Bureeram Case and Prakonchai case. In fact, all are the same case, on which one incident followed another. The division into 3 is cases causing the arrested some trouble. First, if allowed to be bailed, they had to be bailed 3 times. Second, the punishment will be increased, for the prisoners, having a criminal record (from the case), when tried for a new crime, will have a stronger punishment. This is very unjust to the alleged.

Finally it should be noted that the conditions in Bureerum detention centre are very bad, and prisoners have to use the same water (from a water hole) for washing day after day (the water returning to the water hole). Thus five of the six detained are suffering serious skin diseases.

LIST OF PRISONERS CHARGED WITH ENDANGERING SOCIETY AND SUPPORTING COMMUNISM

| NO. | NAME | ADDRESS BEFORE HIS/HER ARREST | SOCIAL POSITION | PLACE OF DETENTION | PLACES |
|-----|---------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | Mr. Ghnen Jongthong | 108 Moo 4, Tumbon Krachong, Amphur Khang, Trang. | | Bangken II | Endangering society. |
| 2. | Mr. Yiek (Sub) No-kinth | 30 Moo 5, Tumbon Krachong, Amphur Haung, Trang. | | " " | " " |
| 3. | Mr. Chaum Sa-ney | 147 Moo 3, Tumbon Mumpud, Amphur Haung, Trang. | | " " | " " |
| 4. | Mr. Prasop Man-dum | 14 Moo 6, Tumbon Krachong, Amphur Haung, Trang. | | " " | " " |
| 5. | Mr. Juai Thit-na | 50 Moo 3, Tumbon Krachong, Amphur Haung, Trang. | | " " | " " |
| 6. | Mr. Inel Noo-ran | 101 Moo 1, Tumbon Mumpud, Amphur Haung, Trang. | | " " | " " |
| 7. | Mr. Udon Pha-krong | Ban Traong Chon School, Moo 4, Tumbon Hua-ta-parn, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | A head-teacher of Vat Pa School | Klong Prem Light Jail | Robbery and Killing government officers and arson |
| 8. | Mr. Sam (Yoi) Boor-peng | 42 Moo 4, Tumbon Hua-ta-parn, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | the owner of a small private construction company | " " | " " |
| 9. | Mr. Jeng Sao-Tun | 153 Moo 4, Tumbon Hua-ta-parn, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a member of Ban Toong Chon School Committee and Village Development Committee | " " | " " |
| 10. | Mr. Bunjob Chuay-puntl | 38 Moo 4, Tumbon Hua-ta-parn, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a peasant and part-time construction worker | " " | " " |
| 11. | Mr. Pracha Travee-manung | 4 Moo 10, Tumbon In-kiri, Sub Amphur Prom-kiri, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a farmer | Klong Prem Light Jail | " " |
| 12. | Mr. Chuay Jool-pukdi | 82 Moo 11, Tumbon In-kiri, Sub Amphur Prom-kiri, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a para-rubber planter | " " | " " |
| 13. | Mr. Puchong Kraer-suron | Moo 11, Ban Wungloong, Tumbon In-kiri, Sub Amphur Prom-kiri, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a farmer and trader | " " | " " |
| 14. | Mr. Vinai Boonnon | 107 Moo 21, Tumbon Moklan, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a farmer | " " | " " |
| 15. | Mr. Maeb Dak-bua | 107 Moo 10, Tumbon In-kiri, Sub Amphur Prom-kiri, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a para-rubber and coconut planter | " " | " " |
| 16. | Mr. Noo-nong Kanjanapukdi | 71/1 Moo 2, Tumbon Moklan, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn-sri-thamarat. | a farmer | " " | " " |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 17. | Mr. Bunnong Jaru-yanonth | Jikdaek, Surin. | a teacher and a peasant | Buri-rum Central Prison | 1. Rebellion 2. Obstruction on traffic 3. Using loud speakers with- out permission 4. Looking down on government- al officers. |
| 18. | Mrs. Yao-ruth Jaru-yanonth (battered out to have her delivered of her baby) | Jikdaek, Surin. | a peasant | " | " |
| 19. | Mr. Suw-suk Jai-jan-don. | Buri-rum. | a mini-bus driver | " | " |
| 20. | Mr. Phongchai Sae-lai | "Kales Store" dressmaker's opposite Bangkok Bank, Amphur Mueng, Buri-rum | " | " | " |
| 21. | Mr. Jumas Aran | Buri-rum. | " | " | " |
| 22. | Mr. Thonjchai (Aravith) "Bald" (Chitwanese) | " | " | " | " |
| 23. | Mr. Pimphohai (aced) Yodhies | " | " | " | " |
| 24. | Mr. Boonme Poobirachun | " | " | " | " |
| 25. | Mr. Min Tongrakore | " | " | " | " |
| 26. | Mr. Rithi-rong Jasee-karnj | 50/2 Nakornbarn rd., Pumbon Nai Mueng, Amphur Muang, Ubon-rach-ithani. | a labourer | | Distributing Communist documents. |

The special report on the case which eleven innocent people were mistreatedly arrested and charged with being communists, attacking the military camp of the Ta-sala Voluntary Personnel (Or-Saw, in Thai), committing arson and killing a total 12 of 12 soldiers and voluntary personnel at the Ta-sala Or-Saw Camp in Ban Song Praek School, Moo 1 Tumbon Hua-ta-park, Amphur Ta-sala, Nakorn Sri Thammarat. (15 May 1976).

