

Crawling towards the goal

July 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 1, 2012

Sign on left: The way to return home safely without being punished

Sign on right: Democracy

The Nation begins its 41st year

July 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



(Source: The Nation front page, July 1, 1971)

[Little boy has matured into a media pioneer](#) – The Nation, July 1, 2012

...The Nation's editor, Tulsathit Taptim, said the founding principles of the newspaper remain unchanged and are guiding how every NMG reporter does his or her job. "Today's reporters of NMG are being guided by the very same principles and ethics held dear by the founding generation," he said...

And here is the original nation manifesto from July 1, 1971 written by a 25-year-old Suthichai Yoon: The How and Why of The Nation by Suthichai Yoon

There is one thing that every newspaper must have—a moral justification for its existence. That is what made us decide to launch The Nation.

After the only other two English-language dailies here merged under foreign ownership, it became obvious to us that the existence of such a paper as ours not only morally just, but also morally necessary...

The Nation will be a responsible newspaper that follows an independent and impartial editorial policy.

"The Nation will strive to be a medium for the mutual exchange of views between the government and the people, interpreting the actions of the government to the public while also reflecting popular sentiment. It will not shy away from voicing criticism if that criticism is of a thoughtful nature, and will voice it without prejudice or antagonism.

The Nation will identify with the Thai Press, and will on no account attempt to form part of a separate institution just because it is not printed in the Thai language...

We know a good percentage of our readers will belong to the foreign community and they will not only have adequate world news but they will also enjoy something they have not had before—a frank and accurate picture of the country in which they have chosen to live and work.

To us, a brickbat is as welcome as a bouquet. The Nation is your newspaper.

Burning Down Your Own House

July 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 2, 2012

Left: Minister Suchart! Why do you torch your own house?

Middle: The aristocrat ordered me to.

Who is the aristocrat?

Right: The aristocrat, named Nutthawut, ordered me to burn and he will be responsible.

The Thai tradition of double weddings in Vietnam

July 3, 2012

Categories: Vietnam

[The Thai tradition of double weddings](#) – english.vietnamnet.vn, July 2, 2012

World's tiniest fly found in Thailand

July 3, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[World's tiniest fly may decapitate ants, live in their heads](#) – Fox News, July 2, 2012

A new fly discovered in Thailand is the world's smallest. It is five times smaller than a fruit fly and tinier than a grain of salt (0.4 millimeters) in length — half the size of the smallest “no see-ums.” It probably also feeds on tiny ants, likely decapitating them and using their head casings as its home...

7-Elevens Ready to Flood Myanmar

July 3, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Mom 'n Pop Stores Face 7-Eleventh Hour Crisis](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 3, 2012

...Last month, 7-Eleven announced that it had agreed terms with the Zaykabar Company, owned by Khin Shwe, a parliamentarian who is one of Burma's most prolific businessmen with a great many engineering and construction projects. Zaykabar was recently at the center of a storm over its alleged illegal seizures of farmers' lands in Rangoon Division's Mingaladon and Hlaing Tharyar townships...

Buffaloes pee on the court

July 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



04/07/55

From Manager, July 4, 2012

On the building: Constitutional Court

Jatuporn says: After 15 million of them pee on that we still cannot topple it!!!

The caption reads: Constant dripping wears away the stone

Other posts with a buffalo theme:

[Fooling the Buffaloes Again](#)

[Thaksin Tricked the Buffaloes](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes](#)

[Thaksin and the Buffaloes](#)

[Red and Blue Buffaloes](#)

Six Years Ago: Finding the man who is hiding a woman inside

July 4, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Six Years Ago: [Finding the man who is hiding a woman inside](#)

Pushing Yingluck off the cliff

July 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 4, 2012

The cartoon title: Cannot move back any further

Yingluck's sign: The elected government by the people

On the pants: The power outside the parliament and independent organizations

On the boot: Judicial power to destroy

On the hooded figure: Order crackdown on the people

On the sign being held by the mouse: The slaves of the dictators

New Commemorative Banknote with the Crown Prince

July 4, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



On the forum: [New Commemorative Banknote with the Crown Prince](#)

Critiquing the Red Shirt movement: red sickles, guns and designer handbags

July 4, 2012

Categories: Art

[Manit Sriwanichpoom: A Reluctant Provocateur Tweaks Thailand](#) – WSJ, July 3, 2012

...According to Mr. Manit, the hues and objects that accessorize the figures – such as red sickles, guns and designer handbags – are a critique of Thailand's prime minister and the red-shirt political movement that supports her and her brother, ousted former leader Thaksin Shinawatra. The second series is composed of blurry monochrome photos of Thai phallic totems – inspired, the artist says, by a moment of middle-aged sexual insecurity...

Two Years Ago: Baby corpses on sale

July 5, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Two Years Ago: [Baby corpses on sale](#)

Japanese tourist foils abduction attempt amid Phuket Police ‘media blackout’

July 5, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Japanese tourist foils abduction attempt amid Phuket Police ‘media blackout’](#) – phuketgazette.net, July 4, 2012

Travel writer taken on gem scam, but doesn't know it

July 5, 2012

Categories: Gem Scam

[Bangkok looks chaotic but offers delight](#) – AAP, July 7, 2012

...But in between Buddhas, the driver would stop at a store and force us to look inside, supposedly a requirement for them to get free fuel from the government, or so we were told (we had been warned about this by friends and numerous travel guides)...

The Red Shirts never threatened the court

July 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 6, 2012

Left: We have never threatened the court. It is the court that sets the flag already.

Middle: How did the court set the flag?

Right: It sets the flag to the point that they will not take our dessert .

Seven Years Ago: Magazine insults Laos

July 6, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [Magazine insults Laos](#)

Weekly News Magazines, June 29, 2012

July 6, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, June 29, 2012

The cover reads: Riding the storm going through the cloud



From Nation Weekly, June 29, 2012

The cover reads: Review the past

The old typing machine shows the words: The future of the news, Suthichai Yoon



From Siam Rath, June 29, 2012

The cover reads: The 3rd episode of the cobra plan targets the leading man in front

Unsteady Thailand

July 6, 2012

Categories: China, Thai Politics

[Unsteady Thailand](#) – isn.ethz.ch, July 5, 2012

...Since the 1970s, Thai-Chinese relations have improved considerably. At the moment, Thailand appears to have better relations with its regional cohort than the United States. Prime Minister Yingluck visited Beijing in spring 2012 where she met outgoing Chinese leader Hu Jintao during what appeared to be a highly cordial trip. The two states affirmed their existing ties and signed agreements to boost bilateral trade. Ms Yingluck and Mr Hu promised to reinforce bilateral ties over regional security and environmental issues. The Thai delegation also promised to boost relations between China and ASEAN. Both countries pledged to work together and do more to ensure regional peace, stability and development.

Contrastingly, a recent high-level tour by the United States primarily focused on countries such as the Philippines, Vietnam and India. Although the US is Thailand's third largest single country export market, Washington appears to be concentrating its efforts on countries where its relations are less secure...

Restoring Southeast Asia's position as the crossroads of Asia

July 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Wary Neighbors Turn Into Partners in a Quickly Developing Southeast Asia](#) – NYT, July 5, 2012

...There is an absolute monarchy, Brunei. There are also two nominally Marxist countries, Laos and Vietnam; and a freewheeling democracy prone to military coups, Thailand. At the geographical extremes are Indonesia, which is mostly Muslim and is the world's largest archipelago, and Myanmar, largely Buddhist, with mountains that form the foothills of the Himalayas.

But the integration of Southeast Asia has taken on a life of its own. It more closely resembles the European Economic Community, an early predecessor to the European Union, than it does the current European bloc, which is struggling to reconcile its plans for a common monetary policy with its lack of fiscal and political unity...

Thailand Film Production Booms

July 6, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Thailand Experiences Foreign Production Boom](#) – Hollywood Reporter, July 5, 2012

...The TFO cited two reasons for the uptick: increased outreach at film markets and trade shows in Hong Kong, London, Cannes and Los Angeles and the U.S. dollar's recent gains over the Thai baht, which has reduced the cost of production for foreign studios shooting in Thailand...

Uncooperative police who don't want to do their jobs behind Phuket 'media blackout' claims

July 6, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Phuket's top-cop denies 'media blackout' in effect](#) – Phuket Gazette, July 5, 2012

...The misunderstanding may have been the result of excuses made up by uncooperative officers who don't want to do their jobs, he said.

According to police officers in both Chalong and Thalang districts yesterday, Royal Thai Police Headquarters had issued a directive that they were not allowed to release information to the media...

Accidental UFO Filmed in Bangkok

July 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Accidental UFO Filmed in Bangkok](#) – gather.com, July 5, 2012

Rama I Road, 1970

July 7, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Rama I Road, 1970

Coyote dancing for the greedy old Brahmin

July 7, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

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...Many Thais believe that when a god or spirit makes a wish come true, they must redeem the vow made when they asked for it to be granted. One extreme example of this belief can be witnessed at Baan Jujaka in Bangkok. Here, thousands of Jujaka statues, a greedy old Brahmin who lived as a beggar in Buddhist legend, are worshipped. Visitors to Baan Jujaka usually redeem their vow by offering coyote dancing – a provocative dance with sexually explicit moves – to the beggar spirit...

Sinkholes at Suvarnabhumi Airport

July 7, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Airport says runway subsidence ‘just wear and tear’](#) – Bangkok Post, July 7, 2012

[Runway crisis deepens](#) – The Nation, July 7, 2012

This recalls the [runway cracks story of 2005](#) when the Thai Rak Thai-led government attempted a Singapore-style suppression of news for the good of the county.

The City of the Fierce Ghost

July 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 8, 2012

The cartoon title: The city of the fierce ghost...

Top left: Gamblers start finding extra money to pay debts from football gambling

Top middle: Follow each other to stay together in death

Top right: The E-pang ghost is still haunted.

The sign: Price rises goes high

Bottom left: The phantom who cut Abhisit's car!

Bottom middle: The destination of the speeding driver

Bottom right: The real house protectors are there. If do not believe it, do not challenge it.

Disappearing article: Thaksin's 320 million baht London apartment

July 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

Asia's top 5 controversial London investors

[PRSEA](#) | Jul 05, 2012 | [Comments 1](#)

London is all the rage now less than one month before the Olympics games kick off. But the metropole has long been considered a safe haven for investors looking for a place to deposit their hard earned money. Some more high profile than others and some more hard earned than others: here is a list of some of the most controversial Asian investors in London.



The apartment in London that Thaksin allegedly owns

Thaksin Shinawatra, former Prime Minister of Thailand

How it was made: Overthrown by the military in 2006, Thaksin's government was accused of corruption, authoritarianism and treason, among others, while Thaksin himself is accused of tax evasion and corruption, among others.

How it was spent: After the coup in 2006, Thaksin [allegedly](#) fled to Maple Lodge on Marloes Road in London, an apartment in which his daughter stayed during her studies. According to sources, the apartment was priced at THB320 million (US\$10.1 million) in 2006.

[Asia's top 5 controversial London investors](#) – property-report.com, July 5, 2012

Several readers pointed out this article has vanished from the net...

Here is Property Report's list of the top 5:

Thaksin Shinawatra, former Prime Minister of Thailand

Bo Xilai, former Communist party boss of Chongqing province in China

Abdul Taib Mahmud, Chief Minister of Sarawak

Thomas and Raymond Kwok, billionaire co-chairmen of Sun Hung Kai Properties

Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of Kazakhstan

Stuck with \$6000 bill after Thai phone theft

July 8, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Stuck with \\$6000 bill after Thai phone theft](#) – nzherald.co.nz, July 8, 2012

A doctor whose phone was pickpocketed while holidaying in Thailand has returned home to a \$6000 phone bill – and she is being asked to pay up...

Praying for New Judges

July 10, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 10, 2012

Left: How could you be a Ph.D. in Law? You don't want the court that follows the law...

Middle: ...but asks me for the court that gives a verdict according to your preference, so I will send the new judges.

Chalerm replies: Who would you send to me?

Right: The DJ to switch the music as you like to be in front of the courthouse.

Whose Son Is Worse?

July 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 10, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Teach well your children

Suthep says: Tell Oak to stop wreaking chaos in Thailand

The paper he holds: Sor Por Kor 4-01

The man in the background is Tan, Suthep's son, and the sign in his hand reads: Khao Paeng

The words coming from the laptop: Tell your father to stop encroaching on public land in Thailand

The word on the sign hold by the mice read: Sticking with Oke and unable to go over Thaksin's case

Thailand to acquire Sikorsky Black Hawk UH-60M helicopters

July 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Military

[Thailand Signs LOA to be first in Southeast Asia to operate Sikorsky UH-60M helicopters](#) – marketwatch.com, July 9, 2012

...Upon delivery, Thailand will become the first member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to fly the very latest version of the BLACK HAWK helicopter operated by the U.S. Army. Sikorsky is a subsidiary of United Technologies Corp...

‘Cloud Thailand Alliance’ to boost Thai cloud development

July 10, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand forms alliance to boost cloud development](#) – ZDNet, July 9, 2012

...The group was officially launched earlier this month, and the six founding members comprise: True IDC, Datapro, Anise Asia, Cloud Creation, TOT GO, and Software Park Thailand...

Cold reading in Bangkok?

July 10, 2012

Categories: Scams

[Mysterious Encounter in Bangkok](#) – sandiegoreader.com, July 9, 2012

...”You have two bad habits. One is that you cannot keep a secret. I will talk to you about this and your other bad habit if you give me \$2,400 baht...”

North Korea: Kim Jong Un's Mystery Woman

July 10, 2012

Categories: North Korea

[What Kim's 'mystery woman' says about North Korea](#) – CNN, July 10, 2012

The violent farang mafia that run Thailand's flourishing boiler room scams and sex industry

July 10, 2012

Categories: Scams

[Drugs, sex, rape, loadsamoney – Boiler rooms and salutary neglect](#) – andrew-drummond.com, July 9, 2012

...Again a bit of gloss was put on this arrest. Not only did those charges not materialize but after negotiations all were simply deported on immigration charges and the boss got his computers back.

Those computers contained details of everyone who had been conned and by what amount...

Red Shirt Jatuporn sentenced for accusing Abhisit of sitting incorrectly during an audience with Thailand's King

July 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai Red Shirt sentenced over royal seating claim](#) – AFP, July 10, 2012

...In court Mr Abhisit successfully argued that since the chair had been provided by the royal household, his sitting on it could not be seen as a mark of disrespect. 'The court finds the defendant did not honestly criticise the plaintiff,' the judge said, adding that Jatuporn had been an opposition MP for the now-ruling Pheu Thai party at the time, and that his comments had 'political motivation...'

