

### **[Vietnam farmers fall to bauxite bulldozers](#)**

**Asia Times, 1 June 2009**

Advanced plans to mine bauxite deposits in Vietnam's Central Highlands face growing opposition, even from within the companies involved and including famed general Vo Nguyen Giap. That is too late to save tea and coffee farmers in the targeted area.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### **[Malaysia's opposition on a roll](#)**

**Asia Times, 2 June 2009**

Since last year's general election, Malaysia's opposition People's Alliance has made a comeback, chalking up its fifth by-election win out of six with a weekend victory in Penang. Now that the ruling Barisan Nasional coalition is faced with growing economic pressure and a resurgent opposition, there are fears it may resort to more authoritarian measures.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### **[Singapore faces long haul back](#)**

**Asia Times, 4 June 2009**

The 60% three-month uptick in Singapore's benchmark stock index may suggest the export-dependent Lion City is well on the way to recovery. Yet Citigroup expects output to reach pre-recession levels only by the end of 2010. Given the fragility of "green shoots" in the West, even that forecast looks optimistic.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### **[Agrarian dystopia in the Philippines](#)**

**Asia Times, 4 June 2009**

A decades-old reform program in the Philippines that aimed to tackle poverty and a communist insurgency through land redistribution has been extended, despite questionable results. Its opponents say it has achieved scant poverty reduction and given rise to petty landlords who abuse cheap labor or sell off land for a quick profit.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [A hard reign continues in Myanmar](#)

**Asia Times, 5 June 2009**

The continued detention and ongoing trial of the world's most famous prisoner of conscience, Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, have renewed international scrutiny on the thousands of other dissidents currently in jail in Myanmar. Through a series of interviews in refugee camps along the Thai border, it becomes clear that the military junta is only tightening its stranglehold over its people.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [Khmer Krom hero rises from the delta](#)

**Asia Times, 5 June 2009**

The plight of Tim Sakhorn, a Buddhist monk who fled Cambodia after being detained in Vietnam, has brought global attention to his marginalized ethnic group, the Khmer Krom. The group, which this week commemorated the 60th anniversary of its lands being ceded by colonial France to Vietnam, says it is stuck between a hostile Hanoi government and a motherland that has deserted it.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [Jury's out on Myanmar's election](#)

**Asia Times, 5 June 2009**

As the trial of Aung San Suu Kyi heads to a predictable finish next week in Yangon, the opposition movement is confronted with a bleak political future. After the trial, the next benchmark decision will be whether or not to participate in the 2010 general elections. For its part, the junta is already stumping in rural areas and filling its future offices with furniture.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [Obama's hearts and minds trifecta](#)

**Asia Times, 8 June 2009**

In the race for Muslim hearts and minds, United States President Barack Obama has chosen his first two destinations well in Turkey and Egypt, and scored points for eloquently balancing sensitivity with some frank truths. The next likely stop is his childhood home, Indonesia, where he can point to a successful example of moderate Islam being combined with liberal democracy.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [Old and new massacres in Thailand](#)

**Asia Times, 9 June 2009**

The killing of at least 10 worshippers at a mosque on Monday represents the biggest daily death toll in Thailand's southernmost provinces since a government crackdown began five years ago. Recent bloodshed and a controversial new ruling on a fatal 2004 incident suggest that neither increased development budgets nor a military "surge" will end the insurgency anytime soon.

### [Neo-liberalism a dirty Indonesian word](#)

**Asia Times, 10 June 2009**

Indonesia's presidential frontrunner, the incumbent Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, seemed to have chosen his running mate well in a respected Bank Indonesia governor. Now the opposition claims the governor's "neo-liberal Western perspective" will erode Indonesia's sovereignty and wreck its economy. Beyond the philosophic debates, Yudhoyono is still hitting all the right notes ahead of July 8.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[China's rise stirs Vietnam's anxiety](#)**

**Asia Times, 11 June 2009**

Vietnam, having long eyed China with suspicion, is once again uneasy. Not only is China bringing its own workers to labor in Vietnam-based projects and flooding the market with ultra-cheap goods, it is also intensifying claims over islands that Vietnam considers its own - in effect awakening painful memories of 1,000 years of domination.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Moral authority in Myanmar](#)**

**Asia Times, 12 June 2009**

If Aung San Suu Kyi is the saintly face of Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, 80-year-old U Win Tin is its battle-hardened elder statesman. The poet and former journalist was once the country's longest-serving political prisoner; since his release in 2008 he has worked to reorganize and re-energize the opposition. Hours before the stop-start case of Suu Kyi was delayed until June 26, he spoke to Asia Times Online about the trial's truth and consequences.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Crisis-hit Singapore tightens grip](#)**

