

ภาคผนวก ข

ข่าวเอพี

ตัวอย่างข่าวที่ 1

Thai riot police clash with protesters

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Thai soldiers watch for anti-government demonstrators as they clear an intersection in downtown Monday, April 13, 2009, in Bangkok, Thailand. Thai soldiers unleashed hundreds of rounds of automatic weapons fire to clear rock-throwing anti-government protesters from a major intersection in the capital in the pre-dawn darkness Monday. (AP Photo)



Anti-government demonstrators cheer as they take to the streets Sunday, April 12, 2009, in Bangkok, Thailand. (AP Photo)



A supporter of ousted Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra attends an anti-government protest near Government House in Bangkok April 12, 2009. (AP Photo)



Protesters surround and beat the car carrying Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva at the interior ministry in Bangkok April 12, 2009. (AP Photo)



Thailand's Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva (R) and Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban walk in the interior ministry after a news conference in Bangkok April 12, 2009. (AP Photo)

Thai soldiers unleashed hundreds of rounds of automatic weapons fire to clear rock-throwing anti-government protesters from a major intersection in the capital in the pre-dawn darkness Monday.

Forty-nine people were reported hurt in the first serious clash between the two sides in ongoing protests that have roiled this southeast Asian nation and came a day after the country's ousted prime minister called for a revolution.

While the government has declared a state of emergency, protesters controlled many streets in the capital Bangkok. They had earlier commandeered public buses and swarmed triumphantly over military vehicles in defiance.

In the starkest example of the chaos, a mob of the red-shirted protesters smashed cars carrying Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and his aides.

The clash began between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. Monday, as troops in full combat gear lined up and advanced to disperse the protesters, according to witnesses and television footage.

The soldiers fired hundreds of rounds from their M-16 automatic rifles as they advanced, though it was unclear whether they were firing at or over the protesters. Some witnesses said tear gas was also fired.

The official Erawan emergency coordination center said 49 people were injured on both sides and taken to hospitals.

Protesters set fires that were still burning 1- 1/2 hours later and retreated into side streets near the Din Daeng intersection, where there is an on-ramp to the main expressway leading north from the capital.

The clash appeared to be an isolated one, taking place several miles away from the main encampment of thousands of protesters outside the prime minister's offices.

Police Gen. Vichai Sangparpai said up to 30,000 demonstrators were scattered around the city. Police vans at some intersections were abandoned and looted. Protesters used buses to barricade several major roads.

Ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, regarded by most of the protesters as their leader, called for a revolution and said he might return from exile to lead it.

Thaksin fled the country last year, before a court convicted him in absentia of violating a conflict of interest law.

"Now that they have tanks on the streets, it is time for the people to come out in revolution. And when it is necessary, I will come back to the country," he said in a telephoned message to followers outside Abhisit's office.

The message was broadcast over a video link projected on giant screens and relayed on supporters' Internet sites.

Political tensions have simmered since Thaksin was ousted by a military coup in 2006 for alleged corruption and abuse of power. He remains popular in the impoverished countryside for his populist policies.

His opponents — many in urban areas — took to the streets last year to help bring down two pro-Thaksin governments, seizing Bangkok's two airports in November for about a week.

The emergency decree bans gatherings of more than five people, forbids news reports that threaten public order and allows the government to call up military troops to quell unrest.

Army spokesman Col. Sansern Kaewkamnerd said soldiers and police were being moved to more than 50 key points in the city, including bus and railway stations.

He said the military presence was not a sign of an imminent coup — a common feature of Thai political history.

Abhisit, speaking in a nationally televised address just before midnight, called on the public not to panic and to cooperate to end the crisis.

"In the next three to four days, the government will keep working to return peace and order to the country," he said.

Protests were also reported in several provinces of northern and northeastern Thailand. The protests could prompt the military to intervene — a high possibility in a country that has experienced 18 military coups since the 1930s.

In an apparent attempt to dispel speculation of a breakdown in the security chain of command, Abhisit was flanked by Cabinet members and top military and police officers during the address.

"They have tried to spread the rumor that there is no unity in the operation of (security) officials," he said. "We will try to continuously communicate correct information to the public."

His government suffered a major humiliation Saturday when it failed to stop hundreds of demonstrators from storming the venue of a 16-nation Asian summit, forcing its cancellation and the evacuation of the leaders by helicopter and boat.

There were signs Sunday that the government might again not be able to contain the protesters.