Friday the 13th and Judge Freddy

July 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons

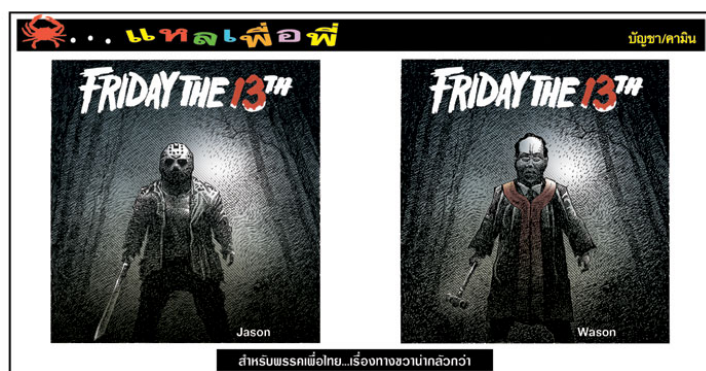


From Komchadluek, July 10, 2012



From Komchadluek, July 10, 2012

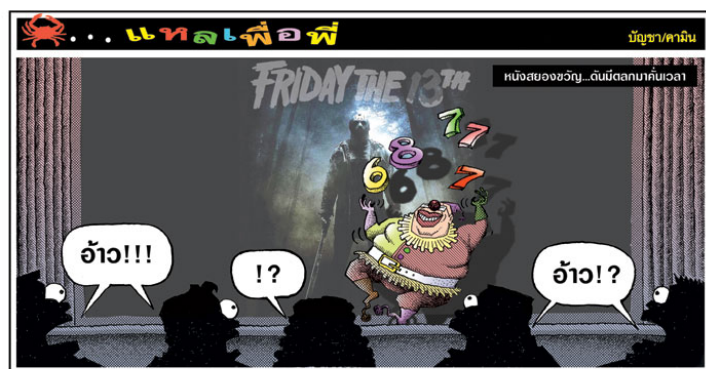
The caption reads: Step back!



10/07/55

From Manager, July 10, 2012

The caption reads: For the Pheu Thai Party, the story on the right hand side is more threatening.



11/07/55

From Manager, July 11, 2012

The caption reads: The prelude comedy before the dreadful movie.



From Thairath, July 6, 2012

The picture description reads: The force to protect the comedians

The word on the sign reads: Constitutional Court

The caption reads: Soldiers and police, step back just as the communists come.

The word on the uniform reads: Communist force of Thailand

The mouse men say: Move back soldiers and police officers, the communists come by themselves , Stop hurting Thailand



From Thairath, July 9, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Keep the words to protect the justice

On the right: breaching the constitutional monarchy, dissolving the party and ban on political rights

On the left: 18th August, 2010 – If the government wants to revise the constitution, the charter drafting assembly should be set up to take care of the constitution revision of the constitution 2007 – 19 February 2012, they haven't written it yet, how could we know that they will write it to benefit someone? We should wait to see as it might not be like what we think.

The word on the book reads: The draft on article 291 revision

The word on the sign that the mouse holds reads: Friday 13th, sweet dream for justice

The mousy man says: Wasan VS Jason



From Komchadluek, July 8, 2012

Thaksin says: So we will walk 10 steps each and then let's duel.

Earlier editorial cartoons on the Friday the 13th ruling:

[Burning the Court for Thaksin](#)

[Abolish the Court](#)

[Shooting at the Court](#)

[Challenging the Court](#)

[Time to Burn the Court](#)

Cambodia: 13 women convicted for their part in a peaceful demonstration

July 11, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Release of Boeung Kak lake activists overshadowed by failure to achieve justice and further violence against peaceful demonstrators](#) – IFEX, July 10, 2012

...While the immediate result of the verdict is to be welcomed, injustice prevails for as long as the convictions against these women remain. Of equal concern is the fact that, earlier in the day, authorities beat at least three people – including an 11 year old girl and a 14 year old boy – who had come to take part in a demonstration near the court in support of the thirteen activists. The third person – 25 year old Pov Sreysross who is a sister of one of the thirteen – is said to have suffered a miscarriage as a result of having been kicked in the abdomen by a member of the security forces...

Malaysia: Blogger held under draconian Official Secrets Act

July 11, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Blogger held under draconian Official Secrets Act](#) – IFEX, July 10, 2012

...Better known by the blog name of “Uncle Seekers” and a believer in the paranormal, Syed Abdullah is the son of a leading political writer, Syed Hussein Al-Attas. He has dedicated more than 60 posts in Malay to the theme of “Sultan Johor Atau Kerabatnya?” (The Sultan of Johor or his relatives?). They have included documents supporting his claims that part of the fortune left by the late Sultan Iskandar, who died in 2010, was embezzled...

Myanmar aims to bring mobile and Internet to masses

July 11, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar aims to bring mobile and Internet to masses](#) – phys.org, July 10, 2012

...Communications are seen as a key obstacle to development in Myanmar, one of the poorest countries in the world where few can afford mobile phones costing hundreds of dollars and the Internet is mainly the preserve of the urban elite.

But the situation is seen as a major opportunity for international firms to provide mobile phones those without them — an estimated 96 percent of the country's near 60 million population...

‘Somchai’ most popular male name

July 11, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[‘Somchai’ most popular male name](#) – Bangkok Post, July 11, 2012

...The four next most popular names, according to the official registrations, are Somsak (230,000), Somporn (210,000), Somboon (170,400), and Prasert (170,000)...

Burmese Protest Thai Takeover of Monastery

July 11, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burmese Protest Thai Takeover of Monastery](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 11, 2012

Around 150 Burmese residents of Chiang Mai protested on Monday against plans by Thailand's Department of Religion (DOR) to hand over the Wat Sai Moon monastery to a Thai abbot.

The monastery, which has been a cornerstone of the local Burmese community for generations, has had a long succession of Burmese abbots. According to its record book, the last 10 abbots have been Burmese. The latest, U Arthaba, died last year...

Weekly News Magazines, July 6, 2012

July 12, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, July 6, 2012

The cover reads: The authority of the state

The authority of the judicial

The authority of the constitution

On the seal: The Constitutional Court



From Nation Weekly, July 6, 2012

The cover reads: Monk 'Jason' and advanced meditation



From Siam Rath Weekly, July 6, 2012

The cover reads: The knights' movement impacts the pawns.

The photo shows Constitutional Court President Wasan Soypisuth and Court Judge Charan Pakdeethanakul.

Singapore: Restrict foreigners who try “to reap benefits without any obligations”

July 12, 2012

Categories: Singapore

[Singapore Restricts Foreigners](#) – WSJ, July 10, 2012

...Discontent over higher living costs and a widening income gap, which many residents blame on the relatively open immigration policy, has undercut support for the ruling People's Action Party, which won last year's general election by the smallest margin ever. According to the Singapore-based Institute of Policy Studies, 52% of voters said immigration was an important issue to them in that election...

Explaining the Airport to Foreigners

July 13, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 13, 2012

Left: Despite Suvarnabhumi Airport operating for only five years, our staff...

Middle: ...are as skillful as other established international airport worldwide.

The foreigner asks: In service?

Right: In fixing the cracked runways.

Together fight against the crisis!

July 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 13, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Together fight against the crisis!

The big bold words read: The economic crisis from Europe

The words on the wall: The crisis of the aristocrats aiming to destroy the government.

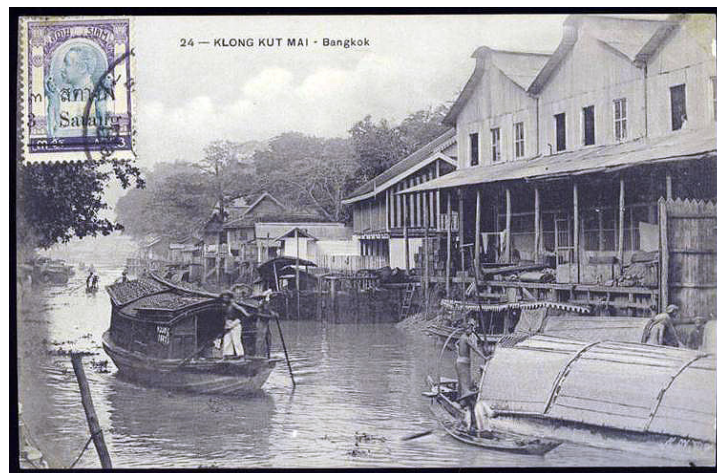
The small man says: Fight fighting

The sign held by the mouse: Fight with aristocrats!

Klong Kutmai, 1910

July 14, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Klong Kutmai, 1910

Corruption and Incompetence: Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport Problems Reaching Crisis Levels

July 14, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Bangkok's Airport of Smiles in Crisis](#) – asiasentinel.com, July 13, 2012

...Although most airports have teething troubles, Suvarnabhumi has become a near legend for frustrated travelers. Some passengers were forced to wait up to four hours for their baggage to appear on the day it was inaugurated. Cracks began to appear in taxiways and runways almost before it opened and have continued regularly. Aviation and tourism executives have warned repeatedly that the government and the corruption-riddled Airports of Thailand, which administers the facility, must work to maintain safety standards...

Don't trust the path, don't trust the people

July 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 15, 2012

The cartoon headline reads: Don't trust the path, don't trust the people

Top left: Don't trust that the men who show their baseball bat will always ask you to join the game

Top middle: Don't trust that the man will always come to 7-11 for buying

Top right: Don't trust that at age 70, you will not face being raped

Bottom left: Don't trust the breast of Thai girls.

Top middle: Don't trust that the next flight will land at Suvarnabhumi runway

Top right: Don't trust that after Friday 13th, there would be no more crisis

Thaksin's Dubai lawyer in Man City sale jailed for breach of trust

July 15, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thaksin's Dubai lawyer in Man City sale jailed for breach of trust](#) – thenational.ae, July, 2012

...He was accused of embezzling €15m (Dh67m) after Mr Thaksin asked him to receive a money transfer on his behalf and deposit it in a Montenegrin bank account in his name.

Records show the lawyer convinced Mr Thaksin to keep the money in the law firm's bank account to avoid political pressure, but later transferred it into his own account...

Sri Lanka's Defence Minister goes berserk

July 15, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Sri Lanka's Defence Minister goes berserk](#) – thesundayleader.lk, July 8, 2012

...Defence Minister: "People will kill you!!! People hate you!!! They will kill you!!!"

Journalist: "On your directive?"

Defence Minister: "What?? No. Not mine. But they will kill you – you dirty f.....g shit journalist..."

On the forum: Exotic Thai Whiskey

July 15, 2012

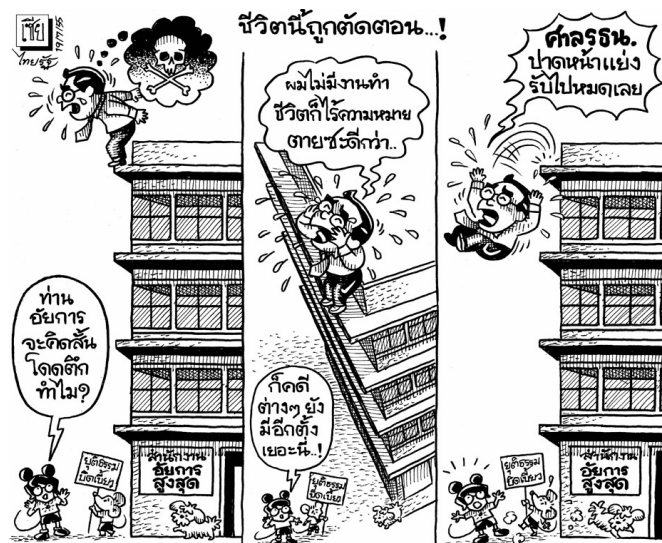
Categories: Food and Drink

On the forum: [Exotic Thai Whiskey](#).

The Attorney General Committing Suicide

July 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 16, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Life sucks!

Left: Sign on the building: The Office of the Attorney-General

The man says: Judge, why you are going to commit suicide?

The mouse holds a sign: Distorted justice

Middle: The man on the building says: I have no work to do. I am meaningless. I'd better die.

The man says: There are many pending cases

Right: The man says: The Constitutional Court seized them all.

Party Over for the Buffaloes

July 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



16/07/55

From Manager, July 16, 2012

The word on the party sign reads: Celebrations for the constitution revision

Left: Ah!... are we cheated by the Constitutional Court?

Right: Yes... if we understand, the constitution revision will not happen in this lifetime.

The caption reads: 4 days pass... They just realized.

Other posts with a buffalo theme:

[Buffaloes pee on the court](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes Again](#)

[Thaksin Tricked the Buffaloes](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes](#)

[Thaksin and the Buffaloes](#)

[Red and Blue Buffaloes](#)

Malaysia and Thailand partner to end political fires in the South Thailand

July 16, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Malaysia and Thailand partner to end political fires in the South Thailand](#) – bikyamasr.com, July 15, 2012

...During February's formal visit, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak stated, "Malaysia supports the solutions to Thailand's problems on its south border in a peaceful way and opposes all acts of violence in every form, including terrorism and suppression. Malaysia supports the citizens of Thailand to be loyal to the Thai monarchy..."

Two Directions for the Government

July 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 16, 2012

The word on the boat reads: Government

Left sign: Revising the constitution

Right sign: Solving the problems on the basic needs of the people

Yingluck says: Go to the left quickly!

Dash Cams for Thai Police Cars and Motorcycles

July 16, 2012

Categories: Thai Police

[Hikvision launches mobile security to help police in Bangkok](#) – securitypark.co.uk, July 16, 2012

...Beginning in late 2011, Bangkok's Crime Suppression Unit began placing Hikvision's DS-8104HMI-A Mobile DVR and DS-6101HLI Portable Video Recorder in both squad cars and motorcycle units to achieve a wide array of security benefits. Most importantly, these tools have helped the Thai police force and the larger communities in which they serve...