**Asia Times, 12 June 2009**

Singapore's opposition leaders say anti-terror legislation passed in April was a ruse to extend the government's strict control of political activities and press freedoms. The financial crisis has shaken the ruling party's claims of providing economic growth, and some say the law was designed to forestall any anti-government response.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Cambodia's last frontier falls](#)**

**Asia Times, 15 June 2009**

Once touted by eco-tourism travelers as a picture-perfect jungle filled with pristine forests teeming with wildlife, Cambodia's northeastern Ratanakiri province has been transformed into a graveyard of fields and tree stumps. Officials say they are doing everything they can to protect the area, but forces driving resource extraction and poaching are too powerful to resist.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Instant karma in Myanmar](#)**

**Asia Times, 16 June 2009**

It's well known that Myanmar's ruling junta practices a singular blend of "astrology politics" and that the populace entertains serious superstitions of its own. Now, the karmic kickback from the recent collapse of a 2,300-year-old sacred temple seems to point to Senior General Than Swe, whose recent acts - such as commissioning a jade Buddha in his image - have become increasingly bizarre.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Golkar fights for democratic relevance](#)**

**Asia Times, 17 June 2009**

As it struggles to shed historic links to the Suharto regime and internal ruptures weaken its already waning presidential bid, Indonesia's once all-powerful Golkar party is in trouble. Its candidates are widely expected to lose on July 7 and all its supporters can hope for is that a dynamic new leader can at least secure some influential cabinet posts.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Indonesia coal mine toll rising](#)**

**BBC News, 17 June 2009**

Officials in Indonesia say they hold little hope for the miners still buried underground after a gas explosion in a coal mine in West Sumatra. At least 17 people are now said to have died in the explosion, with 23 others feared dead below ground. Indonesia is one of the world's largest coal exporters, but safety standards in its mining industry are low.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8104390.stm>

**[Con job in the Philippines](#)**

**Asia Times, 18 June 2009**

Manila's tabloids are having a blast with the silly acronyms designating recent measures aimed at changing the 1987 constitution. Among the best are CHA-CHA, for "charter change", and CON-ASS, for constituent assembly. But behind the snarky headlines is a serious debate: has the Philippine government's penchant for playing fast and loose with the rules gone too far?

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Indonesia mine blast toll rises to 31: officials](#)**

**AFP, 18 June 2009**

JAKARTA (AFP) - - The death toll from a massive gas explosion in an Indonesian coal mine rose to 31 Wednesday, as rescue workers all but gave up hope of finding any survivors, officials said. Rescuers pulled another 16 bodies from deep within the mine.

<http://www.afp.com/afpcom/en>

**[Research and Markets: Snapshots Singapore Commercial Vehicles - An Instant Overview Of The Singapore](#)**

**Business Wire, 18 June 2009**

DUBLIN--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Research and Markets ([http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/625165/snapshots\\_singapor](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/625165/snapshots_singapor)) has announced the addition of the " company profile to their offering. Snapdatas provides 2007 year-end market size data, with 2008.

<http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/>

**[Singapore Hot Stocks-Yanlord in focus on share and bond sale](#)**

**Reuters, 18 June 2009**

SINGAPORE, June 18 (Reuters) - Singapore-listed property firm aimed to raise a total of S\$503 million (\$345.7 million) through the sale of shares and convertible bonds. Technology shares buoyed the Nasdaq on Wednesday after positive broker comments

<http://www.reuters.com/>

**[Research and Markets: Malaysia's Pharmaceutical Market Report Estimates the Malaysian Market to Stan](#)**

**Business Wire, 18 June 2009**

DUBLIN--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Research and Markets ([http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/b4283a/the\\_pharmaceutical](http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/b4283a/the_pharmaceutical)) has announced the addition of the " report to their offering. The government is keen to encourage the local production of drugs.

<http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/>

**[Singapore and Sweden Sign Pact on Interactive Digital Media](#)**

**ACN Newswire, 18 June 2009**

Singapore's Media Development Authority (MDA) and Sweden's Business Region Gteborg, represented by its Center of Visualization, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on interactive digital media (IDM).

