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KEY WORD : ROLE/THE SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE/DEMOCRACY

POL.SUB.LT. KHOMSAN SUGMAK : THE ROLE OF THE SPECIAL BRANCH
POLICE IN THAI DEMOCRATIC REGIME. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSOCIATE
PROF. DR. PORNSAK PHONGPHAEW ; 195 pp. ISBN 974-591-989-1.

The study of the "Role of the Special Branch Police in Thai Democratic Regime" is to identify the attitudes and the roles of the commissioned police officers who serve in the Special Branch Division in order to ascertain differences in their contribution to the promotion of the democracy in Thailand.

A method is to collect data from all commissioned police officers working in the Special Branch Division by means of questionnaires and interviews.

The finding are as follows:

1. The attitudes of the majority of the Special Branch Division's commissioned officers are in conformity with the democratic principles. However, the education disciplines cause significant differences in their political attitudes towards the democratic system.
2. As the citizens, the majority of the special Branch Police officers are playing roles relevant to the democratic principles. Again, the education disciplines are the major factor causing the significant differences in their political roles.
3. As the law-enforcement officers, their behavior can be dichotomized into the roles relevant to the democratic principles and the roles irrelevant to the democratic tenets depending on the political constraints at different periods of time. It is interesting to note that the economic factor is playing the important part in influencing the significant differences in their political roles.
4. The officers, in their capacity as the citizen, are having more opportunity to play roles beneficial to the democratic rules than when they are performing their duties as the special Branch Police officers.