Cambodia and Thailand set to withdraw troops from Preah Vihear on July 18

July 16, 2012

Categories: Preah Vihear

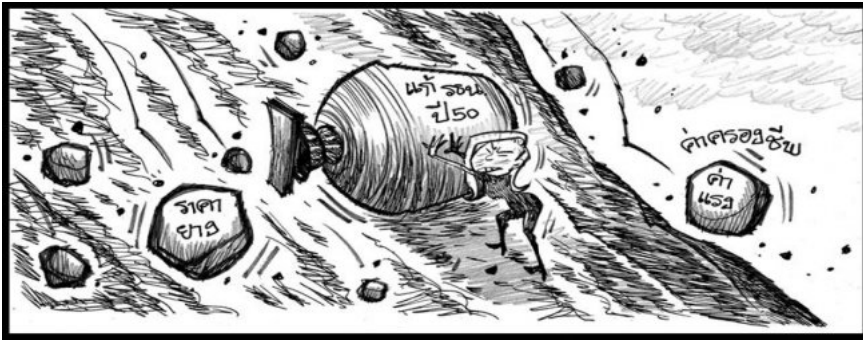
[Troops to withdraw from Preah Vihear](#) – phnompenhpost.com, July 16, 2012

...Both countries are now set to withdraw troops on July 18, exactly one year after the International Court of Justice ordered them to do so “immediately”. Prime Minister Hun Sen announced on Friday that after meeting with his Thai counterpart, Yingluck Shinawatra, an in-principle agreement had been struck to redeploy troops from the 17.3-kilometre PDZ...

Yingluck Pushing a Rock Up a Hill

July 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 17, 2012

On the large rock: Revision of the 2007 constitution

The word on the smaller rocks: The price of rubber, labor costs, the cost of living

Cambodian fathers build sex huts for their nine to 13-year-old daughters

July 17, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian fathers build sex huts for their nine to 13-year-old daughters](#) – Daily Mail, July 16, 2012

Members of the Kreung tribe believe that women can be empowered by spending the night with different members of the opposite sex...

Beautiful new snake discovered in Cambodia

July 17, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[‘Beautiful’ new snake discovered in Cambodia](#) – mongabay.com, July 16, 2012

Scientists have discovered a new snake species in the biodiverse rainforests of the Cardamom Mountains, reports Fauna & Flora International (FFI). The new reddish-hued serpent has been named after its country of origin by native herpetologist Neang Thy: the Cambodian kukri (*Oligodon kampucheaensis*)...

Thailand's PTT wins battle for Cove as Shell drops out

July 17, 2012

Categories: Energy

[Thailand's PTT wins battle for Cove as Shell drops out](#) – Financial Times, July 16, 2012

...For PTT, buying Cove is central to its push to diversify Thailand's sources of natural gas and to increase imports of liquefied natural gas. PTT's chief executive, Pailin Chuchottaworn, told the Financial Times last month that the Cove bid was "part of a strategy," and was "a very careful, calculated move." He also emphasized that it came at a time when PTT – which is about two-thirds government owned – was seeking to redefine its role as a national oil company and be more proactive in mergers and acquisitions...

UAE deports activist to Thailand in widening crackdown on dissent

July 17, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rights group: UAE deports activist to Thailand in widening crackdown on dissent](#) – AP, July 16, 2012

...The deportee did not have any reported connection to Thailand, but was a member of one of a number of families who have lived for generations in the Emirates who have never been given full citizenship...

The Robber Warns of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

July 18, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 18, 2012

Left: Give me all the money you have.

Middle: Don't wait until the hand, foot and mouth disease attacks you.

The other man says: I don't have money.

Right: See? I warn you that the hand-foot and mouth disease is spreading.

Thaksin going higher profile: Speaking at Jakarta forum with Horta and Anwar

July 18, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[SBY, Thaksin, Horta and Anwar to speak at Jakarta forum](#) – July 17, 2012

...The inaugural forum on “Peace and Reconciliation in Southeast Asia” features former Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, former Timor Leste president Jose Ramos-Horta, and Anwar Ibrahim, opposition leader and former deputy prime minister of Malaysia.

According to the organizers, this is the first time that Thaksin will have given a public address in an ASEAN country since 2008...

Thaksin says amnesty is “key to reconciliation” and long overdue

July 18, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Thaksin says amnesty key to reconciliation](#) – AP, July 17, 2012

... “Everyone says the same thing, that reconciliation must include amnesty,” he told a panel discussion at the Strategic Review Forum in Jakarta. “It’s long overdue for Thailand to bring about reconciliation.

“If you learn how to forgive, that’s the only key, it’s the key to reconciliation. I’d like to urge all parties in Thailand to forgive...”

Russia's CTC expands to Thailand: TV network targeting sizeable expat community

July 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Russia's CTC expands to Thailand: TV network targeting sizeable expat community](#) – chicagotribune.com, July 17, 2012

...CTC International, which carries a mix of U.S. and Russian-made entertainment content, will begin broadcasting in Phuket, where more than 550,000 Russians live, in a deal with Thai Media Export Co. The service will later be expanded to Bangkok and Pattaya, where there are also sizeable Russian populations...

UAE rights activist to carry on fighting in Thailand

July 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[UAE rights activist to carry on fighting in Thailand](#) – Reuters, July 17, 2012

...Abdul Khaleq said plain clothes policemen in the UAE had taken one of his phones, handcuffed him and bundled him into a car before taking him to the airport, where he was told he would never be allowed to return...

[UAE activist expelled to Thailand faces close watch](#) – Bangkok Post, July 18, 2012

...Foreign Ministry deputy spokesman Sek Wannamethee said the ministry was aware that Abd al-Khaleq, 35, had left Dubai and arrived in Thailand on a 60-day tourist visa.

...He belongs to the stateless Bidun (meaning “without”) minority who are denied passports, making it impossible for them to leave the UAE.

...Asked what the Thai government would do if the man overstays, Mr Sek said the ministry would work with the Immigration Office to have him expelled to the Comoros Islands...

Siamese King's Tomb to be Destroyed

July 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Myanmar/Burma

[Siamese King's Tomb to be Destroyed](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 18, 2012

...“Thai people regularly come to their ex-king’s tomb to pay respect. I always have to clean the tomb before their arrival. They will also feel hurt if the tomb is destroyed,” said Nyein Win, an archaeologist in Amarapura...

Phnom Penh Post's 20th Anniversary

July 19, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

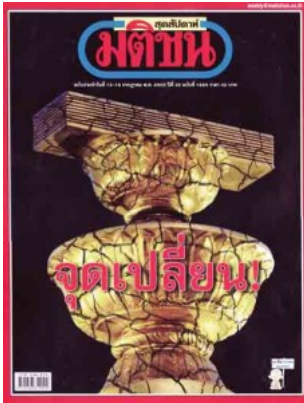
[Phnom Penh Post's 20th Anniversary](#) (22MB pdf)

...Hayes had zero experience as a journalist, less as a businessman, and an equal knowledge of contemporary Cambodia. Thank God, or he never would have embarked on such a ludicrous idea as shepherding into existence what was to become one of the finest beacons of press freedom anywhere in the world. With that resume, he fit seamlessly with the metastasizing hordes of foreigners descending on the country. Within a year, Hayes had carefully created and guided the Phnom Penh Post into a courageous and ground breaking vehicle for emerging expression of peaceful dissent and debating public policy—a concept as wholly unfamiliar as it was desperately needed in Cambodia...

Weekly News Magazines, July 13, 2012

July 19, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, July 13, 2012
The cover reads: The change!



From Nation Weekly, July 13, 2012
The cover reads: Love Live the King



From SiamRath Weekly, July 13, 2012
The cover reads: Democracy incomplete

Thai billionaire's \$1.6 billion stake in Singapore drinks and property group Fraser and Neave

July 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[For Thai billionaire, move on F&N fits quest for beer empire](#) – Reuters, July 18, 2012

Thaksin will forgive those who ousted him like Japan forgave the US for dropping the atom bomb

July 19, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Former Thai PM Tells Jakarta He Forgives Those Who Ousted Him](#) – thejakartaglobe.com, July 18, 2012

... *"I would suggest that everybody in Thailand detach themselves from the past," said Thaksin, citing an example the way Japan forgave the United States, which dropped atomic bombs on it during World War II, and became a close ally.*

"If you learn how to forgive, that is success for reconciliation," Thaksin said...

[Thaksin unclear on return to Thailand](#) – FT, July 18, 2012

... *Korn Chatikavanij, deputy leader of Thailand's opposition Democrat party, questioned the group's inclusion of Mr Thaksin, telling the FT: "I am assuming the other politicians on that panel were not aware of Thaksin's participation, as it doesn't make them look good regarding their own attitudes to corruption; but given that the Thai government is openly controlled by Thaksin ... I can almost excuse the organiser's lapse of judgment. If we ourselves are not committed in our fight against corruption ... then we can't expect others to respect Thailand and its institutions."*

Rocker Pete Doherty asked to leave rehab in Thailand

July 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rocker Pete Doherty asked to leave rehab in Thailand](#) – Reuters, July 20, 2012

Investors Look to Thailand, Philippines as Indonesia Love Affair Fades

July 20, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Investors Look to Thailand, Philippines as Indonesia Love Affair Fades](#) – WSJ, July 19, 2012

...In Thailand, meanwhile, investors have been buoyed by a strong rebound in the economy following last year's devastating floods, which temporarily shut down much of the country's industrial production. Thailand is on track to post 5.5% growth this year versus 0.1% last year, according to HSBC...

Who says non-Thais can't own land? Foreigners selling their US\$6.8 million villa on Samui

July 20, 2012

Categories: Property and Development

[A Beach Retreat in Thailand](#) – WSJ, July 19, 2012

...WHAT WE PAID: Mr. Kozlowski says he and his partner spent \$1.4 million on the land, \$300,000 on the roads and infrastructure, \$400,000 on landscaping and \$1.4 million on the home, which was completed in 2007. A further \$250,000 went into furnishings, which are included...

Expats warned of illegal home crackdown in Thailand

July 20, 2012

Categories: Property and Development

[Expats warned of illegal home crackdown in Thailand](#) – Telegraph, July 20, 2012

...To get around these restrictions, some have entered into complicated structures whereby a company is set up to purchase the land. A Thai national holds the majority of shares in that company, but in reality may have no financial interest in the company and may own it on behalf of the foreign buyer.

It is these such “nominee ownership” arrangements that the government now wants to crack down on, and Charoenpanij has also proposed a reward – of 20 per cent of the land’s value when sold – for those providing information about illegal ownership. His plans also include penalties for lawyers or consultants who advise foreign buyers on nominee structures.

Natives at Game

July 21, 2012
Categories: Old photos and films



A Gambling Groupe, 1899



Natives at Game

Yingluck: Thailand's Novice Leader Looks Back One Year Later

July 21, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Yingluck Shinawatra: Thailand's Novice Leader Looks Back One Year Later](#) – Le Monde, July 21, 2012

...She refutes that she is in permanent contact with him, or that she is only here to recite a script that is written in Dubai. "I use my own qualities as a leader in power. I need his support, yes, but the clear message that I send to everyone is this: I am the Prime Minister," Shinawatra says.

In Bangkok, many don't believe her. "She is completely ignorant. But I have to admit that she has improved her way of talking to journalists. She is shrewd," says Manith Sriwanithpoom, a famous artist...

Thailand is one of the few countries that does not honor the human rights laws for those who flee persecution & seek asylum

July 21, 2012

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Bangkok church reaches int'l refugees in its own backyard](#) – bpnews.net, July 20, 2012

...Thailand is one of the few countries that does not honor the international human rights laws protecting those who flee persecution and seek asylum outside of traditional camps. Instead, urban refugees are considered illegal migrants...

[In Bangkok detention, refugee learns of Christ](#) – bpnews.net, July 20, 2012

Why did President Yudhoyono sit next to Thaksin?

July 22, 2012

Categories: Thaksin Lobbying

[Insight: The President's politically incorrect gesture](#) – thejakartapost.com, July 21, 2012

...My question is, why did President Yudhoyono not convey his objection at being seated next to a graft convict, who happens to be a former prime minister of Thailand? And, why were the organizers of the event so insensitive to the fact that Thaksin's presence near Yudhoyono could cast serious doubts over the Indonesian President's commitment to the fight against corruption?...

Classic Movies in Miniature Style

July 22, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Classic Movies in Miniature Style](#)

Thais reconnect with a 1970s-era sound

July 22, 2012

Categories: Music

[Thais reconnect with a 1970s-era sound](#) – LA Times, July 22, 2012

Luk thung and mor lam, Thai musical genres closely associated with hardscrabble life in the poor, rural northeast, are gaining new popularity in the cities...

New York, L.A., Chicago, Washington, Houston, Dallas, and Philly all have bigger economies than Thailand

July 22, 2012

Categories: Economy

[U.S. Cities With Bigger Economies Than Entire Countries](#) – wsj.com, July 20, 2012

Cambodian Monks Launch Online Blessing Website

July 22, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian Monks Launch Online Blessing Website](#) – prweb.com, July 21, 2012

The monks of Wat Chrey in Cambodia's south-east, are embracing the tech world by working with a not-for-profit organization to offer Blessings online. The website [OrangeRobes.com](#) was officially launched today...

China Becomes Top Source of Tourists to Thailand

July 22, 2012

Categories: Tourism

[China Becomes Top Tourist Source to Thailand](#) – menafn.com, July 22, 2012

Angel vs Devil and Thaksin

July 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 23, 2012

The devil says: Believe me master, the public cannot accept the case of fleeing army enlistment more than the case of you fleeing your trial.

Chasing Abhisit for escaping army enlistment

July 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



23/07/55

From Manager, July 23, 2012

Left: Defense Minister, don't you protect the Thai border? Why do you order retreat?

The man in the jeep: There is a more important mission that we have to complete.

Right: Chasing Abhisit for escaping army enlistment.

Thailand – Land of smiles or tourist trap?

July 23, 2012

Categories: Tourism

[Thailand – Land of smiles or tourist trap?](#) – Reuters, July 22, 2012

...Their deaths are the latest in a tumult of violence and intrigue to shake tourism in postcard-perfect Thailand, raising questions over whether it is squandering a prized asset by failing to protect travelers arriving in record numbers.

Other headlines are less dramatic but equally troubling: taxi driver mafias, transvestite thieves, pollution, tourist brawls, traffic accidents, and at airports, radar glitches, flight delays and long immigration queues.

“The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) think numbers are going up so people must like it here, but the problem is the quality of their visit has gone down...”

