

Recent Communication from Assumption University (May30. 2010)

While Thailand and Bangkok have been in the news over the past three months for the political protests by the "Red Shirts," events around May 19 and 20 saw the height of such political unrest and arson. Following that period, things have become a lot better and the foreseeable future looks quite stable. We can however, expect some sorts of protests to continue. That being said, we are confident that by the third week of August, we will be in a position to host the ASEACCU Annual Conference and the student camp. Towards that goal, let me assure you of the following:

1. The Assumption University Suvarnabhumi campus is twelve kms east of the New Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport, and has been unaffected by the political protest and arson (almost 50-60 kms away in the Center of Bangkok). The security around and on the campus is tight. We will be hosting the ASEACCU conference and student camp at this facility.

2. Even while the protests were reaching to a gusty head in May, Assumption University's Debating Society hosted the first United Asian Debating Championship (May 11-18, 2010) with 500 Asian students participating. The event concluded on May 18, 2010 and we saw off all the delegates without a hitch. As well, Assumption University Suvarnabhumi campus was the location for an FABC meeting for about 100 priests and Bishops (May 10-15, 2010). No security or other problems were encountered.

3. I am in touch with the Deputy Secretary General to the Prime Minister's Office, The Royal Thai Government, and the signals I am getting is that confidence is returning to Thailand and to International visitors.

The bottom line: Please do not think twice, come ASEACCU, enjoy Thai Hospitality, security and friendship at Assumption University.