<http://www.acnnewswire.com/aboutus.asp>

**[Minister: Indonesia's Creative Industry Growth More Positive](#)**

**AsiaPulse via COMTEX, 18 June 2009**

ndonesia's Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu said creative industry growth in the country is becoming increasingly more positive, especially in the music and film sub-sectors whose domestic market is big.

<http://www.asiapulse.com/>

**[Thai Shares Tipped Lower On Thursday](#)**

**RTT News, 18 June 2009**

TOP MARKET NEWS Featured Broker (RTTNews) -The Thai stock market has finished lower now in three consecutive sessions, giving up more than 40 points or 6.5 percent along the way. The Stock Exchange of Thailand has given up support at 590 points

<http://www.rttnews.com/>

**[Muslim rebels in Thailand have killed 115 teachers](#)**

**The Winnipeg Free Press, 19 June 2009**

Human rights group: Muslim rebels in Thailand have killed 115 teachers, burn schools

Muslim insurgents in southern Thailand must stop the "sickening trend" of attacking teachers, 115 of whom have been killed since the outbreak of the separatist rebellion five years ago, a human rights organization said Friday.

[www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

**[Alleged Khymer Rouge Torturer Cries in Court.](#)**

**Press Telegram, 22 June 2009**

A man accused of running an infamous Khmer Rouge torture center broke down in tears at his trial Monday as he spoke of the imprisonment and execution of former comrades in the facility he commanded.

[www.presstelegram.com](http://www.presstelegram.com)

**[Man tries to forklift Malaysian ATM](#)**

**Star of Mysore, 22 June 2009**

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian newspapers say a man tried to steal an automated teller machine using a forklift truck but abandoned his efforts when the alarm went off.

[www.starofmysore.com](http://www.starofmysore.com)

**[Thai PM Abhisit Vejjajiva called on Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Monday](#)**

**Xinhuanet, 22 June 2009**

Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who is here for a one-day official visit, called on Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Monday.

[www.xinhuanet.com/english](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english)

**[US dedicates new diplomatic office in Taiwan amid rapid Chinese inroads](#)**

**KHBW TV Houston, 23 June 2009**

The United States dedicated the grounds for a new representative office in Taiwan on Monday, making a visible commitment to the island at a time its rapidly improving ties with longtime foe China are diminishing U.S. influence.

[www.39online.com](http://www.39online.com)

[Chen Family admit lying](#)

**The Straits Times, 23 June 2009**

THREE members of former Taiwan president Chen Shui-bian's family admitted lying to investigators in a corruption case implicating him and several relatives, a report said on Monday.

[www.straitstimes.com](http://www.straitstimes.com)

[Kang Nam off to Myanmar?](#)

**The Straits Times, 23 June 2009**

A NORTH Korean ship being tracked by a US Navy destroyer under new UN sanctions could be headed to Myanmar, a US defence official said Monday.

[Khmer Rouge prosecutor submits resignation](#)

**The Star Online, 23 June 2009**

Robert Petit of Canada said in a statement that his resignation will become effective September 1, three years after he joined the U.N.-backed tribunal, which is currently holding its first trial.

[thestar.com.my](http://thestar.com.my)

[Suthep to meet Hun Sen this weekend](#)

**Bangkok Post, 23 June 2009**

Deputy Prime Minister for security affairs Suthep Thaugsuban said on Tuesday he will on Saturday visit Cambodia to meet with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and explain the case Thailand is making to Unesco about the registration of the Preah Vihear ancient temple as a World Heritage site by Cambodia.

[www.bangkokpost.com](http://www.bangkokpost.com)

[Cambodia suspends immunity of two opposition lawmakers](#)

**Kyodo News Agency, 23 June 2009**

Cambodia's lower house suspended Monday the immunity of two opposition lawmakers, paving the way for the court to investigate defamation lawsuits filed against them by Prime Minister Hun Sen and other members of the ruling Cambodian People's Party.

[www.kyodonews.com](http://www.kyodonews.com)

[Thin loyalties in Malaysia](#)

**Asia Times, 23 June 2009**

The leaders of Malaysia's opposition group, the People's Alliance, have

slammed the door on attempts by the ruling Barisan Nasional coalition to lure one of their parties into a "unity government". After strong showings in national and local elections, the rejection is a further sign that the opposition is overcoming ethnic and religious divides.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

#### [Iranians bound for Australia detained](#)

**News.com.au, 24 June 2009**

INDONESIAN authorities arrested 12 Iranian migrants bound for Australia, police said today.