The war for strict Islamic law in Thailand's south

July 23, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thailand's war without an audience](#) – Boston Globe, July 21, 2012

...Yet just 200 miles away from this lush, wealthy scene, in a more rural part of the country, a far different daily routine is taking place. Most days, before the sun even sets, violence will shatter any sense of calm. Armed insurgents blow massive holes in the roads with IEDs. When the insurgents seize officials, teachers, or even ordinary rubber plantation workers believed to have sympathies with the national government, they behead them and leave their decapitated bodies in public places. They warn residents to obey a strict form of Islam and not to cooperate with the government. Fighters storm buses and strafe them with gunfire, killing young children, and firebomb primary schools, leaving charred remains and prompting schoolteachers to pack pistols in the classroom...

Kratom Leaf for Drug Cocktail Adds to Thailand's Woes

July 23, 2012

Categories: Drugs, The Thai Deep South

[Leaf for Drug Cocktail Adds to Thailand's Woes](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/23/world/asia/kratom-leaf-for-drug-cocktail-adds-to-thailands-woes.html)<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/23/world/asia/kratom-leaf-for-drug-cocktail-adds-to-thailands-woes.html> – New York Times, July 22, 2012

... But the spreading popularity of the much stronger narcotic cocktail — typically made by boiling the leaves and adding cough syrup, Coca-Cola and ice — has created a sharp increase in demand for the leaf. Young people sneak into protected forests and smuggle out duffel bags stuffed with the feather-shaped leaves. The demand also appears to be driven in part by the stigma against alcohol among the Muslims who are a majority in the region...

Thailand 9th in flood risk in emerging markets – China 1st

July 23, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Insight: Flood risk rampant across Asia's factory zones](#) – Reuters, July 22, 2012

...”When I go and look at these industrial parks and ports in some of the low-lying coastal areas, I just have to stand back and think: Who’s insuring these things? Who’s done the risk assessment?”...

Thailand, Myanmar pledge to continue pushing Dawei industrial project

July 23, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Thailand, Myanmar back ambitious port project](#) – AFP, July 23, 2012

...The Dawei development on Myanmar's southern Andaman coast is a key part of the impoverished country's plans to transform its economy, giving neighbours such as Thailand an outlet to the Indian Ocean and markets to the West.

But the project — led by Thai industrial giant Ital-Thai — has faced resistance from local villagers and there have been signs of funding troubles...

Thai soldiers shot Italian photographer, say police

July 23, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thai soldiers shot Italian photographer, say police](#) – AFP, July 23, 2012

...”The conclusion found that the cause of his death was believed to have been a gunshot from the authorities on duty,” he told Bangkok’s Criminal Court on the opening day of the inquest...

Red Shirts Red Card the Communists for Supporting the Court

July 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 5, 2012

The cartoon title reads: The newest column, the latest one to support

The word on the man's shirt reads: The new Thai communists

The word next to the mouse man: Red cards

The word close man holding the pole: The red star

The word on the card reads: Slanted

The word on the joss house: Constitution Court comedian

The word on the sign that the mouse holds reads: Breaking the law itself

Elephant Smuggling Exposed: How Thailand's Tourist Industry is Driving a Brutal Trade in Baby Elephants

July 24, 2012

Categories: Film and TV, Tourism, Wildlife and Nature

[The agonising blows that expose the evil secrets of Thailand's elephant tourism con: The Duchess of Cornwall's brother tells how baby elephants are brutally starved and tortured](#) – Dailymail.co.uk, July 21, 2012

...Entire families of elephants are routinely being rounded up and the adults shot dead so that babies can be dragged back to Thailand illegally....

Chinese Embassy in Bangkok Repeatedly Attacks Protester

July 24, 2012

Categories: China

[Torment in Thailand: Chinese Embassy Versus Grandma](#) – Epoch Times, July 23, 2012

...According to Mrs. Lin, the local police chief believes that the attack was carried out by Chinese agents hired by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to attempt to silence her voice of protest. The police chief told Mrs. Lin to be careful, and that he would investigate the case. Thailand media reported the incident.

Mrs. Lin resumed her protest after recovering from the beating. Starting July 18, she began displaying an even bigger banner, which reads: “Persecution Can Only Be Stopped by Disintegrating the CCP...”

ATM skimmers that fit in the card-slot

July 24, 2012

Categories: Scams

[ATM Skimmers Get Wafer Thin](#) – krebsonsecurity.com, July 24, 2012

It's getting harder to detect some of the newer ATM skimmers, fraud devices attached to or inserted into cash machines and designed to steal card and PIN data. Among the latest and most difficult-to-spot skimmer innovations is a wafer-thin card reading device that can be inserted directly into the ATM's card acceptance slot...

“Lanna Dream” and “the prostitute of the dance world”

July 25, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Dancing for Love and Money in Thailand](#) – WSJ, July 24, 2012

...For the premiere of “Lanna Dream” in spring 2011, some audience members got upset because my performance is very sensual and direct. We had them write comments, and they said they felt like I am what we call “licking the leg of the foreigner.”

What I’m doing is nothing against the conservativeness of this culture at all. If you go to the clubs here, you’ll see girls in really high shorts. But when it comes to something that we call “culture,” some people get very sensitive about sexuality and body parts. Why is it OK for girls to walk around in short-short shorts, but me wearing something like that is not OK?...

Thai people & especially golf caddies a “secret weapon” for golf tourism

July 25, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Thai People a “Secret Weapon” for Golf Tourism](#) – PRWeb, July 25, 2012

...”You can probably find countries with better golf courses, maybe with better value, nicer weather and better infrastructure, but nowhere else matches the genuine friendliness of the Thai people,” he said...

Two Years Ago: Bombing attack challenging the emergency decree

July 26, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Two Years Ago: [Bombing attack challenging the emergency decree](#)
[Rajaprasong bomb](#)
[Why did you stage a bombing at Rajaprasong?](#)

Government from Afar: Thaksin's Decision on the Military Reshuffle, Confers with the Police Chief

July 26, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Critics blast top cop's Thaksin trip – Meeting with fugitive leader called unethical](#) – Bangkok Post, July 26, 2012

National police chief Priewpan Damapong has come under fire after leaving the country to meet fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra in Hong Kong...

[Sukumpol consults with Thaksin on reshuffle list](#) – Bangkok Post, July 26, 2012

...The former premier picked Gen Thanongsak Apirakyothin, an assistant to army chief Gen Prayuth Chan-ocha, as the new permanent-secretary for defence, said ACM Sukumpol.

Thaksin also made the decision to appoint ACM Prajin Jantong, an assistant to air force chief ACM Itthaporn Subha-wong, as the new air force commander, said ACM Sukumpol...

[The prime minister is still under big brother's orders](#) – The Nation, July 26, 2012

Despite all the denials, it's clear that the real leader of this country resides in exile and has a clone and assorted proxies to do his bidding...

Plainclothes police kicking down motorcycles driving past to search them

July 26, 2012

Categories: Thai Police



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/U0ppWOpN2mc>



[Alleged cop attacks bikers](#) – Bangkok Post, July 26, 2012

...According to the uploader, he was driving a car behind the motorcycle. He later rolled down his car window and asked the officer who was holding a ticket book, “Why are you doing this to the public?”

“Well, I didn’t kick you,” the officer replied...

2006-2011: 430 Aussies died in Thailand – Cause of Death Unknown in 132 cases

July 26, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand tops Australian death list](#) – ninemsn.com.au, July 26, 2012

Weekly News Magazines, July 20, 2012

July 27, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matchon Weekly, July 20, 2012

The cover reads: Public Referendum, hands to support Poo?



From Nation Weekly, July 20, 2012

The cover reads: National Police Chief, Nakae Police Cadet School



From Siamrath Weekly, July 20, 2012

The cover reads: I don't know?

Former Thai Prime Minister Throws Lavish Birthday Dinner

July 27, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



[Former Thai Prime Minister Throws Lavish Birthday Dinner](#) – ibtimes.com, July 26, 2012

Thailand's move to ban asbestos leaves Quebec looking foolish

July 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's move to ban asbestos leaves Quebec looking foolish](#) – ationalpost.com, July 26, 2012

...The organization has publicly questioned the danger of asbestos, such as in August 2011, when Oran Vanich's CEO, Kriewsakul Uran said that the roof tiles being manufactured with asbestos in Thailand "pose no health risk..."

Singaporeans find the trains crowded with Mandarin speakers and they aren't handling it well

July 27, 2012

Categories: Singapore

[In Singapore, Vitriol Against Chinese Newcomers](#) – NYT, July 27, 2012

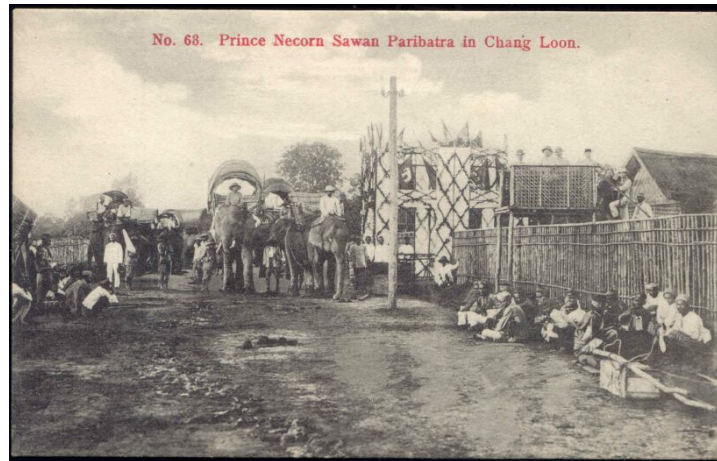
... “Mainlanders may look like us, but they aren't like us,” said Mr. Tan, who is of mixed Malay-Chinese descent and does not speak Mandarin. “Singaporeans look down on mainlanders as country bumpkins, and they look down on us because we can't speak proper Chinese.”

These days, mainland Chinese get blamed for driving up real-estate prices, stealing the best jobs and clogging the roads with flashy European sports cars. Coffee shop patrons gripe that they need Mandarin to order their beloved Kopi-C (coffee sweetened with evaporated milk). True or not, tales of Chinese women stealing away married men have become legion...

Prince Necorn Sawan Paribatra in Chang Loon

July 28, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Prince Necorn Sawan Paribatra in Chang Loon

Myanmar: Economic Miracle or Muslim Killing Field?

July 28, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's budding miracle](#) – Japan Times, July 28, 2012

...The prime minister also said Japan would forgive \$3.7 billion of Myanmar's debt as a way to support the democratic and economic reforms in Myanmar (aka Burma)...

[Killing Muslims in Myanmar aims to counter Islam: Iran cleric](#) – presstv.ir, July 27, 2012

Tehran's interim Friday prayers leader has slammed the ongoing violence against Myanmarese Muslims, saying such crimes aim to counter Islam and Islamic Awakening...

[Taliban target Myanmar](#) – Bangkok Post, July 27, 2012

The Pakistani Taliban Thursday threatened to attack Myanmar to avenge crimes against the Muslim Rohingya, unless Pakistan halts all relations with the Naypyidaw government and shuts the Myanmar embassy in Islamabad...

[Burmese filmmakers tell stories of a country in transition](#) – dw.de, July 27, 2012

...She and her family are the protagonists of a documentary made by Zaw Naing Oo. The film tells the universal story of parents abandoned by their children who have to search for work elsewhere and the particular story of Myanmar where children have emigrated to finish their education. When the junta shut down schools and universities people were left with no choice but to go abroad...

Thailand Should Legalize Casinos for Chiang Mai, Phuket and Pattaya

July 28, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Should Legalize Casinos, Billionaire Dhanin Says](#) – businessweek.com, July 27, 2012

...“We should accept the truth,” Dhanin, chairman of Charoen Pokphand Group, told reporters in Bangkok today. “We already have underground businesses. They don’t pay tax and also build dark power. Why not legalize it. We should study Singapore’s case.”

...The casinos should be located in major tourist destinations such as Chiang Mai, Phuket and Pattaya, Dhanin said. “If Thailand opens a casino, we will get more revenue than Macau,” he said...

Yet Another Attempt to Rehab Charlarm's Disgraced Son

July 28, 2012

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit, The Thaksin Years



From Manager, March 15, 2012

Chalerm's son [Duang](#) says: I didn't break the law. I only did what the law prohibits.

The caption reads: Now we know how this boy managed to stay out of jail.

[Chuwit leads netizens' fury over return of Chalerm's son to police service](#) – Bangkok Post, July 28, 2012

...Duang absconded for 187 days and appeared at the Thai Embassy in Malaysia, before standing trial for murder. He was discharged from service and stripped off his rank in absentia, on November 15 and 16 that same year respectively. He was acquitted by the court and public prosecutors decided not to appeal against his acquittal. Duang was enlisted in the Army during the Samak government when Chalerm was the interior minister...

More:

[Who is Chalerm Yoobamrung?](#)

[Coffee Made Chalerm Drunk](#)

[The Shooting at the Twenty Club](#)

From 2002: [Chalerm should discipline his bully sons](#)



From Manager, August 31, 2011

Chalerm speaks to his son: Chai, shooting a police officer is too easy. I'm gonna show you that I can shoot a Police Chief like Police General Wichien.

Video: Thai Separatists Shooting and Looting

July 29, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

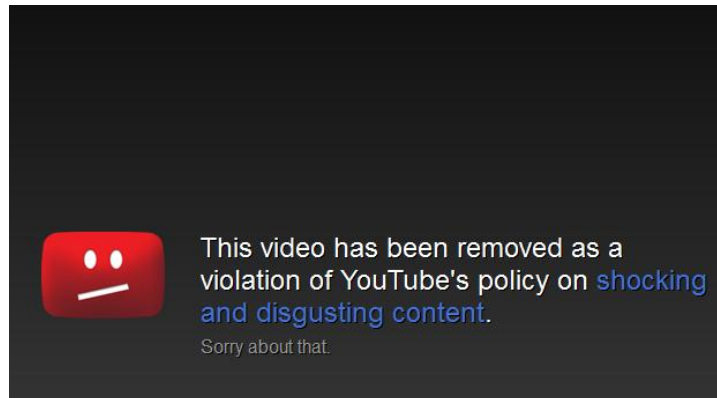


[Video: Thai Separatists Shooting and Looting](#) (locally hosted flv file as YouTube refuses to host the video—see note below)

[Ambush in South kills four soldiers](#) – Bangkok Post, July 29, 2012

Update: [YouTube has removed the video](#) under their policy on “policy on shocking and disgusting content.” According to their [guidelines page](#), “it’s not okay to post violent or gory content that’s primarily intended to be shocking, sensational or disrespectful.”