Demonstrators swarmed over two armored personnel carriers outside a luxury shopping mall, waving flags in celebration. An old lady atop one of the vehicles screamed "Democracy!"

Outside the Interior Ministry, a mob attacked Abhisit's car with poles, a ladder and flower pots as it slowly made its escape. At least six people were injured, including two security guards for Abhisit. Police in riot gear did nothing.

"The government can't do anything," said Lada Yingmanee, a 37-year-old protester. "We will show them what tens of thousands of unarmed civilians can do. The people will finally rule our beloved Thailand."

Demonstrators from the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship say Abhisit's four-month-old government took power illegitimately and want new elections. They also accuse the country's elite — the military, judiciary and other unelected officials — of undermining democracy by interfering in politics.

Parliament appointed Abhisit in December after a court ordered the removal of the previous pro-Thaksin government for election fraud, sparking Thaksin supporters to take to the streets. Their numbers grew to 100,000 in Bangkok last week.

(Agencies)

ตัวอย่างข่าวที่ 2

Thai troops surround protesters near PM's office

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A Thai soldier chases an anti-government protester with baton during a protest on the street in Bangkok, Thailand Monday, April 13, 2009. (AP Photo)



A demonstrator calls for a stop to violence between government troops and supporters of ousted Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra in Bangkok April 13, 2009. (AP Photo)



A supporter of ousted Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra throws a weapon at riot policemen during a protest in Bangkok April 13, 2009. (AP Photo)



Anti-government protesters and supporters of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra set a bus afire during a protest in Bangkok, Thailand Monday, April 13, 2009. (AP Photo)



Thai anti-government protestors gather near downtown Monday, April 13, 2009, in Bangkok, Thailand. (AP Photo)

Thai troops encircled thousands of protesters encamped near the prime minister's office in Bangkok early on Tuesday after a day of street clashes in which two people were killed and dozens injured.

Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who declared a state of emergency in Bangkok on Sunday, urged the protesters to leave. He told Reuters his aim was to restore law and order but said their rights would be respected.

In an interview with Reuters, Abhisit ruled out an immediate dissolution of parliament and said he was not interested in making a deal with exiled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, the figurehead of the protest movement.

Speaking of the "Red Shirt" protesters, he said: "If they are not inciting violence, if they are not engaged in riots, if they don't have weapons, then they can exercise their rights."

With Humvees and armored personnel carriers, the army and police set up a perimeter around an estimated 6,000 demonstrators, including women, children and a few Buddhist monks, who were calling for the resignation of Abhisit.

But some of demonstrators prepared for a confrontation, felling trees and laying them across a main road between the troops and the center of the protest, stockpiling rocks and bricks and dousing disabled buses in the street with petrol.

The protest stems from an intractable dispute pitting royalists, the military and the urban middle-class against a poorer rural majority loyal to the exiled former prime minister.

Abhisit said in the interview that dissolving parliament could lead to electoral violence. But he said he was willing to listen to the grievances of some of the protesters.

On Monday black smoke billowed over the city of 12 million people after protesters set fire to several buses to block the troops. The side of one government building was ablaze.

Soldiers drove them back with repeated charges and fusillades of assault rifle fire, aimed at the sky and the crowd.

One person was shot dead in fighting between protesters and residents angry about the demonstrations, Satit Wongnongtaey, a minister at the prime minister's office, said on television.

A hospital said another person was also fatally shot in the violence under similar circumstance, and there was sporadic fighting between protesters and locals in the evening.

The Emergency Medical Institute said on Monday night 94 people, including soldiers, were injured in the clashes.

Thaksin, ousted in 2006 coup and living in exile, told CNN from an undisclosed location: "Many people are dying... They even take the bodies on the military trucks and take them away."

PEACEFUL MEANS

The demonstrations have further hobbled a country reeling from political chaos last year and the global financial crisis.

Rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's, both of which already have a negative outlook on Thailand's sovereign ratings, said the renewed political unrest increased the risk of a downgrade.

"Tourism can rebound, but investor confidence will be very hard to get back," said S&P analyst Kim Eng Tan. "Going forward we expect investors will become a lot more risk averse."

Thailand's top military commander, General Songkitti Chakabakr, said in a televised statement on Monday that the committee charged with restoring order would strive "through every peaceful means" to bring the situation back to normal as soon as possible.

On Saturday protesters forced the cancellation of a high-profile Asian summit in Thailand, a big embarrassment for Abhisit, who took office only in December.