*The accused:

1. Mr. Udom Pka-krong, aged 33, the head-teacher of Wat Pa (Mok Larn) School of Amphur Ta-sala was arrested on 23 May 1976 at Ban Toong Chon School. (He was a leading person who opposed the malpractice of the committee of Tumbon Hua-ta-parn Council.)
2. Mr. Sarn (Yoi) Boonpeng, aged 49, the owner of a private construction company was arrested on 23 May 1976 at Ban Toong Chon School. (He was disliked by the committee of Tumbon Hua-ta-parn Council).
3. Mr. Jeng Sae-Tun, aged 40, a peasant and farmer was arrested on 23 May 1976 at Ban Toong Chon School. (His arrest was due to his conflict with the committee of Tumbon Hua-ta-parn Council).
4. Mr. Bunjob Chuay-punth, aged 35, a peasant and part-time construction labourer was arrested on 23 May 1976 at his home in a police-raid which nothing illegal was found. (He was said to have disclosed the corruption of the local officers and of the committee of Tumbon Hua-ta-parn Council).
5. Mr. Pracha Tvee-mueng, aged 27, a farmer who lived at 4 Moo 10 in Tumbon In-kiri of Prom-kiri Sub-Amphur was arrested on 21 May 1976 at his home in a police-raid which nothing illegal was found. (He could not stand the torment caused by the armed personnel's practice of torture so he shifted the accusation on Mr. Poochong, Mr. Vinai and Mr. Chuay.)
6. Mr. Chuay (Kai-nool) Jool-pukdi, aged 24, a peasant in Ban Wung Loong of Tumbon In-kiri was arrested on 22 May 1976 at his home. (He lived in the communist-infested area and was also shifted the accusation by Mr. Pracha).
7. Mr. Poochong Kaew-suwon, aged 34, a para-rubber planter in Ban Wung Loong of Tumbon In-kiri was arrested on 21 May 1976 at his home. (He lived in the communist-infested area and was also shifted the accusation by Mr. Pracha).
8. Mr. Vinai Boonwon, aged 23, a peasant in Ban Wung Loong of Tumbon In-kiri was arrested on 21 May 1976 at his home in a police-raid which nothing illegal was found. (He lived in the communist-infested area, he was threatened to be drowned into the sea.)
9. Mr. Naeb Doak-bua, aged 43, a para-rubber and coconut planter in Ban Wung Loong of

Tumbon In-kiri was arrested on 7 June 1976 in an invitation to the police-station to give some information. (He was shifted the accusation by one of his friends.)

10. Mr. Noo-nong Kanjana-pukdi, aged 44, a villager in Tumbon Mok Iarn who had a para-rubber field in Ban Wung Loong was arrested on 7 June 1976 on his way to a market-place. (He was suspected about his travelling to Ban Wung Loong, a communist infested area from time to time.)

11. Mr. Chao Chai-narong, aged 28, a para-rubber in Tumbon Ta-Kra-raw of Amphur Ta-sala was arrested in Amphur Mueng on 10 June 1976. (On 21 May 1976, the National Broadcasting Station accused him of possessing two M. 16 machine guns, 25 bullets, explosives and a field transceiver; despite of his innocence. So, on 10 June 1976, he planned to prove himself of his innocence at the provincial police-headquarter; but he was arrested by his to the police-headquarter.)

* The practice of torture:

The torture used against the prisoners was aimed at destroying the prisoners' will so that those who could not stand the torment would admit the fake-story made up by the police and military torturists as their confession. The prisoners were also forced to shift the accusation to each other. The most common methods were hitting and kicking at the victims' abdomens. Some of the other variations were—tying the victims' hands behind their back to cause paralysis of the arms, putting them into sacks and giving them series of severe strokes, threatening to drown them into the sea from a heli-copter, tying big chains around their necks and pulling hard, and also threatening to shot through their heads. All prisoners were kept in solitary confinement, only the screaming could be heard by each other.

* The story made up by the police and military personnel:

The communists had planned to attack the Ta-sala Or-Saw Camp long before the incident took place, and Mr. Vinai Boonwon was informed by his comrades two days before the day of the offence. On 15 May 1976, the group gathered at Mr. Noo-nong Kanjana-pukdi's home and moved separately to Mr. Poochong Kaew-suwon's home along the Huay-park-nam-Nar-tub Road. At 7.00 pm., they discussed the plan once again at Ban Toong Chon School where they met Mr. Udom Pka-krong who was dressing in green suit and carrying a machine gun by the time. All left the school at 10.00 odd pm., they moved along the road to Ban Song Praek School, having Mr. Jeng Sae-Tun as their guide. Mr. Jeng Sae-Tun and Mr. Pracha Tvee-musng were the guardians of this offensive group, while the rest except Mr. Chuay Jool-pukdi who was standing at the road moved to their launch-

ing place 120 metre away from the target. During the attack, twelve governmental officers and village volunteers were said to be killed. Before a whistle was given as a signal for leaving, many kinds of governmental possessions were collected and all buildings were burnt down by the communist-terrorists. They moved back along the same route and reached Ban Huay Park Narm at almost dawn. Then, they separated back to their own homes.

*The procedure used to subject the innocent to produce fake evidence during the interrogation period:

Words of acceptance of the victimized to the fake story made up by the torturists were recorded into tape-records, as evidence of their confession, which were used to bluff the others who still refused the charges put against them. In begging for their lives, almost all of them were forced to sign their names in various papers which none of them were allowed to read; some who were illiterate had to sign five papers. Besides, some were taken to the place of incident and were forced to be pictured with arms in their hands.

*The procedure of detention:

Suspects were first taken to the local police-stations and/or the military camp. They were later transferred to the Central Prison of Nakorn Sri Thamarat, and recently transferred to the Special Prison of Bangkok (Klong Prem Light Jail).

*The trial procedure

They are going to be sued in the Criminal (Military) Court on 4, 5, 6, and 25, 26, 27 July 1977.