Update 2: [Army chief slams Pattani police for leaked pictures](#) – Bangkok Post, July 30, 2012



If you want to decide for yourself, you can still see it here: [Video: Thai Separatists Shooting and Looting](#) (locally hosted flv file)

John Prescott and the Thai brides

July 30, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media



(Source: Google cache of the deleted article)

For some reason this article has been removed from the Daily Mail website: [Prezza's 'embarrassing own goal': Former deputy PM accuses Tory of advertising Thai Brides](#) – Daily Mail, July 29, 2012

From [theweek.co.uk](#): When John Prescott spotted ads for Thai brides on Tory minister Grant Shapps's website, he told the world about it, via Twitter. Unfortunately for Prezza, Shapps was able to point out that the adverts on his site are generated individually for each visitor, based on terms they've searched in their browser before, says the Mail on Sunday...

Court to hear order on War on Drugs killing

July 30, 2012

Categories: Human Rights, The Thaksin Years

[THAILAND: Please attend court to hear order on War on Drugs killing](#) – humanrights.asia, July 30, 2012

...During 2001-2006, the government implemented a policy to suppress drug trafficking causing more than 2,500 deaths as a result of extrajudicial killings. A number of people in Kalasin province have lost have lives and gone disappeared. One of the deceased was Mr. Kiattisak Thitboonkhong. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has conducted an inquiry into the case and reported its findings on human rights abuse in 2006. One NHRC's recommendations was for the government to provide the surviving family of Mr. Kiattisak Thitboonkhong remedies as he had died in custody of police officers from the Muang Kalasin Police Station...

Court sentences 3 police officers to death for killing teenager during “war on drugs” crackdown

July 30, 2012

Categories: Drugs

[Court sentences 3 police officers to death for killing teenager during Thai drug crackdown](#) – AP, July 29, 2012

A Thai court Monday sentenced three police officers to death for killing a teenager during a much-criticized drug crackdown by the government eight years ago. The officers were found guilty Monday of killing a 17-year-old student in Kalasin province in the northeast in 2004 and moving his body to conceal the cause of death...

Thai police get death penalty in drug war killing

By Associated Press 7/30/12 8:13 AM

BANGKOK (AP) — A Thai court Monday sentenced three police officers to death for killing a teenager during a much-criticized drug crackdown by the government eight years ago.

The officers were found guilty Monday of killing a 17-year-old student in Kalasin province in the northeast in 2004 and moving his body to conceal the cause of death.

The killing took place under former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's government, which declared a crackdown on the drug trade to stem an influx of methamphetamine. Rights activists allege it resulted in more than 2,000 extrajudicial killings.

The Criminal Court also sentenced a former deputy police district commander to life in prison for the boy's murder and the former district commander was given a seven-year jail term for abuse of authority. One police officer was acquitted.

Few criminal cases involving alleged abuses during the Thaksin government's drug war have reached court, and fewer still have resulted in guilty verdicts.

Thailand carries out the death penalty infrequently, with just a handful of executions in the past decade.

Thailand's oxymoronic thinking: it insists it remains the top rice exporter while following policies that prevent this

July 31, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[COLUMN-Thailand's oxymoronic rice policy lives on: Clyde Russell](#) – Reuters, July 30, 2012

If you ever want an example of oxymoronic economic thinking look no further than Thailand, which maintains it will remain the world's top rice exporter while following policies that prevent this...

Thai Billionaires Embracing Yingluck Soft Power for Asia Exports

July 31, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Thai Billionaires Embracing Yingluck Soft Power for Asia Exports](#) – Bloomberg, July 30, 2012

...He says Yingluck's charm, patience, tolerance, politeness and flexibility have helped restore political stability to the country since she took office in August 2011. "She represents the soft power of Thailand," he says...

Myanmar: Crony Capitalists Vying for Oligarchy

July 31, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Crony Capitalists Vying for Oligarchy](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 31, 2012

Unless Burma's transition from a buttoned-down military dictatorship to a more liberal market economy is well managed, the country could end up going down the path taken by oil-rich Nigeria.

Instead of a nationwide share-out in wealth creation and the emergence of a business-owning middle class, Burma could end up being run by oligarchs—super-rich businessmen with close links to the ruling elite...

Robert Amsterdam Gives Up Lobbying for Thaksin

August 1, 2012

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

Update: [Noppadon: Amsterdam was never hired as a lobbyist for Thaksin and he remains Thaksin's lawyer](#)

Also: [Robert Amsterdam Continues to Work for the Red Shirts and Thaksin Shinawatra](#)

...the documents in question only refer to lobbying activities before officials of the United States government. Such activities constitute a minuscule portion of the work the firm has done on behalf of Dr. Thaksin in the past two and a half years, as the firm has concentrated on forms of advocacy and legal representation that do not qualify as lobbying under US law...

Update: [Tida: "Robert Amsterdam remains a lawyer for the UDD"](#)

..."Robert Amsterdam remains a lawyer for the UDD," Ms Tida said. "He intends to take part in the UDD rally to mark the sixth anniversary of the Sept 19, 2006 military coup..."

Update: [Manager's skeptical take on Amsterdam's statement](#)

All the past Robert Amsterdam stories are [here](#)

[Firm Quits U.S. Lobbying for Former Thai Prime Minister](#) – legaltimes.typepad.com, July 31, 2012

...The firm, which has offices in Washington and London, has focused most of its attention abroad on helping Thaksin and Thailand's "red shirt" protest movement, which supports the former prime minister. Amsterdam & Partners, which used to be known as Amsterdam & Peroff, in 2011 filed a petition to the International Criminal Court in The Hague urging prosecutors to investigate crimes against humanity allegedly committed during the 2010 Thai government crackdown against the red shirts.

"We do these filings out of an abundance of caution," Amsterdam said, adding that Thaksin remains a client of the firm...

Thailand's Boomlet Needs Stable Politics to Endure

August 1, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Thailand's Boomlet Needs Stable Politics to Endure](#) – Bloomberg, July 31, 2012

Thailand just dodged a big fat bullet. With Parliament set to reopen Wednesday, the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra wisely decided to shelve consideration of two pieces of legislation that threatened to upset the country's tenuous political stability. Now it needs to take steps to promote comity and ensure continued economic progress...

Thai police wait outside needle exchange center to arrest people

August 1, 2012

Categories: Drugs

[THAILAND: Ambivalent about needle exchanges](#) – IRIN, July 31, 2012

...“Sometimes the police are waiting outside our premises, arresting people who come here,” Piyabutr Nakaphiw, the manager of O-Zone, a drop-in centre for drug users in Bangkok, told IRIN. The centre employs drug users as outreach workers to distribute clean needles to other users in their communities. “They stop our outreach community workers, and if they are tested positive for drugs, the police either ask for money or arrest them,” said Nakaphiw...

Singapore directly and indirectly controls almost two-thirds of AIS shares

August 1, 2012

Categories: Business

[How can one quantify foreign dominance?](#) – telecomasia.net, July 26, 2012

...foreign dominance notification which on one hand threatens to shut down Thailand's economy if taken literally and on the other is being dismissed with denial and a dose of backroom dealing.

That the FDN still exists at all has taken many by surprise. What started as a national security issue now has the references to national security removed and all that remains is foreign dominance in order to get rid of foreign companies that hide behind domestic nominees...

Raising the World's Largest Bell from the Depths of a Burmese River

August 1, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Singapore Firm to Help Raise Sunken Bell](#) – The Irrawaddy, August 1, 2012

...Historical records say that the Dhammazedi Bell is 290-tons of copper, gold, silver and tin alloy. The retrieval would confirm the bell as the largest one ever cast for it would outweigh the 128-ton Moscow Bell otherwise considered to be in first place.

In his 1853 account of a visit to the Shwedagon Pagoda, Venetian gem merchant Gaspero Balbi wrote that the bell was “seven paces and three hand breadths and full of letters from top to bottom...”

The Government and Separatists Celebrate

August 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



02/08/55

From Manager, August 2, 2012

Government figures including Yingluck and Banharn sing: Don't worry, be happy...

The caption reads: These guys are happy.

The sign in the background reads: Push... democracy

Southern bandits sing: Don't worry, be explosive...

The caption reads: These guys are even happier.

The sign in the background reads: Pattani

Vietnam: Harsher crackdown on dissidents prompts act of despair

August 2, 2012

Categories: Vietnam

[Harsher crackdown on dissidents prompts act of despair](#) – IFEX, July 31, 2012

Dang Thi Kim Lieng, the mother of the jailed blogger Ta Phong Tan, died after setting fire to herself today outside the headquarters of the People's Committee in Bac Lieu, Tan's home province, in an act of despair about her dissident daughter's trial next week in Ho Chi Minh City for criticizing corruption and injustice in her blog...

Exit The Octopus: Myanmar's Tricky Economic Transition

August 2, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Exit The Octopus: Myanmar's Tricky Economic Transition](#) – Forbes, July 31, 2012

...Last year Thein Sein stunned China, and earned credibility at home, by suspending a \$3.6 billion hydropower dam in northern Myanmar that would have supplied electricity to Yunnan Province. A port project outside Yangon, the commercial capital, is also on hold. Both projects were contracted to Asiaworld, a construction firm run by Steven Law, a wealthy crony of the former regime (read my 2011 profile of another crony, Tay Za). ICG argues that these cronies are losing ground, along with military holding companies and their patrons. A level playing field isn't their way of doing business. Yet their efforts to resist reform appear to be in vain, as evinced by the downfall of the octopus. These crony capitalists must "accept a diminished role" in the economy, the report notes. Some are also trying to build bridges to Aung San Suu Kyi's opposition movement...

Chalerm to Rescue the South!

August 2, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thai Deep South



From Thairath, August 2, 2012

Chalerm: I'll use my heart as a weapon, and my 'Nam Jai' like water that put out the Fire in the South.

The sword on the left: Fighting drugs

The sword on the right: Fighting crime

On the holster: Fighting corruption

On the book's cover: Put out the Fire in the South and Understand, reach out and develop

Over the skulls: The three southern provinces

The mouse says: May happiness return to the South. Anyway, what about the 'foot, hand and mouth disease'? The government got it under control yet?

The mouse man: But the 'mouth disease' is still spreading among the Democrats.

Thailand, Palestinian Authority establish full diplomatic relations

August 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘Thailand, PA establish full diplomatic relations’](#) – jpost.com, August 1, 2012

...relations were officially upgraded on Wednesday, but will be managed at the Palestinian embassy in Malaysia until an embassy is opened in Bangkok...

Art of the Tuk Tuk

August 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Art of the Tuk Tuk](#)

Another gem the author of the blog [Still Life in Moving Vehicles](#) and the book [Thai Taxi Talismans](#)

Preah Vihear Province expects to get over 200,000 tourists this year

August 2, 2012

Categories: Preah Vihear

[Preah Vihear Province expects to get over 200,000 tourists this Year: Officials](#) – thesoutheastasiaweekly.com, August 2, 2012

...For first semester of 2012, Preah Vihear province received 117, 661 tourists totally, and 9,125 of them are foreigners, who visited three different places in the provinces including Koh Ker temple, temple of Preah Vihear and Kompong Srolao waterfall (Preah Nimeat waterfall)...

Thailand's House of Museums in the Wall Street Journal

August 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Exploring Thailand's Taste for Nostalgia](#) – WSJ, August 2, 2012

...In the 1960s, the country's military "was in power, and the Americans were around" due to the war in Vietnam, says Charnvit Kasetsiri, a prominent Thai historian and Southeast Asia expert at Bangkok's Thammasat University. It was also when Thailand's royal family "was becoming the center of the nation," he says. "Some people, especially in the top or middle class, do feel nostalgia for the 1960s and 1970s. It was the good old days..."

Thailand opens it first charging station for electric cars

August 2, 2012

Categories: Energy

[Thailand's First EV Charging Station Opens](#) – bernama.com, August 2, 2012

...The MEA also plans to open nine more EV stations in Bangkok, Samut Prakan and Nonthaburi provinces within next year. The stations will offer services including a quick charge at 20-30 minutes and a home charging system to fully charge a vehicle in 6-8 hours...

How will YOU be remembered? Woman who smuggled monkey from Thailand in 2007 dies after rollover

August 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Woman who smuggled monkey in 2007 dies after rollover](#) – spokesman.com, August 2, 2012

...Lawson hid the young rhesus macaque monkey under her blouse and pretended to be pregnant while passing through U.S. customs after visiting Thailand in November 2007...

Thailand not responding to U.S. requests to extradite former governor of the TAT and her daughter

August 2, 2012

Categories: Crime

[US Struggles to Extradite Thai Official](#) – WSJ, August 2, 2012

...Thailand has not yet responded to a U.S. request to bring Juthamas Siriwan, the former governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, and her daughter Jittsopa Siriwan, to the U.S...

[Extraditing Tourism Authority of Thailand head to the US may determine whether money-laundering is a viable tactic in the DOJ's efforts to curb foreign bribery](#) – fcpaprofessor.com, July 31st, 2012

The democratic imperative of modernising the Democrat Party

August 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Giving Thaksin a run for his money](#) – The Economist, August 4, 2012

...some argue that the failings of the DP are partly responsible for Thailand's dysfunctional democracy, with its tendency for politics to be played out on the streets or through military coups. That the DP has failed to channel legitimate political sentiments and policies into election-winning platforms has all too often encouraged conservative and royalist activists (such as the Yellow Shirts) to bring central Bangkok to a halt or occupy the capital's main airport instead...

Thailand's growing trade deficit: The quiet liquidity killer

August 3, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Thailand's growing trade deficit: The quiet liquidity killer](#) – Bangkok Post, August 3, 2012

...Almost every indicator points to the gloomy outlook for Thai exports persisting. The signs include slowdowns in major trade partners' economies—in China, the US, Japan and debt-incapacitated Europe—to contractions of similar export-oriented economies in Asia such as Taiwan and Singapore. It would be difficult to imagine that Thailand alone could be more resilient in escaping the global slowdown...

Alleged Non-functioning iPhone 5 Turns Up in Thailand—at MBK!

August 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



(Source: Neowin.net)

[Alleged Non-functioning iPhone 5 Turns Up in Thailand](#) – gottabemobile.com, August 2, 2012

...This model is likely just a reference model, or a display model for stores in Bangkok. We're not sure exactly what it is, but it certainly looks a lot like the iPhone 5 leaks we've seen recently...

