



► Today's featured reports from The ANVIL Group's  
**TRAVEL RISK INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (TRIS)**

**Thailand: Soldier killed in clashes near Bangkok**  
**28/04/2010 13:54:01**

Security forces have fired into a crowd of anti-government protesters during a clash, as they travelled towards Talad Thai in Pathumthani province (close to Bangkok's second airport, Don Muang). A soldier was killed and 18 protesters injured in the clashes. Soldiers were shooting ammunition and rubber bullets during the clashes.

**Thailand: UDD leader arrested following clashes**  
**28/04/2010 11:26:24**

A red-shirt leader was arrested following clashes on Wednesday on the outskirts of Bangkok. Kwanchai Phraiphana led the group of around 2,000 red shirted protesters to Pathum Thani and was arrested in Don Muang in northern Bangkok at just before 3pm while red-shirts were retreating to the main protest point in Rachaprasong.

**Thailand: Eleven injured in clashes between military & protesters in Bangkok**  
**28/04/2010 10:51:30**

At least eleven people were injured when anti-government protesters clashed with the military on Wednesday afternoon on the outskirts of the capital. The clashes took place just before 2pm local time when hundreds of troops prevented a march from Bangkok to the National Monument in Pathum Thani province.

► **BACKGROUND**

For over six weeks, Thailand's anti-government movement, principally the The United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (aka UDD or "red-shirts") has been protesting and clashing violently with the police and military.

Now leaders of the pro-establishment yellow shirts have said they will move against the red shirts, to "protect the country", as the authorities fail to end the protests peacefully. The yellow shirts had set a one-week deadline to end the stalemate between security forces and the red shirts, but now that has expired, it looks increasingly likely they could get involved and worsen the situation.

In addition to Bangkok, during the last week, protests and violent incidents have taken place in other parts of Thailand, including popular tourist destinations such as Pattaya, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Ayuthaya and other locations.

► **TRAVEL & SECURITY ADVICE**

Both the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office and U.S. Department of State have today updated their travel advice for citizens intending to travel to Thailand and those already located in the country. Broadly, their advice is to suspend all but essential travel to the whole of Thailand, but especially Bangkok, due to the increasingly volatile and tense political situation.

In addition, the FCO has advised British nationals to register with the FCO LOCATE service. Please see [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

Political demonstrations by the UDD are expected to continue in Bangkok indefinitely. As a result, traffic congestion and difficulty moving around Bangkok is likely, as traffic patterns change unexpectedly due to demonstrators blockading roads.

There have also been numerous recent reports of explosive attacks, including several isolated grenade attacks in and around Bangkok and Chiang Mai. Additional explosive devices have been discovered prior to detonation. Some of these incidents occurred at or near areas frequented by foreigners. These incidents appear to be motivated by domestic politics and are not considered to be acts of international terrorism, however, the possibility of more attacks cannot be ruled out and travellers are reminded to exercise caution and vigilance at all times.

If you are already in Thailand, you should consider whether it is essential for you to travel within the city of Bangkok. Wherever possible, you should take transport services which do not involve transiting the centre of Bangkok. If travelling from outside Bangkok to Suvarnabhumi airport, you should be aware that all rail services and some coach services involve passing through central Bangkok.

Suvarnabhumi airport is operating as normal. The route to the airport from Bangkok city remains open. Advice given by the FCO against all but essential travel **does not currently apply** to passengers transiting Bangkok airport on their way to foreign destinations.

If violence breaks out near where you are staying you should stay indoors, monitor the media and regularly check government issued travel advice. Extra vigilance should be maintained at night when the majority of violent incidents have occurred. Leaders of protest groups have made clear threats of further violence across Thailand.

Should you require urgent assistance, ANVIL personnel are on standby in Bangkok and other strategic locations. Please contact our Crisis Management Team 24/7 on + 44 (0) 20 7938 4221.

The ANVIL Group has a long established network of ground, air & sea transport options in Thailand and throughout the region to assist with onward travel.