[www.news.com.au](http://www.news.com.au)

#### [Second H1N1 Flu Case Reported In Brunei](#)

**Brunei Direct, 24 June 2009**

The second case of Influenza A has been reported in Brunei, just a day after the nation's first case was announced.

[www.brudirect.com](http://www.brudirect.com)

#### [Five down while tropical storm Nangka whips Philippines](#)

**New Strait Times, 24 June 2009**

AT least five people have been killed and seven others are missing as tropical storm Nangka sweeps over the central Philippines, officials said today.

[www.nst.com.my](http://www.nst.com.my)

#### [Pressured by sex workers, Taiwan OKs prostitution](#)

**Boston.com, 24 June 2009**

Taiwan began a process of legalizing prostitution Wednesday making the island the latest place in the world to decriminalize the world's oldest profession.

[www.boston.com](http://www.boston.com)

#### [The Taiwan Stock Exchange said it will allow the first dual listing](#)

**ETaiwanNews.com, 24 June 2009**

The Taiwan Stock Exchange said it will allow the first dual listing of an exchange-traded fund from Hong Kong by next month.

[www.ETaiwanNews.com](http://www.ETaiwanNews.com)

#### [Indonesia legal system under fire over e-mail case](#)

**Boston.com, 24 June 2009**

An Indonesian mother who was fined, jailed and put on trial after sending an e-mail to friends complaining about her treatment in a private hospital, has become a rallying point for reform of the country's legal system.

www.boston.com

[Shoot first, talk later in Myanmar](#)

**Asia Times, 24 June 2009**

Bloody battles are raging in Myanmar's Karen State, with government troops and their ethnic allies trying to unseat the stubborn Karen National Liberation Army from its base along the Thai-Myanmar border. As casualties skyrocket and thousands of refugees flee, analysts say the oddly timed offensive is really meant to divert attention from the trial of Aung San Suu Kyi and to lock down the restive area ahead of next year's proposed elections

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

[Timor seeks help to protect whale, dolphin hotspot](#)

**Buffalo News, 25 June 2009**

By GUIDO GOULART The government of East Timor says it plans to establish a national park to protect a bounty of dolphins and whales - some of them endangered species - recently discovered mingling and feeding off the coast of Asia's youngest country.

www.buffalonews.com

[Tropical storm unleashes tornado, landslide, killing 8 in Philippines; 8 missing](#)

**Penticton Herald, 25 June 2009**

A tropical storm whipped up tornadoes, triggered landslides and overturned boats as it cut across the central Philippines, leaving at least eight dead and eight more missing amid widespread flooding, officials said Thursday.

www.pentictonherald.ca

[Indonesia to suspend sending domestic helpers to Malaysia](#)

**Channel News Asia, 25 June 2009**

Indonesia will temporarily suspend sending domestic helpers to Malaysia amid outrage over the abuse of its nationals by their employers, the labour minister said Thursday.

www.channelnewsasia.com

[Suthep's visit to Cambodia not necessary: Hun Sen](#)

**The National, 25 June 2009**

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said Thursday he would refuse to discuss a Thai plan for the neighboring countries to jointly administer an 11th-century Hindu ruined temple in a disputed border region during the Thai deputy prime minister's visit Saturday.

www.thenational.ae

[E. Timor president hopes for decision on pipeline](#)

**PR-inside.com, 25 June 2009**

East Timor's president said Wednesday that venture partners in a vast

underwater oil and gas field would be better served if they choose to lay a deep sea pipeline to his country instead of Australia.

[www.PR-inside.com](http://www.PR-inside.com)

### [A UN snub: Two regimes in a tub](#)

**Asia Times, 25 June 2009**

Trying to fathom the mystery of the Kang Nam I, an aging North Korean cargo vessel allegedly stacked with weapons and steaming towards Myanmar, has become a global obsession. The ship is being shadowed by an American destroyer for possible violations of a United Nations resolution against Pyongyang's nuclear test, and the world is watching. The Kang Nam's cargo might be unknown, but its mission is surely to churn the waters of regional diplomacy

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [New model needed in Malaysia](#)

**Asia Times, 25 June 2009**

Malaysia's export-driven economy has been battered by the collapse in global trade, with recession looming in the next quarter and unemployment spiking. Prime Minister Razak Najib has formed a national economic council tasked with charting a new economic model for the country, but some fear it is too little, too late.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [Reality off the rails in Phnom Penh](#)

**Asia Times, 25 June 2009**

Cambodia's ruling party and acerbic Prime Minister Hun Sen aren't taking too kindly to criticism these days. A wave of bizarre denials and defamation lawsuits now run the risk of making martyrs of otherwise unremarkable politicians, alienating Western donor nations and scaring off the foreign business community. Cambodia, it seems, doth protest too much.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

### [It just seems so unreal:a Fans around the world in shock over](#)

[Michael Jackson's death](#)

**Topix.com, 26 June 2009**

In Malaysia, they hoped he would be remembered like Princess Diana. In Mexico, one of his impersonators said part of his life had been torn away.