[Eyes on with the iPhone 5 \(sort of\)](#) – Neowin, August 2, 2012

...The pictures seem to confirm what we saw in the video, and after reaching out to the source (who is an ex staff member from a long time ago) he confirmed that the iPhone is not a working device, but a "non functional replica prototype" and in his own words, "pretty accurate too..."

Another Thai Prison Memoir by a Foreign Inmate

August 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai jail vermin were my friends: Swedish ex-con](#) – thelocal.se, August 3, 2012

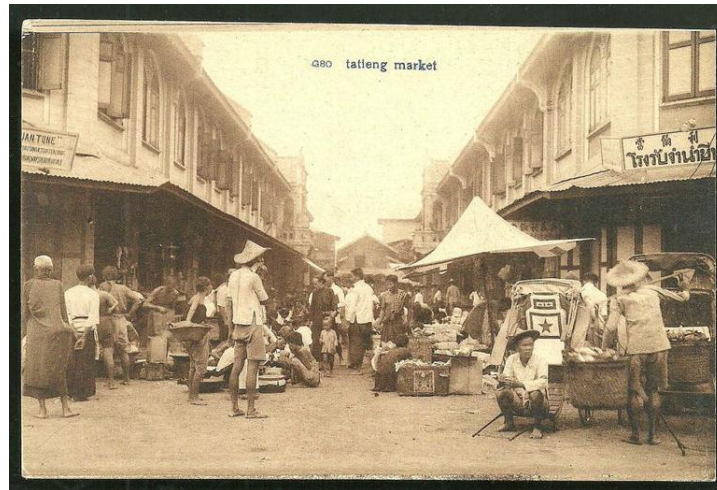
...This period of time he spent chained to the wall in a dirty cell, with only rats and bugs for company.

However, the fact that the cell was infested was what saved him from going mad, according to Månvinge, who befriended his small cell mates...

Tatieng Market

August 4, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Tatieng Market

The mother of a Welsh woman murdered in Thailand 12 years ago travels to the country to appeal for information

August 4, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Kirsty Jones' mother in Thailand murder appeal](#) – BBC, August 3, 2012

...”With the 12-year anniversary of Kirsty’s death approaching, it is timely that we make an appeal for information that could help progress the case further,” he said.

“We have a DNA profile that was recovered from the scene, which is central to their current line of inquiry, this means the authorities will be able to easily eliminate people from the investigation...”

Thailand as one of USA Basketball's Most-Defenseless Olympic Victims

August 4, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Nigeria, Switzerland, Egypt, and Thailand: A Rundown of USA Basketball's Most-Defenseless Olympic Victims](#) – slate.com, August 3, 2012

...USA 101, Thailand 29, 1956: This was the first time a U.S. Olympic squad had ever scored more than 100 points in a game. They were led in scoring by 5-foot-11 guard Ron Tomsic, an active Air Force officer and the shortest player on the U.S. team. “I was taller than center,” Tomsic later told the Daily Pilot. This must have disheartened Thailand, as they never again made the Olympics in basketball...

Cat in Water: Documentary About Thailand's Elusive Fishing Cat

August 4, 2012

Categories: Film and TV, Wildlife and Nature



[Cat in Water: Documentary About Thailand's Elusive Fishing Cat](#)

In China, the rich and powerful can hire body doubles to do their prison time for them

August 4, 2012
Categories: China

[In China, the rich and powerful can hire body doubles to do their prison time for them](#) – slate.com, August 2, 2012

...The charge isn't as far-fetched as it may sound. The practice of hiring "body doubles" or "stand-ins" is well-documented by official Chinese media. In 2009, a hospital president who caused a deadly traffic accident hired an employee's father to "confess" and serve as his stand-in. A company chairman is currently charged with allegedly arranging criminal substitutes for the executives of two other companies. In another case, after hitting and killing a motorcyclist, a man driving without a license hired a substitute for roughly \$8,000. The owner of a demolition company that illegally demolished a home earlier this year hired a destitute man, who made his living scavenging in the rubble of razed homes, and promised him \$31 for each day the "body double" spent in jail. In China, the practice is so common that there is even a term for it: ding zui. Ding means "substitute," and zui means "crime"; in other words, "substitute criminal..."

Chinese women wear ski-masks at the beach to prevent them from getting “dark”

August 5, 2012

Categories: China

[Beach Essentials in China: Flip-Flops, a Towel and a Ski Mask](#) – NYT, August 3, 2012

... “I’m afraid of getting dark,” said the mask-wearer, Yao Wenhua, 58, upon emerging from the seaweed-choked waters of this seaside city in China’s eastern Shandong Province. Eager to show why she sacrificed fashion for function, Ms. Yao, a retired bus driver, peeled the nylon over her forehead to reveal a pale, unwrinkled face.

“A woman should always have fair skin,” she said proudly. “Otherwise people will think you’re a peasant...”

Nine Years Ago: Phoebus Dome Coming Down

August 6, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Nine Years Ago: [Phoebus Dome Coming Down](#)

The Red Shirts are like a wall protecting the Prime Minister

August 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, August 6, 2012

The cartoon title: Everybody wants to wear a red shirt.

Left: The mouse carries a sign reading "Red in my heart, not on my shirt"

Mouse: Pi Nooring, it's bad! I saw the Red Shirts coming to open a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Yingluck!

Pi Nooring: "Impossible! the Red Shirts are like a copper wall and iron fence protecting the Prime Minister.

Middle:

Mouse: But really. Look! There they are...!

Three figures in foreground: No confidence, Prime Minister Yingluck

Right:

Pi Nooring: Oh...! They're just the Red Shirts' shadows.

On the back of the hooded figure: The color of this shirt is red.

On the back of the man on the left: Rod

On the back of the man in the middle: Lure

On the back of the man on the right: Lightning

Thailand: Most effective anti-smoking ads ever

August 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand: Videos Promoting Healthy Lifestyle](#) – globalvoicesonline.org, August 5, 2012

Thailand To Open Three More Rail Routes In Next Five Years

August 6, 2012

Categories: Mass Transit

[Thailand To Open Three More Rail Routes In Next Five Years](#) – Bernama, August 6, 2012

...The first phase of the 23-km purple route from Bang Yai in Nonthaburi province to Bang Sue in Bangkok will be completed in Oct 2015 with a projected average daily commuters of 96,600.

A second phase of the route will run between Bang Sue and Ratchaburana in the city's Thonburi side and has a distance of 19.8 kilometres.

The second rail, called blue route, will run from Hua Lampong to Bang Kae in Thonburi and is expected to be completed in 2017.

Construction of the green route from Bearing Station to Samut Prakan province will also be completed in 2017.

Chula estimates that some 57 per cent of vehicle owners in Bangkok and the surrounding provinces would switch to travelling by public transport once the three rail routes are open.

Myanmar: Outrage Over ‘Buddha Shoes’

August 6, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

ဗုဒ္ဓရုပ်ပွား၊ ကနုတ်ဒီဇိုင်းများနှင့် အလှဆင်ကာ ဖိနပ်နှင့် လက်ကိုင်အိတ်များကို အမေရိကန် အခြေစိုက် Icon Shoes ကုမ္ပဏီမှ ထုတ်လုပ်လျက်ရှိနေပါတယ်။ ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝှမ်းရှိ ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာ များမှလည်း ၎င်းကုမ္ပဏီအား ရွတ်ချပေးရန် ပြောဆိုလျက် ရှိနေပါတယ်။ ကုမ္ပဏီ၏ Facebook Page တွင် သွားရောက် ဆန့်ကျင်တန့်ကွက်ကြပါ။

လင်းဦး(စိတ်ဝဏ္ဏာ)

ပိုင်းတန်း ကန့်ကွက်ကြပါ



"Peacock Buddha"	"Thangka of the Buddha"	"Thangka of the Buddha"
Open Back Mule	Low Wood Heel Clog	Open Back Dress Slide
Retail Price:\$145.00	Retail Price:\$298.00	Retail Price:\$325.00
Special Price:\$29.00	Special Price:\$149.00	Special Price:\$129.00
CAROLE-2	KACTE-2	SUGAR-17

[Myanmar: Outrage Over ‘Buddha Shoes’](http://globalvoicesonline.org) – globalvoicesonline.org, August 6, 2012

Chiang Mai Death Hotel Demolished

August 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Chiang Mai Death Hotel Demolished](#)

Myanmar: Journals Black Out Covers to Protest Press Restrictions

August 6, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Journals Black Out Covers to Protest Press Restrictions](#) – The Irrawaddy, August 6, 2012

...Quoting the chapter of Burma's 2008 Constitution that deals with the fundamental rights of citizens, the front page of The Messenger also included the following sentence in Burmese, written in bold white letters: "Every citizen shall be at liberty to express and publish freely their convictions and opinions..."

Directions to Bangkok's 24-hour casinos

August 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Chuvit: Bangkok casinos have reopened](#) – Bangkok Post, August 6, 2012

...He named them as:

1. *King Petch casino in Petchburi Soi 5*
 2. *Ood Tai casino in Sukhumvit Soi 77 (On Nut)*
 3. *Loy Faa casino in Pinklao area*
 4. *Sor casino in Bang Kapi area (Lat Phrao Soi 112 and 119)*
 5. *Wang Hin Intersection casino, opposite Tesco-Lotus supermarket's Wang Hin branch*
 6. *Nok Khao casino at the 11 kilometre marker on the local road, near Wat Samian Naree.*
- He said the casinos are open 24 hours every day, including public holidays...*

The bias of Al Jazeera and Al Arabiya

August 6, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Breaking the Arab News – Egypt made al Jazeera — and Syria's destroying it](#) – foreignpolicy.com, August 2, 2012

47 Years Ago: The constitution becomes violent

August 7, 2012

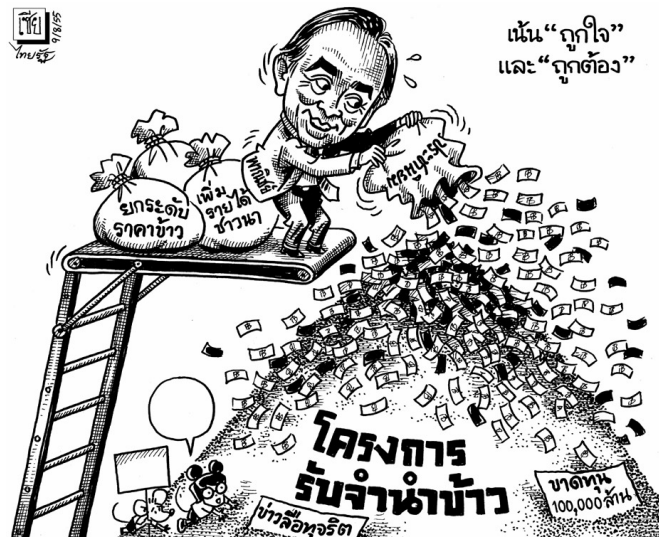
Categories: Today in History

47 Years Ago: [The constitution becomes violent](#)

Dumping Money for Rice

August 7, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 7, 2012

Headline: Focusing on “To make satisfied” and “Correct”

The man is Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom.

On his jacket: Ministry of Commerce

On the money sack on the left: Increasing paddy rice prices

On the money sack on the left: Increasing farmers’ incomes

On the money sack pouring out money: Populism

Bold letters on the money pile: Paddy rice mortgage project

Left paper: Scandal of corruption

Right paper: 100 billion baht losses

Time Running Out?

August 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 8, 2012

Translation: The problem of the Southern Fire

US-centric coverage of the Olympics – NBC profiles show no one from Thailand competing

August 8, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Review: Following foreign athletes is cumbersome](#) – AP, August 8, 2012

...Although NBC has pages for each country, too, I found no good way to get to them from the home page. Plus, clicking on “Athletes” from that profile page on NBC told me there’s no one from Thailand competing, missing the 37 that were...

Hunting for the Aussie Vampire Murderer in Thailand

August 8, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Man held in gigolo vampire murder](#) – theaustralian.com.au, August 8, 2012

[Man extradited over Vic 'vampire' slaying](#) – AAP, August 7, 2012

Police officers sentenced to death in “War on Drugs” killings walk free on bail

August 8, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

[THAILAND: Five police convicted of murder in landmark ruling](#) – humanrights.asia, August 8, 2012

...the AHRC is gravely concerned that the convicted officers have obtained bail pending appeal. The convictions for these sentences are of such gravity that good reason exists to expect that the convicted police will attempt to evade punishment by absconding or other means. They may also seek to obtain revenge against one or more persons who testified against them...

Criminals in Phuket targeting Australian tourists not brought to justice and some have official protection

August 8, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Concern over protection for Thai criminals](#) – brisbanetimes.com.au, August 8, 2012

...“The major problem has always been the application of the law in Phuket where assaults continue unabated virtually every night and there are little or no arrests of the guilty parties, mainly because they have patronage protection,” Mr Cunningham said...

8.8.88 – For first time, Myanmar government backs commemoration of 1988 pro-democracy protests

August 8, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[For first time, Myanmar government backs commemoration of 1988 pro-democracy protests](#) – AP, August 8, 2012

... “It’s as if the government is also participating in this commemoration,” Ko Ko Gyi said in a telephone interview from Mandalay, where the main rally was being held. “I feel like this is a step toward reform.”

Presidential spokesman Nay Zin Latt said the government recognized the anniversary as a “historic event” and the president wanted to show his sincerity about achieving national reconciliation...

8 8 88: The Day a New Burma was Born

August 8, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[The Day a New Burma was Born](#) – The Irrawaddy, August 8, 2012

...the day still stands as an important milestone in modern Burmese history—a day that marked the emergence of a full-fledged democracy movement that managed to topple Ne Win's regime, only to see a new junta seize power and spend the ensuing decades relentlessly suppressing its leaders, including Burma's newfound democracy icon, Aung San Suu Kyi.

It was a day of hope, bullets, blood and tears...

Seven Years Ago: US experts insist runways cracked

August 9, 2012

Categories: Today in History

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Daily

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Your Money

McKinsey Quarterly

Storm

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Sunday Perspective

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US experts insist runways cracked

Thaksin, Chainant say airport problem-free

POST REPORTERS

A team of US aviation experts is insisting that both runways at Suvarnabhumi airport need reconstruction as there are severe cracks that are large enough to sink the nose wheel of an aircraft, according to an aviation source.

They are also not tiny cracks on runway shoulders that the deputy transport minister showed to reporters, the source said.

