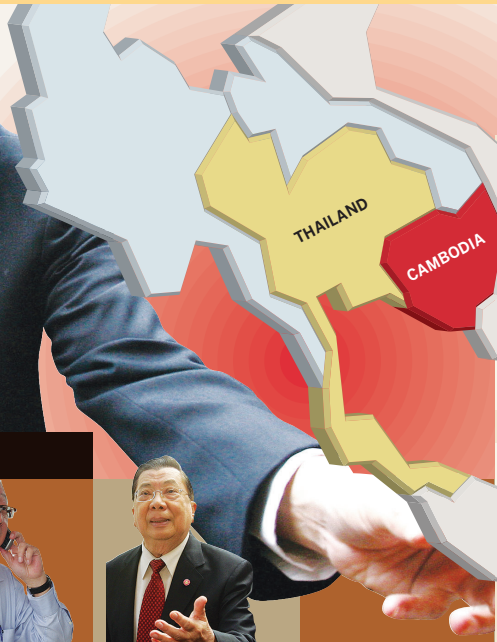


RECENT THAI-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS: A CHRONOLOGY



The key players



Noppadon Pattama:
The former foreign minister's controversial agreement with Phnom Penh on the Preah Vihear Temple helped foster ties between the Thaksin camp and Cambodia but paved the way for future conflicts between the two countries.

Sondhi Limthongkul:
His People's Alliance for Democracy's hardline campaign against the Preah Vihear deal put the first strains on bilateral ties since the burning of the Thai Embassy in Phnom Penh in 2003.

Chavalit Yongchaiyudh:
His October 21 visit to Phnom Penh, after which the controversial asylum offer was made by Premier Hun Sen, triggered incidents culminating in yesterday's recall of the Thai ambassador to Cambodia.

Premier Hun Sen:
Barring the 2003 Thai Embassy incident, he has a close and strong relationship with Thaksin and has been further alienated from Bangkok by the Abhisit government's stand on the Preah Vihear controversy.

- May 2008** Cambodia applies to have the Preah Vihear Temple named a World Heritage Site
- June 2008** Preah Vihear is shut down after a People's Alliance for Democracy protest at the site
- July 2008** Cambodia tries to raise the conflict at an Asean Ministerial Meeting and the United Nations Security Council
- July 2008** A ministerial meeting in Siem Reap attempts to ease the conflict
- Oct 2008** Border skirmish
- Nov 2008** First round of joint boundary commission meeting
- Dec 2008** Change of Thai government
- April 2009** Another military clash at Preah Vihear
- July 2009** Thailand repeats its opposition to the Preah Vihear inscription
- Oct 2009** Hun Sen announces he intends to offer former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra a house and a job
- Nov 2009** Hun Sen appoints Thaksin, prompting both countries to recall their ambassadors

Premier Abhisit Vejjajiva:
He reacted to the asylum offer by asking Hun Sen not to be a "pawn", a response that indicated how the Thaksin issue was going to develop between the two nations.

Thaksin Shinawatra:
His success in stoking Thai-Cambodian tensions was described by sources as merely "the first step" of his plan to use Thailand's neighbours to isolate the Kingdom.