

A precarious calm

A PRECARIOUS calm hangs over Kawthaung, an island at the southern tip of Burma, a 30-minute boat ride from Ranong province in the South. Students, seen at bottom, huddle around *Nation* reporter Yindee Lertcharoenchok, left, in a health centre in the town, say they have occupied government offices and controlled Kawthaung, also known as Victoria Point, since peaceful demonstra-

7N.886901
tions on Aug 26 met with little resistance from government officials. Soldiers have taken cover inside their barracks, students say. The next rally is likely to occur Sept 12, the day the Rangoon leadership plans a referendum on a multi-party system.

Photo, top, shows students with their posters denouncing the brutal rule of Ne Win.

