

# Thai Monarchy Runs Another Fascist Coup

by Mike Billington

Dec. 5—For the past three months, a few thousand middle-class Baby Boomers in Bangkok, Thailand, have forcefully occupied Government House, the seat of the Thai government, and twice surrounded the Parliament, disrupting or outright stopping the function of government in the Kingdom, demanding the resignation of the elected government. All this in the name of “democracy.”

Orders given to the police to clear the criminals from Government House were stymied, when the Army, under the direction of the Monarchy and the King’s Privy Council, deployed into the streets to *protect* the mob from the police.

Ji Ungpakorn, a professor at Chulalongkorn University, published an essay which denounced the “democratic” demonstrators for what they are: a “royalist fascist mob which has powerful backing from the Army, the Queen, the so-called Democratic Party, the courts, the mainstream media and most university academics . . . with total contempt for the Thai electorate who are poor.”

Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat enjoyed the strong support of the vast majority of the people against these fascist thugs and their military and royal backers. So also did his two predecessors, who were driven out of office by the same forces, despite their overwhelming electoral victories. Somchai therefore refused to resign, even when Army Chief Gen. Anupong Paojinda went on television to “recommend” that he step down.

Finally, on Nov. 25, the mob occupied both international airports in Bangkok, shutting down virtually all international access or egress from Thailand, and crushing the domestic economy. The airports are under the direct control of the military, which did nothing to prevent these occupations, disgracing the nation before the world. The mob, dressed in royal yellow to show its devotion to the King, were exposed to the world as nothing but a fascist gang, carrying out the wishes of a



*Former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra*

degenerate monarchy and an Army faction deployed by the Privy Council to impose dictatorship upon the nation on behalf of the British Empire.

The insane situation was only resolved—temporarily—when the “Star Chamber” Constitutional Court, a court appointed by the military, and acting on the basis of a Constitution drafted by the military, ruled on Dec. 2, to disband the three parties in the government coalition, and to ban from politics for five years all the leaders of those parties. This incredible act was based on alleged electoral fraud by a single member of the ruling party. The same ludicrous process was also used to eliminate the former ruling party in 2007. Now, a new party is being quickly put together from the old, to prepare to form a new government, which will certainly lead to a repeat of the same anarchistic response from the mob. The British have what they want—chaos—in the face of global financial collapse.

## The British, Soros, and the King

King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the longest reigning monarch in the world, and the richest. With a personal wealth of over \$35 billion, the Thai King recently surpassed the King of Brunei to win that disgraceful distinction, far surpassing the likes of Saudi King Abdullah, let alone, England's Queen Elizabeth II. Because of the strict *Lèse Majesté* laws in Thailand, few of the Monarchy's opponents have openly voiced their opinions in the past. But the recent year's descent into political fantasyland (some call it "Alice in Thailand") has begun to change that, such that many voices now accuse the Monarchy, and its backers in London, of responsibility for the destruction of Thai political democracy and the threat to the Thai economy.

Ji Ungpakorn, the Chulalongkorn professor quoted above, describing the fascist nature of the royalist mob, is the son of Puey Ungpakorn, a hero of the Free Thai movement during World War II, and a longtime dean of Thammasat University. Ji has also openly called for the abolition of the *Lèse Majesté* laws. Such criticism of the Monarchy would have landed him in jail in the past, but the institution of the Monarchy itself is now being questioned. It has been reported to *EIR* that the respect for the King has so dissipated, that young people no longer stand for the royal anthem at movies and similar events.

The Thai economy never fully recovered from an earlier assault by the British, when hedge-fund hitman George Soros ran a devastating raid on the Thai baht in 1997, provoking a financial collapse across Asia, which spread internationally. While Soros and his cohorts made off with billions of dollars at the expense of the Thai people and government, his intention was as much strategic as financial. Soros, the leading drug promoter in the world, who personally finances "drug legalization" movements internationally, was furious with the Thai government, then led by Prime Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyuth, which had mobilized support across Southeast Asia to bring its neighbor, Myanmar, into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Myanmar had been the world's largest supplier of opium and heroin since the time of the British colonial occupation, with ethnic drug armies along the borders protected from the central government by London and various Western "human rights" organizations—mostly financed by Soros's Open Society Institute in the recent period.

The military regime which took power in Myanmar in 1988 moved swiftly in collaboration with Thailand and China to pacify the drug armies, and, for the first time since before British colonization, the country was unified, nearly eliminating opium production, and facilitating the development of regional infrastructure projects with its neighbors, including road, rail, power, and water. Thailand, with backing from China, encouraged this development and brought Myanmar into ASEAN. Soros, who was frantically trying to organize a "regime change" to keep Myanmar unstable and weak, to facilitate drug production rather than infrastructure development, used his financial power to break the Thai currency and economy.

## Thaksin's Nationalism

Soros failed in sabotaging Myanmar's integration into ASEAN, but he did achieve "regime change" in Thailand: The Chavalit government was overthrown during the financial crisis, and replaced by the Democratic Party, a party run as a satrap of the City of London. In 2001, however, the financial aristocrats of the Democratic Party were voted out, in favor of Thaksin Shinawatra, a former police official who had become rich through a vast telecommunication business.

