

Burma troops kill four rebels

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Mae Sai — Four armed rebels were killed in a 45-minute clash with troops in the Burmese border district of Thachilek yesterday morning, sources said.

Five other rebels were captured after fighting the 100-strong government force in Thachilek, opposite this Northern district.

The whole area remained blacked out from 9 p.m. until dawn since the outbreak of anti-government unrest in Burma.

Sources declined to say if yesterday's clash was related to the protests.

In another development, about 45 Buddhist monks and 35 students claimed a "partial success" in their campaign to oust one-party rule in

Rangoon.

Sources said Mae Sai may soon reopen its border with Thachilek to resume normal trade and communication.

Mae Sai authorities yesterday arrested two Burmese men for allegedly possessing 26 counterfeit bills.

SUSPECTS

The suspects, identified as Oon Boonma, 33, and Peng Sai, 26, contended they received 7,400 baht in 100-baht notes as payment for cattle sold in Thachilek, unaware that they were counterfeit.

They brought the bogus bills to the Thai side of the border when they came to purchase food.

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