

**ACT INCREASING THE AUTHORITY OF THE POLICE IN THE PREVENTION AND
SUPPRESSION OF MARITIME OFFENCE, B.E. 2496 (1953)**

King Bhumibol Adulyadej

Dated 29th Day of September B.E. 2496 (1953);

Being the 8th Year of the Present Reign

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that:

Whereas it is expedient to increase the authority of the police in the prevention and suppression of maritime offence.

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the National Legislative Assembly, as follows.

Section 1. This Act is called the “Act Increasing the Authority of the Police in the Prevention and Suppression of Maritime Offence, B.E. 2496 (1953)”.

Section 2. This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Section 3. In this Act, “vehicle” means a ship travelling to or from the sea, or between the Kingdom and a foreign territory, and this shall include any aircraft that takes off and lands on the water surface.

Section 4. Upon performing the duty involving searching in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Code conducted in a vehicle, the commissioned police officers affiliated to the Thai Marine Police Division, the Royal Thai Police, may proceed at any time without a warrant.

Section 5. In the case of a suspicious circumstance leading to believe that an offence may have been committed on a vehicle, the commissioned police officers affiliated to the Thai Marine Police Division, the Royal Thai Police, shall have the authority to prohibit persons other than the officers authorised by the law to have the authority and duty involving vehicle from entering the vehicle or any ship, raft or vehicle from docking to the vehicle, unless permitted to do so. Upon ordering the prohibition, the controller of the vehicle must be notified.

The prohibition order, as stipulated in the previous clause, shall be implemented in line with the rules prescribed by the Director-General of the Police Department as announced in the Government Gazette. Such rules specify the manner in which the controller of the vehicle shall present a sign of acknowledgement of the prohibition, and may also prescribe the procedure on obtaining permission and the conditions of permission.

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Unofficial Translation*

Section 6. Upon ordering the controller of a vehicle to stop the vehicle or lead the vehicle to a certain location due to a suspicious circumstance in which the vehicle has been used in committing an offence or an offence has taken place on the vehicle, the commissioned police officers affiliated to the Thai Marine Police Division, the Royal Thai Police may use a sign(s) as prescribed by the Director-General of the Police Department as announced in the Government Gazette, and the controller of the vehicle shall facilitate the officers in boarding the vehicle.

Section 7. Any person who violates the order as stipulated in the first clause of Section 5, or fails to comply with the sign or facilitate the officers as stipulated in Section 6 is subject to a fine of up to one thousand baht.

Section 8. The Minister of Interior shall be responsible for the implementation of this Act.

Countersigned by

Field Marshal Plaek Phibunsongkhram

Prime Minister

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Remark: The reason for promulgation of this Act is because the Police Department has established the Marine Police Division, which has the authority in the prevention and suppression of criminal offence in Thai territorial water, particularly customs, navigation fisheries and immigration laws; therefore, there must be a provision in the law that increases certain authority to allow efficient and successful suppression of criminal offence in Thai territorial water on ships or seaplanes, or in the port areas where ships travel to and from the sea.

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