Thaksin rapidly garnered wide support for his Thai Rak Thai (Thais Love Thais) Party among the rural population and the urban poor, with extensive programs for the general welfare, such as cheap access to medical care, scholarships for poor youth, cheap credit for farmers, and big infrastructure programs in transportation, power, water, and telecommunications. He conducted a massive war on drugs which virtually eliminated the drug crisis in the nation's school system, while working with Myanmar in eliminating drugs on their side of the border. Thaksin swept the 2005 elections by an even wider margin than that of 2001, with the largest voter turnout in Thailand's history.

The Monarchy, and especially the head of the Privy Council, former Prime Minister Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda, became extremely worried that an independent political force was establishing a popular base of support which could potentially challenge the Monarchy and/or the Army. An anti-Thaksin movement was quickly put together under the direction of Sondhi Limthongkul, the head of the Manager Group media empire, and Chamlong Srimuang, a former general and politician who now leads an ascetic Buddhist sect (which is re-

jected by the official Buddhist Sangha), and who takes pride in his role in provoking a bloodbath during anti-government riots in 1992—bloodshed which achieved his purpose in bringing down the government of that time. In the tradition of George Soros’s “Open Society” operations to overthrow governments under the false banner of “democracy,” Sondhi and Chamlong called their movement the People’s Alliance for Democracy (PAD), but, as was subsequently shown, their strategy involved not a hint of “democracy.”

Two years of well-financed demonstrations, coupled with nearly full control over the media (especially the Dow Jones newspaper in Bangkok, *The Nation*), succeeded in seducing the students of Bangkok into a ’68er style anti-authoritarian movement against Thaksin, ignoring his economic development and general welfare policies, while screaming about the human rights of drug dealers, the unrestrained rights of a free press (especially those owned by Wall Street), corruption, and “money-politics.” With continual disruptions of Bangkok’s political and commercial operations by the demonstrators, Thaksin agreed to call a new election. However, the opposition Democrats boycotted the election, leading eventually to the Army stepping in during Thaksin’s absence at the UN during September 2006—royal fascist coup No. #1.

### **Privy Council Rule**

The military junta which ruled from September 2006 through December 2007 was openly controlled by the King’s Privy Council under General Prem, who appointed his cohort and fellow Privy Councillor Surayud Chulanont, an historic enemy of Thaksin, as Prime Minister pending elections. But, when elections were finally held in December 2007, the same political alliance which had backed Thaksin was victorious, again overwhelmingly, under a new party name, and a new leader, Samak Sundaravej.

As expected, the PAD immediately returned to the street. Interestingly, however, the youth, disgusted that the last “democracy movement” had resulted in a military dictatorship, refused to join in. When the new PAD mob invaded Government House in September, the world saw the faces of the middle-class, elite Baby Boomers wearing radical headbands and yelling “democracy,” while explaining to the press that the poor, dumb masses simply didn’t understand how they were being manipulated; so, popular elections had to be sus-

pending in favor of royally appointed legislators, courts, and executives. PAD leader Sondhi even went so far as to demand that the Ministry of Defense be removed from government control altogether and placed directly under the King, where the military would be called upon to intervene under virtually any circumstances of crisis or perceived threats to the King.

The newly elected Prime Minister Samak refused to capitulate to the mob, and ordered the police to remove the anarchists from the seat of government. The Army (as noted above) not only refused to follow orders, but deployed to protect the mob from the police. Samak was then forced out of office by a court ruling which made a mockery of the Thai judicial system: He was convicted of conducting a cooking program on television while serving as prime minister—a truly heinous crime. Samak was immediately replaced by Somchai Wongsawat, a brother-in-law of Thaksin, and the PAD went berserk, leading to the airport occupation on Nov. 25.

### **What Next?**

Now that the controlled and corrupted Constitutional Court has disbanded the ruling party altogether (royal fascist coup #2), the fascist mob has retreated from Government House and from the airports, but has already made clear that the next government must not represent the policies of the three deposed prime ministers—i.e., it will accept a new government *only if it is unacceptable to the majority of Thai citizens*. Any candidate supported by the people, it insists, would necessarily be a puppet for Thaksin, and must therefore be rejected.

Indeed, Thaksin, after originally pledging from exile, to remain outside of Thai politics, now recognizes that the Monarchy’s mob will not accept any democratically elected government, whether he is involved or not. He has therefore announced that he intends to re-engage in the Thai political crisis, including making televised addresses to his supporters from exile. Thaksin also was given a lesson in British duplicity: He had planned to retire in exile in London, where he has long owned a home, but on Nov. 7, the British government cancelled the visas of both Thaksin and his wife. It is certainly not coincidental that Princess Alexandra, the cousin of Queen Elizabeth, arrived in Bangkok on that very day, at the personal invitation of her close friends, the King and Queen of Thailand.