<http://www.topix.com/world/southeast-asia>

### [Thai government's great gambit](#)

**Asia Times, 26 June 2009**

Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij this week put forth Thailand's largest-ever fiscal push - a program that constitutes US\$44 billion and more than 6,000 different projects. He and his Democrat party aren't afraid to step on a few toes to get it done, the 44-year-old former banker tells Asia Times Online, but if that happens, it'll be done with "customary politeness".

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast\\_Asia.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia.html)

**[Bahrain seeks stronger GCC-Asean trade ties](#)**

**Gulf Daily News, 29 June 2009**

MANAMA: Foreign Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday called for stronger and balanced economic relations between the GCC and the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean). The preparatory meetings and the First GCC-Asean Ministerial Meeting are being held at the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, Hotel and Spa. "The deep changes sweeping the world economies have set aside old certainties and prompted us to seek partnerships with greater political and economic blocs," he said.

<http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/NewsDetails.aspx?storyid=254279>

**[First LNG Shipment from Indonesia's Tangguh Field in July](#)**

**Trading Markets.com, 29 June 2009**

JAKARTA, Jun 29, 2009 (AsiaPulse via COMTEX) -- MALRF | Quote | Chart | News | PowerRating -- Indonesia will conduct delivery of liquefied natural gas from its Tangguh field in Papua, to its buyers in Fujian, China, or South Korea in July.

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/2395363/>

**[Colombo Port a logistic hub in SE Asia soon](#)**

**Ceylon Daily News, 29 June 2009**

The Colombo Port will be made the renowned logistic hub in the South East Asian region and all our future development activities will consolidate Sri Lanka's position as a premier maritime logistic centre, Chairman, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Dr. Priyath Wickrama told at the Sri Lanka Freight Forwarders' Association's 28th AGM held in Colombo. "We need to improve our efficiency to deliver goods at the right time to the right place. It is important to team up with the Government and industries and exploit their capabilities and to provide improved services. Our aim should be to achieve a higher logistic performing index by harnessing the synergies of other authorities," he said.

<http://www.dailynews.lk/2009/06/29/bus03.asp>

**[Farallon Sells Its Entire Stake in Indonesia Bank](#)**

**Wall Street Journal, 29 June 2009**

U.S. investment firm Farallon Capital Management LLC has raised \$328.6 million from selling its entire 4.05% stake in PT Bank Central Asia of Indonesia, a person familiar with the transaction said Friday.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124622686307365843.html>

**[Sorrow as US drops Congress watch on Papua](#)**

**Australia Network News, 29 June 2009**

A United States' congressman's participation in removing US oversight of alleged human rights abuses in West Papua has disappointed an activist for the Indonesian province. American Samoan congressman Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin is the chairman of the Asia Pacific subcommittee of the US Congressional Foreign Relations Committee. He took the lead in removing a provision in a bill that would have obliged the US State Department to report back to Congress on abuses in West Papua. He says his decision is to ensure the bill does not interfere with Indonesia's approaching presidential election.

<http://australianetworknews.com/stories/200906/2610965.htm?desktop>

### [Thailand to beef up security for regional forum](#)

**Reuters, 30 June 2009**

BANGKOK, June 30 (Reuters) - Thailand's government has given the security forces the authority to declare a curfew and impose other measures they deem necessary to stop protesters disrupting a series of high-level regional meetings in July. Foreign ministers from Asia and elsewhere, including U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, meet to discuss mainly security issues on July 17-23 on the tourist island of Phuket, three months after anti-government protesters forced a regional summit in the Thai resort of Pattaya to be abandoned.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/BKK509879.htm>

### [UN Secretary General to Visit Myanmar](#)

**Deutsche Welle, 30 June 2009**

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon plans to visit Myanmar later this week, where he is expected to press the country's military junta to release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners. Ban is also looking to promote reconciliation between the military and opposition parties ahead of next year's general elections.

<http://dwelle.de/southasia/SoutheastAsia/1.235353.1.html>