But Deputy Transport Minister Chainant Charoensri and Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra deny there is a problem.

The source said yesterday that the serious cracks were at the "touchdown" points of both the western and eastern runways of the new and now-delayed Suvarnabhumi airport.

The American experts, reportedly brought in by the prime minister to give him an independent assessment, recommended the complete reconstruction of the two

090805_new01 (9K)

Reporters were taken to Suvarnabhumi airport on Sunday to see a crack on a runway shoulder which Deputy Transport Minister Chainant Charoensri insisted was normal and not caused by sub-standard construction.

Seven Years Ago: [US experts insist runways cracked](#)

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree

August 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



09/08/55

From Manager, August 9, 2012

Head on the branch of the tree: Deserted!!, Deserted!!, Deserted!!

Abhisit Vejjajiva says: Did not!!, Did not!!

The caption reads: A fruit of the poisonous tree

More: [DSI chief is proving to be a powerful political tool](#)

India: Replica of Angkor Wat Temple will not be constructed

August 9, 2012

Categories: Cambodia, India

[Replica of Angkor Wat Temple will not be constructed](#) – PTI, August 8, 2012

... "The Cambodian Government had raised the issue of the construction of a replica of Angkor Wat temple in Bihar with the Indian Mission in Cambodia," Culture Minister Kumari Selja said.

She told Rajya Sabha in a written reply that promoters of the project in Bihar have given an assurance to local authorities that they would not construct a replica of Angkor Wat...

Thailand's first female PM calms nation's chaos

August 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's first female PM calms nation's chaos](#) – AP, August 8, 2012

As she marks a year in office this week as Thailand's first female prime minister, Yingluck Shinawatra's biggest boast could be about what hasn't happened during that time: a return to the chaos that has wracked the country for much of the past six years...

Treading Lightly in the Deep South

August 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thai Deep South



From ThaiRath, August 10, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Follow adults, then the ghosts won't haunt you?

On the graves are signs reading: People, Soldiers, Civil servants, Teachers and Police officers

Sign in Gen. Yutthasak's hand: Southern Border Provinces Administrative Centre (SBPAC)

Sign in Yingluck's hand: Ko. Po. To.

The mouse's sign: Help put out the Southern Fire.

The mouse man's sign, Pi Nooring: May the South be peaceful

Signs in foreground, from left: People, Civil servants and Soldiers

Cambodian PM speaks for 5 hours in nationally televised speech that was mandatory viewing for civil servants

August 10, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Cambodian PM speaks for 5 hours](#) – AP, August 9, 2012

...Hun Sen, 61, spoke without taking breaks – or questions – mostly on sensitive border disputes with Vietnam. He blamed France, the former colonial ruler of both countries, for not clearly demarcating the border.

Politicians often use the border issue to stir nationalism and garner support, and Hun Sen is seeking re-election in 2013...

Cambodia: Casino building part of ‘secret strategy’ to protect borders

August 10, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Casino building part of ‘secret strategy’ to protect Cambodia borders](#) – AFP, August 9, 2012

...”One can remove border markers, but one can’t remove five-storey hotels. Don’t be stupid,” he said, in response to opposition criticism that the gambling dens were harmful to the country...

Witnesses find their protection discontinued as Thai cops sentenced to death out on bail

August 10, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

Urgent need for witness protection following conviction of five police for murder – AHRC, August 10, 2012

...All three witnesses were under witness protection during the seven years of this trial. However, at the time of the reading of the conviction on 30 July 2012, all three women were informed that as the case had come to a close, their witness protection was being discontinued. This is despite the facts of both the significance of this case as a challenge to impunity and the gravity of the convictions and sentences handed to the five police officers found guilty. In this case, the conclusion of the trial makes the need for protection of the witnesses involved more, not less, urgent...

On 30 July 2012 a court in Bangkok convicted five police officers of murder for the extrajudicial killing of Kiettisak Thitboonkrong during the “war on drugs” in 2004. The success of the case was due in large part to the determination of the family and willingness of eyewitnesses to testify against the police. However, the court released all accused on bail pending appeal, despite the severity of the crimes for which they have been convicted. Now, Kiettisak’s family and the witnesses who testified against the police require continued protection, to ensure that the police do not attempt to threaten, harm or kill those persons out of revenge or in order to pervert the course of justice in the appeal process.

UPDATED INFORMATION:

On 30 July 2012, in Black Case No. 3252/2552, 3466/2552, the Criminal Court found five out of the six police officers accused of murdering Kiettisak Thitboonkrong, age 17, in 2004, guilty. This murder was the first to be prosecuted of the murders of 28 individuals by police of the same station during and following the so-called “war on drugs”. The AHRC has already issued a statement on this case: AHRC-STM-157-2012.

At this time, all five police officers are out on bail pending appeal. This is despite the fact that three police officers were convicted of premeditated murder and hiding a corpse and were sentenced to death, one police officer was convicted of premeditated murder and sentenced to life in prison, and the fifth police officer was convicted of abusing his authority to aid in protecting his subordinates from criminal prosecution and sentenced to seven years’ imprisonment.

In large part, the verdict in this case was secured due to the courageous actions of Kiettisak’s relatives and witnesses to the crime. Kiettisak’s aunt, Pikul Phromchan is a human rights defender and one of the leaders of the Kalasin Relatives of Deceased and Disappeared Persons due to the Actions of State Officers in the War on Drugs. She has campaigned nationally and internationally for justice in her nephew’s case as well as in those of others. In September 2011, she made an oral statement at the 18th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council calling for accountability in Kiettisak’s case and those of others in Kalasin province (Pikul’s statement can be read here: ALRC-PRL-003-2011). Sa Thitboonkrong, Kiettisak’s grandmother, and another witness, Aranya (last name withheld) witnessed the actions of the police officers in this case and provided necessary evidence during the trial.

All three witnesses were under witness protection during the seven years of this trial. However, at the time of the reading of the conviction on 30 July 2012, all three women were informed that as the case had come to a close, their witness protection was being discontinued. This is despite the facts of both the significance of this case as a challenge to impunity and the gravity of the convictions and sentences handed to the five police officers found guilty. In this case, the conclusion of the trial makes the need for protection of the witnesses involved more, not less, urgent.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The AHRC and partner organisations have for some years highlighted the absence of systematic, effective witness protection in Thailand, including in the current case (AHRC-UAU-029-2011) as well as the case of the disappearance of Somchai Neelaphaijit. The DSI, which is tasked with witness protection, whether due to lack of capacity or lack of will, has been unable to consistently and professionally protect witnesses in cases. Although a law for the protection of witnesses exists, when protection is provided it is very often poorly designed and implemented, ad hoc and piecemeal. Cases of this sort highlight the need for a comprehensive witness protection programme, which Thailand has the means, both in terms of finances and personnel, to implement if the political will exists.

For an earlier report on the lack of effective witness protection in Thailand issued by the AHRC’s sister organization, the Asian Legal Resource Centre, see <http://www.article2.org/mainfile.php/0503/>.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Please write letters to the authorities listed below, urging them to provide adequate witness protection to the three persons at risk as a result of the guilty verdicts against the police in this case.

Please be informed that the AHRC is writing separate letters to the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders, and to the regional human rights office for Southeast Asia concerning the case.

[To support this appeal, please click here](#)

SAMPLE LETTER:

Dear _____,

THAILAND: Continued need for witness protection in Kalasin murder case

I am writing to express my concern over the protection of key witnesses in the murder of Kiettisak Thitboonkrong in Kalasin province in 2004. I was pleased to learn of the landmark decision to hold his murderers to account in the Criminal Court decision of July 30, 2012. Yet I was dismayed to learn that since the trial had concluded, the DSI was discontinuing the protection of key witnesses in this trial, namely his aunt, Pikul Phromchan, his grandmother, Sa Thitboonkrong, and a third witness, Aranya (last name withheld), even as the convicted police were released on bail pending appeal.

Despite the conviction of five of the six police officers in this case, given that the police officers are out on bail, the need for protection of witnesses in this case is even more urgent. In addition, given the broader significance of this case for combatting impunity for state violence in Thailand, it is essential that the witnesses do not face retribution for their courageous action defending human rights.

The case of the murder of Mr. Kiettisak Thitboonkrong is the first one of the 28 killings in Kalasin in which the Department of Special Investigation has brought criminal charges against the six police officers allegedly responsible for his murder.

I call on you to immediately restore the full witness protection of Pikul Phromchan, Sa Thitboonkrong, and Aranya. Particularly in cases where state officials are the perpetrators, it is essential that witnesses and involved parties are protected, so that the cycle of impunity is broken, rather than further consolidated.

I look forward to your prompt action.

Yours sincerely,

—
PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

1. Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra
Prime Minister
c/o Government House
Pitsanulok Road, Dusit District
Bangkok 10300
THAILAND
Fax: +66 2 288 4000 ext. 4025
Tel: +66 2 288 4000
E-mail: spokesman@thaigov.go.th

2. Mr. Tharit Pengdith
Director-General of
Department of Special Investigation
128 Chaeng Wattana Road
Thoongsonghong, Laksi
Bangkok 10210
THAILAND
Fax: +66 2 831 9888
Tel.: +66 2 831 9888
E-mail: tharit@dsi.go.th

3. Mr. Pracha Promnok
Minister of Justice
Office of the Ministry of Justice
Ministry of Justice Building
22nd Floor Software Park Building,
Chaeng Wattana Road
Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120
THAILAND
Fax: +66 2 502 6734 / 6884
Tel: +66 2 502 6776/ 8223
E-mail: om@moj.go.th

Thank you.
Urgent Appeals Programme
Asian Human Rights Commission (ua@ahrc.asia)

Siamese Priest, Pricipal Gate of Wat Cheng, 1899

August 11, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Siamese Priest, Pricipal Gate of Wat Cheng, 1899

Cambodian prince quits politics for second time

August 11, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian prince quits politics for second time](#) – AFP, August 10, 2012

Cambodian Prince Norodom Ranariddh on Friday announced that he was quitting politics for a second time after he was perceived as an obstacle to a merger between royalist parties.

The son of beloved former king Norodom Sihanouk agreed in May to combine his eponymous Norodom Ranariddh Party with Funcinpec in a bid to reinvigorate the royalist movement ahead of next year's general elections...

New photos of Khmer Rouge torture victims

August 11, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[New photos of Khmer Rouge torture victims](#) – AAP, August 10, 2012

...A collection of 1242 images from the S-21 prison in Phnom Penh were given to The Documentation Centre of Cambodia research institute on Thursday by a donor who wished to remain anonymous...

Fukushima Peaches to Be Exported to Thailand

August 11, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Fukushima Peaches to Be Exported to Thailand, Starting Late August](#) – ex-skf.blogspot.com, August 10, 2012

Buyers from Thailand say they are satisfied with the testing procedure that the Fukushima prefectural government has in place...

Seven Years Ago: The lost forts of Rattanakosin

August 13, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Seven Years Ago: [The lost forts of Rattanakosin](#)

Thailand has its worst Olympic performance in 16 years after winning three medals in London

August 13, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Campaign ends in disappointment – Thais win no gold for first time in 16 years](#) – Bangkok Post, August 13, 2012

...It was the first time that Thailand failed to win a gold medal since boxer Somluck Kamsing became Thailand's first-ever Olympic champion at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

"That's sports—you win or lose. But our athletes did their best," said Sakol Wannapong, deputy governor of the Sports Authority of Thailand who had predicted that his country would not win gold in London...

Thailand Rice Exports at Risk: Korn Chatikavanij

August 13, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Rice Exports at Risk: Korn Chatikavanij](#) – livetradingnews.com, August 13, 2012

...Thailand's world-class rice industry is in a saddened state, millions of tons of rice that no one wants, huge losses for the state budget, farmers more interested in quantity than quality, exporters exiting the trade...

Thailand Seeks to Purchase Evolved Sea Sparrow Missiles

August 13, 2012

Categories: Thai Military

[Thailand Seeks to Purchase Evolved Sea Sparrow Missiles](#) – defpro.com, August 12, 2012

...This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by increasing the ability of Thailand to contribute to regional security and improving interoperability with the U.S. Military in operational and exercise scenarios. It is consistent with U.S. national interests to assist Thailand in developing and maintaining a strong and ready ship self-defense capability which will contribute to the military balance in the area...

Delhi police to visit Thailand to probe Iranian terror attack

August 13, 2012

Categories: Security

[Police team returns from Tehran today, will head for Georgia, Thailand next](#) – indianexpress.com. August 13, 2012

...Sources in the Special Cell said the visit is the first among several overseas trips planned by police for the case. In a day or two, police hope to get a green signal from their chief to visit Georgia and Thailand for investigation.

According to sources, the two countries have told the Ministry of External Affairs that they will allow Indian police to visit. The Special Cell will also visit Malaysia and Israel to share investigation details with their counterparts there...

10 Years Ago: 50 kilometer bridge over the Gulf of Thailand cancelled

August 13, 2012

Categories: Today in History

[50 kilometer bridge over the Gulf of Thailand](#)

About 30,000 prisoners to receive Royal pardon

August 13, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[About 30,000 prisoners to receive Royal pardon in Thailand](#) – Bernama, August 13, 2012

...The director-general said an announcement published in the Royal Gazette last Saturday said in conjunction with the Queen's 80th birthday last Sunday and the 60th birthday of the Crown Prince, which was celebrated on July 28, the Royal clemency was granted for the release of about 30,000 prisoners...

Red Shirt Leader Teaches About Democracy

August 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 14, 2012

On the blackboard: In Democracy, Red is the most powerful.

Red Shirt leader Thida Tavornseth says: It's OK to sneak cheat sheets into the examination room, and it's not considered a double-standard. Now!! Remember this, students. Lesson 1, setting things on fire is not illegal if you claim to do it for democracy.

Not cool to be jailed

August 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 14, 2012

The newspaper headline: Amnesty 2012, 30,000 people cheer.

On the black ball: Escape being jailed.

Man holding ball: Boss, if you had yielded and been jailed then... you'd be cheering like them now.

Thaksin: Yes! But it wouldn't have been very cool.

‘Titanic 3-D’ first American movie released in Myanmar in decades

August 14, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[‘Titanic 3-D’ first movie released in Myanmar in decades](#) – LA Times, August 14, 2012

“Titanic 3-D” will be the first movie to play in Myanmar in more than a decade as 20th Century Fox has struck a deal to release the film in the Southeast Asian nation that is slowly opening to the world.