"I believe the darkest days in Thailand's history are yet to come as we see no swift solution to ongoing divisiveness," said Prinn Panitchpakdi, a CLSA Asia-Pacific analyst.

Several countries issued cautionary advisories on travel to Thailand.

The violence on Monday began before dawn, at the start of the Thai New Year holiday, much of it near one of the city's central traffic hubs, Din Daeng junction, which protesters had blockaded.

Last year politicians backed by the "Red Shirts" were in power and royalist "Yellow Shirts," supporters of those now in government, held nearly non-stop protests, culminating in a week-long occupation of Bangkok's main airport.

The political strife died down for a while after Abhisit came to office through parliamentary defections that Thaksin supporters say the army engineered. They demand a new election.

Protests flared anew after Thaksin, living in exile to avoid jail on a corruption conviction, said Abhisit must resign by April 8 -- the day before Thailand was to host the now abandoned East Asia Summit in the beach resort of Pattaya.

Thailand has had 18 coups since 1932 and the military often has the final say in Thai politics, sometimes with the blessing of the king.

ตัวอย่างข่าวที่ 3

Apr 7, 8:31 PM EDT Thai PM declares state of emergency in Bangkok

By GRANT PECK

Associated Press Writer



BANGKOK (AP) -- Thailand's beleaguered prime minister declared a state of emergency to quell weeks of paralyzing protests costing businesses tens of millions of dollars. But the demonstrators championing the rights of the rural poor remained uncowed, and whether the showdown can end without violence is unknown.

Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva acted after mostly peaceful protests escalated Wednesday when demonstrators burst into parliament and forced lawmakers to flee on ladders over a back wall, with senior officials hastily evacuated by helicopter.

Wednesday's chaos was a continuation of the long-running battle between partisans of the country's former leader - Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup - and those who oppose him. Thaksin was accused of corruption and showing disrespect to the country's revered monarch.

The demonstrators, called the Red Shirts for their attire, benefited from Thaksin's populist policies such as cheap health care and village loans. They have demanded that Abhisit dissolve parliament within 15 days and call new elections, claiming he took office illegitimately in December 2008 with the help of military pressure on parliament.

Instead, the prime minister has offered to do so by the end of the year.

Protesters have camped out in Bangkok since March 12, ignoring court orders and a massive security presence.

Abhisit has been harshly criticized for failing to take strong measures to end the disruptive demonstrations. He has entered negotiations with the Red Shirts and ordered security forces pull back from possible confrontations.

Several shopping malls have closed and luxury hotels put under virtual siege since Saturday, when demonstrators moved to a busy intersection at the heart of Bangkok's commercial district.

Merchants have complained the boisterous demonstrations have cost billions of baht (tens of millions of dollars), and economists have expressed concern continuing protests will hurt the GDP.

Abhisit, in a televised broadcast that interrupted regular programming, said the aim of the emergency decree was to restore normalcy to Bangkok, and prevent "further related crime and disaster."

"I want you to understand and stop taking part in any illegal demonstration," the prime minister told the protesters.

The state of emergency decree allows "the performing of an act to the extent that is necessary to maintain the security of the State, the safety of the country or the safety of the people." Security officials can detain suspects without charge for up to 30 days.

The effectiveness of the decree is debatable. Although it gives the military greater powers to restore order, both Abhisit and the army know a crackdown could result in bloodshed that would be political poison.

U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said the protesters have a right to express their views, but he urged them to avoid violence.

"We respect the right of freedom of expression, however, forcibly entering government buildings is not an appropriate means of protest," Crowley said.

Surat Horachaikul, a political science lecturer at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University, said the state of emergency announcement can be interpreted in two ways.

"First, it might be an attempt by the government to buy some time. Or it might actually mean that the government and the army have reached an agreement in solving the current problem," he said.

Red Shirt leaders responded to the decree by telling protesters to stay put and wait for the military to arrive. They have called a major rally for Friday.

Protest leader Veera Muksikapong directed his message to the army: "If you want to meet an army of nonviolent people, please come here. But I believe that ultimately the military will not listen to the government's order."

One of the most radical protest leaders, Arisman Pongruengrong, led a small group in smashing through parliament's gate and rushing into the building Wednesday. But the protesters later withdrew at the request of opposition legislators, their political allies.

A Black Hawk helicopter carrying five soldiers armed with M-16 rifles was deployed to fly ministers and lawmakers to safety.

