

PORNSAK JIARANAI : THE ROLE OF THE PARA-MILITARY FORCES IN THE  
PROCESS OF REAR AREA PROTECTION : A CASE STUDY OF THE VOLUNTEER  
DEFENSE FORCES IN LOEI PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSOCIATE PROF.  
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The aim of this research is to examine the role of the Para-Military Forces in the process of rear area protection. The case study is the Volunteer Defense Force in Loei Province.

The results show that the Volunteer Defense Force's role in the process of rear area protection is essential for national security. It forms a defensive line for such area and brings about internal peace and stability. The commonest function of the Volunteer Defense Force is national defense. Many of their functions can be attributed to the building up of economic strength.