

Beat: Business

Fugitive ;Pirate Bay; co-founder arrested on Thai border

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USPA News - One of the co-founders of the BitTorrent website `The Pirate Bay` was detained Monday while attempting to cross the border from Laos into Thailand, officials said on Tuesday, more than five years after his conviction in Sweden over copyright infringement. Hans Fredrik Lennart Neij, 36, who is also known as TiAMO, is the last of the Pirate Bay co-founders to be arrested following their 2009 conviction.

He was recognized at an immigration checkpoint in Nong Khai, a city in northeastern Thailand, at 12:30 p.m. local time on Monday, according to the Bangkok Post. Neij was recognized as a man wanted by Interpol when immigration police noticed he was the same man as seen in a wanted photo, which was provided to immigration police in Nong Khai through a U.S.-based movie association which hired a Thai lawyer to find Neij's whereabouts. Neij was crossing the border with his Lao wife. Pol Maj Gen Chatchai Iamsaeng, commander of Immigration Division 4, confirmed that Neij had crossed the border 27 times before being detained, but he was allegedly recognized because he was wearing the same shirt as the one from the photograph. Neij then admitted that he was the person sought in the arrest warrant, the commander said, according to local media reports. All four of the Pirate Bay's co-founders have served or are currently serving their sentences, except for Neij who jumped bail and fled Sweden for Laos where he allegedly lived with his wife and three children since his conviction. Three of the co-founders of the Pirate Bay were fined and sentenced to jail in 2009. with Fredrik Neij being sentenced to 10 months, Peter Sunde Kolmisoppi to 8 months, and Carl Lundstroem to 4 months. They were also fined 46 million crowns (\$6.56 million) in damages for aiding copyright infringement. The Pirate Bay, which indexes BitTorrent files and bills itself as "The world's most resilient bittorrent site," later launched an appeal, arguing that its website works as a search engine and has no responsibility for the links and content it delivers. The appeal trial concluded in October 2010, upholding the convictions though reducing the sentences of the three defendants who appeared in court.

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-2881/fugitive-pirate-bay-co-founder-arrested-on-thai-border.html>

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