Abhisit left Parliament before the break-in to attend a scheduled meeting. Aide Sirichoke Sopa said the prime minister canceled a trip to Washington for an April 12-13 international nuclear summit.

The Red Shirts' confrontational tactics mimic those of their ideological opposites, the Yellow Shirts, who staged the original anti-Thaksin protests. In 2008 they occupied the prime minister's offices for three months and seized Bangkok's two airports for a week, causing hundreds of millions dollars in economic losses.

The Yellow Shirts represent Thailand's traditional royalist and military elite and are popular with Bangkok's middle class.

Associated Press writers Jocelyn Gecker, Thanyarat Doksone, Kinan Suchaovanich, and Denis Gray contributed to this report from Bangkok. Foster Klug contributed from Washington

ตัวอย่างข่าวที่ 4

Thai court orders assets seized from ex-PM Thaksin

AP – Supporter of deposed Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra cries after the supreme court's verdict on Thaksin's ...

By GRANT PECK, Associated Press Writer Grant Peck, Associated Press Writer –
Fri Feb 26, 3:37 pm ET



BANGKOK – Thailand's highest court ruled Friday that ousted leader Thaksin Shinawatra abused his power to enrich himself and his family while in office and ordered that \$1.4 billion of his telecommunications fortune be seized.

The ruling likely disappoints, if not angers, Thaksin's millions of partisans, boding ill for mending the rifts in Thai society after four years of political unrest centered around him.

However, some analysts suggested the court's decision not to seize all 76 billion baht (\$2.3 billion) at stake was a compromise that could foster reconciliation.

Thaksin was deposed by a September 2006 military coup after being accused of corruption and abuse of power. The action was meant to quell tensions sparked by months of anti-Thaksin protests, but instead polarized the country.

"The conflict won't go away immediately. This verdict will simply allow the Thai people to cautiously carry on their lives the same way they have for the past two years," said Prinya Thaewanarumitkul, a law professor at Bangkok's Thammasat University. "I think we need to wait until the next general election to learn if the conflict will end."

The country had increased security leading up to the verdict, but no major violent reaction was immediately reported. Thaksin, speaking by video link from exile, told his supporters to continue to fight for what he terms justice and democracy, but to do so nonviolently.

The passions Thaksin sparked led to the occupation of the seat of government for several months and seizure of the capital's two airports for a week by his opponents in 2008, and rioting and disruption of a conference of Asian heads of government by his supporters last year.

His so-called Red Shirt supporters continue to rally on his behalf, and have promised a "million-man march" for next month. They seek to force the government of current Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, a Thaksin opponent, to call new elections.

Thaksin and his followers insist he was ousted because Thailand's traditional ruling class — the military, the bureaucracy and circles close the royal palace — felt threatened by his political popularity. He and his party won two sweeping election victories based on populist policies that benefited the country's poor rural majority.

Speaking Friday night, Thaksin told his followers that unless they continued to struggle, "the country will remain in the hands of the elite forever."

He also insisted, with a vow that he be struck dead if he were lying, that he never committed a corrupt act.

The Supreme Court ruled that in four of five cases presented to it, the 60-year-old billionaire politician had used his authority as the country's leader in 2001-2006 to implement policies that benefited him, sometimes at the expense of the state.

As a small consolation, the court said that only 46 billion baht (\$1.4 billion) of 76 billion baht (\$2.3 billion) of his family's assets that were frozen in Thai accounts

after the coup should be seized. With other cases pending against him and his family, it is unclear when the remainder might be released. An unknown amount of Thaksin's fortune is banked overseas.

The Supreme Court said seizing all the assets "would be unfair as some of it was made before Thaksin became prime minister."

The most straightforward case of what is termed "policy corruption" involved a US\$127 million low-interest government loan to Myanmar in 2004, which the court ruled Thaksin had promoted with the intention of securing its purchase of satellite services from Shin Satellite, then controlled by Thaksin's family.

The other rulings charged that telecommunications policies had resulted in benefits for companies he controlled.

"Had they ordered to seize all assets, people would think Thaksin was not being treated fairly," said law professor Prinya. "Now the friction has decreased, but we still need to watch Thaksin's next move."

Audio of the judges reading the 7 1/2 hour verdict was broadcast on several local television stations. Hundreds of people gathered at the headquarters of the opposition Puea Thai party — allied to Thaksin — booed as the final judgments were read. Some women began crying and one man jumped up on a chair and started screaming at a television screen broadcasting the proceedings.

"There is no justice in Thailand anymore," said Krongtong Phuengsang, a 65-year-old housewife. "The Red Shirt people will continue fighting. But we will not create violence."

Some chanted "Thaksin fight, fight" while others cursed the court.

Thaksin struck a familiar mix of self-pity and defiance in his video address from Dubai, his home in exile.

"Today's lesson for businessmen, do not enter politics. If something happens, they will confiscate your money," he said. "Let me be the last victim." He was convicted in absentia in 2008 for a conflict of interest violation and sentenced to two years imprisonment.

Suriyasai Katasila, a leader of the People's Alliance for Democracy movement that has spearheaded protests against Thaksin since 2006, expressed satisfaction with the court's decisions.

"I don't think the amount of assets to be seized is more significant than Thaksin's wrongdoing being dissected and explained to the people," he said. "This verdict will set up standards for future governments and politicians by letting them know the outcomes of abuse of power."

Thanet Charoenmuang, a political science lecturer at Chiang Mai University, said he felt the verdict "eases worries among the public and could easily win the hearts of those in the middle." He said it "could be viewed as an attempt at compromise by the judges who considered Thaksin's actions unlawful."

"The path to peace in Thai society depends on three things: the Red Shirts' movement, economic and social circumstances and the government's sincerity in solving the political conflict," he said.

ตัวอย่างข่าวที่ 5

Thai Protests Mark Anniversary of '06 Coup

Nationalists Clash with Police, While Thousands of Anti-Gov't Demonstrators March on Capital



Thai villagers fall on the ground after clashing with protesters, as riot police try to intervene during a protest against the occupation of land by Cambodian people in Sisaket province, northern Thailand, Sept. 19, 2009. (AP Photo)

(AP) Thai nationalists clashed with police and villagers Saturday as they tried to march on an ancient temple on the Cambodian border, while anti-government protesters in the capital marked the third anniversary of a coup that continues to create political turmoil.

Hospitals said 15 people were injured, none seriously, in northeastern Sisaket province after members of the People's Alliance for Democracy tried to march to the gates of the temple near land claimed by both Thailand and Cambodia, demanding the Thai government seize the disputed territory.

The alliance led demonstrations that culminated in a Sept. 19, 2006, military coup that ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on accusations of corruption, abuse of power and disrespect for the constitutional monarch, King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Supporters of Thaksin rallied in Bangkok to mark the coup's anniversary, with more than 6,000 police on hand to prevent a repeat of rioting that killed at least two and injured hundreds in the last major anti-government protests in April.

Saturday's protesters want Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva to step down, claiming he came to power illegitimately with the help of the military and the judiciary, two pillars of the Thai ruling class. Abhisit took power late last year after Thaksin's allies were forced out of office by court rulings of conflict of interest and electoral fraud.

Thaksin's supporters, many from poor rural areas that benefited from his generous social welfare programs, say the coup three years ago was a major blow to Thailand's democracy and was engineered by the country's traditional Bangkok-centered elite.

"We are here to show that we want democracy. This government didn't come from democracy. They're a dictatorship in disguise," said 62-year-old Jiraporn Litmontri from northeastern Loei province.

Saturday's rally was expected to reach its height in the evening. Police said 20,000 to 30,000 people were expected, and 15,000 had arrived before a heavy afternoon rain.

Abhisit's government invoked an emergency law to allow the military to restore order in case of violence.

The clashes near Cambodia were linked to a decades-old dispute over land. The World Court in 1962 awarded control over the 11th century Preah Vihear temple to Cambodia, but some surrounding land remains in dispute.

The People's Alliance for Democracy seized on the land issue last year to stir up nationalist sentiment, accusing the pro-Thaksin government of failing to protect Thai territory.

Hundreds of Thai villagers who opposed Saturday's protest clashed with the hundreds of marchers, both sides armed with sticks and slingshots.

Abhisit told the army and police to negotiate with the protesters, who agreed to send a small group Sunday to a spot near the temple to make their statement. The protesters began withdrawing at nightfall.

Cambodian soldiers were ordered to prevent the protesters from crossing the border, said Lt. Gen. Chhum Socheat, a spokesman for the country's Defense Ministry.

"Once they enter Cambodian territory, our forces will quickly crack down," he said.

By Associated Press Writer Grant Peck

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