Fox said Monday that it has struck a deal with Mingalar Co., a local importer that operates eight single-screen theaters, to open “Titanic 3-D” on Aug. 17 in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma...

Myanmar government interpreter distorts refugee comments to visitors

August 14, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar Government Translator and His Distortions of Words in Broad Daylight](#) – salem-news.com, August 14, 2012

...By the time Turkish FM and his group got to a Rohingya refugee camp, a Rohingya victim broke into tears and cried out “We Muslims have been severely oppressed here.” But the translator provided the government distorted the words and interpreted to Turkish FM as “We need assistances....”

Did the senator shoot his “personal assistant” or “secretary” or “wife” or “cousin” or “former mistress?”

August 14, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai senator shooting allegations tangled in odd details](#) — globalpost.com, August 14, 2012

If you’ve read the BBC’s Web site, the Telegraph, pithy aggregator Gawker or even — yikes! — Global Post, you might be under the impression that a Thai senator accidentally shot his secretary with an Uzi submachine gun in a restaurant...

Aristocrats to blame for low rubber prices

August 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



15/08/55

From Manager, August 15, 2012

Red Shirt Nattawut Saikuar, Deputy Agriculture Minister, tells southerners: Para rubber prices are dropping because of the ammart... This country isn't democratic...

Man in grey suit: Pee Ten, those aren't red buffaloes!!!

The caption reads: Why not use the same excuse?

In Senegalese shoe capital, Chinese not welcome

August 15, 2012
Categories: China

[In Senegalese shoe capital, Chinese not welcome](#) – themeshreport.com, August 2, 2012

...“If I see a Chinese person, I put my hand up like this,” said Mactar Gueye, his palm open, in the universal gesture for stop. “It’s not that I’m afraid of them. I just won’t sell to them.”

In a veiled swipe at China’s role in Africa, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told a university audience in Senegal on Wednesday that the U.S. will tie investment to human rights and sustainable development. Though she did not mention China by name, it’s clear that Africans are being asked to ponder their relationship with China, which recently became the continent’s main trading partner...

Malaysia to review law after web ‘blackout’

August 15, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Malaysia to review law after web ‘blackout’](#) – AFP, August 14, 2012

... Critics say under the amendment any web host, provider of a wifi network, or ordinary user of a computer or mobile device can be found liable for any defamatory or harmful content sent via its systems.

Activists have called it an attempt by the ruling coalition government, which has been in power for more than five decades, to clamp down on the Internet...

Thai beer wars: How whiskey tycoon Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi battled Carlsberg, Singha, and Heineken

August 15, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Heineken, ThaiBev locked in beer brawl](#) – atimes.com, August 15, 2012

...Charoen was born in extremely modest circumstances, one of 11 children of ethnic Chinese parents in Bangkok in 1943. He was introduced into a group of well-connected Thais who possessed one of the rather archaic liquor licenses handed out on a zonal basis. In 1984, his business group won a clean sweep of all 11 regional liquor licenses that were offered up that year.

By then he was already powerful enough to ignore limiting liquor sales to within allocated geographic zones. There followed a fierce pricing war with his chief competitor until, in a move redolent of smoky back rooms, the two rival entities amalgamated in an arrangement that saw some several leading chieftains retire from the fray.

This left Charoen with a coterie of loyal associates and absolute domination of the hugely lucrative low-end segment of the Thai liquor business. He was already extraordinarily wealthy by this time...

The Untouchables: Wildlife smugglers collude with Thai police and Suvarnabhumi Airport officials

August 15, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[The Untouchables: Asian wildlife traffickers](#) – AP, August 15, 2012

...”Her husband has been exercising his influence,” says Adtaphon, referring to her police officer spouse. “It seems that no policeman wants to get involved with this case.” The day the officer went to arrest her the second time, his transfer to another post was announced.

“Maybe it was a coincidence,” the colonel says.

In another not uncommon case, a former Thai police officer who tried to crack down on traders at Bangkok’s vast Chatuchak Market got a visit from a senior police general who told him to “chill it or get removed.”

“I admit that in many cases, I cannot move against the big guys,” Chanvut, the retired general, notes. “The syndicates like all organized crime are built like a pyramid. We can capture the small guys but at the top they have money, the best lawyers, protection. What are we going to do?...”

In 2010 recruiters lured 400 farm workers from Thailand for slave labor in the U.S.

August 15, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Is Slavery and Human Trafficking legal in the United States?](#) – eturbonews.com, August 14, 2012

...In September of 2010, six labor recruiters have been accused of luring 400 farm workers to Hawaii from Thailand and mistreating them in what the FBI said is the largest human trafficking case ever charged in U.S. history...

Nine Years Ago: Anna Kournikova to be ambassador for “sex industry” resort

August 16, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Anna Kournikova to be ambassador for “sex industry” resort](#)

At the Preah Vihear border

August 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 16, 2012

On the three signs: Cambodian border.

Cambodian soldier: Sir, we've annexed 4.6 square kilometers of Thailand's soil to our country. Aren't they going to protest, sir?!!

Hun Sen: No, they're not... so long as we don't rob the gold medal for boxing from them in the Olympics.

16 Years Ago: For one brief shining moment: Bangkok bus lanes

August 16, 2012

Categories: Today in History

16 Years Ago: [For one brief shining moment: Bangkok bus lanes](#)

Thailand: Under-the-table payments account for 50% of the costs of all government concessions

August 16, 2012
Categories: Crime

[Anti-graft drive 'making little progress'](#) – Bangkok Post, August 16, 2012

...The Anti-Corruption Network representing private companies released a report in July saying under-the-table payments account for 50% of the costs of all government concessions...

Eyeing the Buddhist majority vote, Aung San Suu Kyi's silence on the Muslim Rohingya draws criticism

August 16, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Suu Kyi's silence on Rohingya draws rare criticism](#) – AP, August 16, 2012

...For weeks, Suu Kyi has dodged questions on the plight of a Muslim minority known as the Rohingya, prompting rare criticism of the woman whose struggle for democracy and human rights in Myanmar have earned her a Nobel Peace Prize, and adoration worldwide.

Human rights groups have expressed disappointment, noting that the United Nations has referred to the Rohingya – widely reviled by the Buddhist majority in Myanmar – as among the most persecuted people on Earth. They say Suu Kyi could play a crucial role in easing the hatred in Myanmar and in making the world pay more attention to the Rohingya.

Analysts and activists say that Suu Kyi's stance marks a new phase in her career: The former political prisoner is now a more calculating politician who is choosing her causes carefully...

Thailand holds peace talks with Muslim insurgents

August 16, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thailand holds peace talks with Muslim insurgents](#) – Reuters, August 16, 2012

...The government has ruled out peace talks in the past, most recently in April, but Yutthasak Sasiprapa, a deputy prime minister in charge of security in the south, confirmed there had been a change of heart.

“Right now we are holding peace talks with different insurgent groups but we are still not clear what they want,” he told reporters...

Snipers vs Slingshots – Who Killed the People?

August 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, August 17, 2012

The cartoon title: Things are weird in this country.

Left, showing a soldier: Rifle with a sight for game bird shooting. You can find it at any market.

On the sand bags: Sniper. A 6 billion baht budget to disperse the protesters.

On the ground: More than hundreds of thousands of bullets

Right, showing a Red Shirt protester: The terrorists' weapons of mass destruction used to kill soldiers and people.

In Thailand Today, Teen Monks Express the Spirit to a Rock Beat

August 17, 2012

Categories: Buddhism

[In Thailand Today, Teen Monks Express the Spirit to a Rock Beat](#) – WSJ, August 14, 2012

...Others post videos of themselves on YouTube, as they play air guitar to hard-rock tracks like Yngwie Malmsteen's "Iron Clad," or recite religious chants to thumping hip-hop beats...

Property market thriving along Bangkok's new purple line

August 17, 2012

Categories: Skytrain

[Property market thriving along Bangkok's new purple line](#) – property-report.com, August 16, 2012

...There are six mass rapid lines under construction; the BTS Dark Green line extension (Wong Wian Yai – Bang Wa; completion in 2013), the BTS Light Green Line extension (Bearing – Samut Prakan; completion in 2017), the MRT Dark Blue Line1 (Bang Sue – Tha Pra; completion in 2016), the MRT Dark Blue Line2 (Hua Lamphong – Lak Song; completion in 2016), the MRT Purple Line (Tao Poon – Klong Bang Pai; completion in 2015) and the SRT Light Red Line (Bang Sue – Taling Chan; completion in 2013)...

Wat Arun in Moonlight, 1913

August 18, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Wat Arun in Moonlight, 1913

Criminal cases depend on which party is in power

August 18, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, Tharit Pengdit



From Thai Rath, August 18, 2012

On the front of the table: CAPO

Arrow pointing left: The chart from yesterday

Top left paper: Chart of anti-monarchy plot

Middle left paper: Pressing a false charge of being terrorists against Red Shirts

Bottom left paper: Chasing and killing the Red Shirts

Arrow pointing right: Plan for today

Top right paper: Reveal the truth of the April-May 2010 events

Bottom right paper: Punish the persons who ordered people killed

At Bangkok University, A Stunning Campus For Work And Play

August 18, 2012

Categories: Buildings



[At Bangkok University, A Stunning Campus For Work And Play](http://fastcodesign.com) – fastcodesign.com, August, 2012

The History of 40 Thai Markets

August 18, 2012

Categories: Communities

[40 Fresh markets you should not miss](#) – The Nation, 2012

August 19, 2012
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

Headline: Think outside the box

Top left: Turn a car plate into a lotto number

Top middle: Turn a motor bike into a bomb

Top right: Turn a public bus into an arena for revenge on rivals from another school

Bottom left: Turn a national park into a resort

Foreground sign, bottom left: Thap Lan National Park

Rear sign, bottom left: Welcome to Thap Lan Resort

Bottom middle: Turn a jail into a center for drug trafficking

Bottom right: Turn a leader of the political mobsters into a national educational committee member

The Economist: Thai rice plan is failed Thaksinomics

August 19, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Going against the grain](#) – The Economist, August 15, 2012

...The outlook is particularly problematic in Thailand, as the policy is representative of the government's ideological stance.

Among the main reasons why Thailand's elites and political opposition were wary of the election of Yingluck Shinawatra as the country's prime minister a year ago was the return of the populist economic policies that had become synonymous with her brother. "Thaksinomics" sought to raise the living standards of the country's poor through government spending, which in turn was supposed to generate a multiplier effect that led to higher consumer spending. It also looked like a wheeze to win votes from the poor...

The Parrot and the Eagle

August 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 20, 2012

Parrot: Thaksin is allowed to enter the U.S. 'cause it's not about politics.

Eagle (representing the U.S.): Thaksin is allowed to enter the U.S. 'cause it's not about politics.

The caption reads: Hey! Just getting close a while... the Eagle now can lie like a parrot.

Seven Years Ago: Last look at NASA Spaceadrome

August 20, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [Last look at NASA Spaceadrome](#)

Eight Years Ago: Suwat snatches an Olympic gold medal

August 20, 2012
Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Suwat snatches an Olympic gold medal](#)

Drama... on a pool of blood

August 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From ThaiRath, August 20, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Drama... on a pool of blood

On soldier's helmet: Sniper

On soldier's machine gun: Game-bird gun

A skull is saying: Which group ordered to shoot us in the head?

On blood pool in the middle: Ratchdamnern, Ratchaprasong

On robe of the hooded figure: Order to suppress people

Suthep Thuagsuban, former Deputy Prime Minister in charge of security says: They're accusing us out of spite.

Tarit Pengdit, Permanent Secretary of the Department of Special Investigation, holds a paper that reads: DSI seeks justice for the victims of the events of April-May 2010

On the mouse's sign: Punish the person who ordered the killing.

The mouse man, Pi Nooring says: Bad acting

Myanmar government ends censorship of local media

August 20, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar government ends censorship of local media](#) – AP, August 20, 2012

...Under the new rules, journalists will no longer have to submit their work to state censors before publication as they for almost half a century. However, deep concerns remain about restrictive press laws remaining on the books, which give the government great power to crack down on journalists and even close publications deemed a threat to national security...

In 1960 Myanmar's per capita income was twice that of Thailand's—today it is the lowest in Southeast Asia

August 20, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's Growing, but Has a Long Way to Go](#) – WSJ, August 20, 2012

...Its per capita income in 1960 was about \$670, more than three times that of Indonesia and more than twice that of Thailand. By 2010 it had the lowest GDP per capita in Southeast Asia, at about \$1,300 on a purchasing power parity basis...

‘There is no way out of here, I love you’, last call of Brit trapped in Thailand disco blaze that killed four

August 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘There is no way out of here, I love you’, last call of Brit trapped in Thailand disco blaze that killed four](#) – standard.co.uk, August 20, 2012

...”His credit card stopped at 3am and his phone has not been used since. He was always in contact, we are a very close family. Obviously it was his time.

“He called his best friend from inside the club and said ‘I am in the fire’. He said calmly ‘there is no way out of here, I love you’ and that was it.

“The night before he called home and said ‘I don’t think I am going to make it out of this country. I don’t know why, I want you to tell my family that I love them. It was like he knew...

Nowhere in this world is like Thailand

August 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, August 21, 2012

Headline: Nowhere in this world is like Thailand.

The man thinks: Though around a hundred were killed and 2,000 injured in the middle of the capital, still nothing happened.

Sign above the skulls: Ratchaprasong

On the mouse's sign: Stop the crimes

The mouse man, Pi Nooring: Be indifferent to deaths

The newspaper headlines:

- MP's son assassinated
- Mechanical studies' students shoot and kill tech students
- A gunman kills a warden
- Vocational students shoot at their rivals, a bystander killed
- Cut off while driving, got angry, shot and killed
- A student gets jealous, kills his girlfriend
- Drug-addicted teenagers rob and kill a taxi driver
- Husband kills wife

Dhammakaya reports on Steve Jobs' new life

August 21, 2012

Categories: Dhammakaya Movement, Local Beliefs



[Dhammakaya 'knows' Jobs' afterlife](#) – Bangkok Post, August 21, 2012

Wat Phra Dhammakaya in Pathum Thani province on Monday stirred an internet controversy when it released an article on its website referring to the afterlife of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, claiming the American legend has been reincarnated as a mid-level angel dwelling not far from his Apple office in a parallel world...

Also: [Dhammakaya saves Bangkok from bombing during World War II](#)

In this country, humans have to work for the buffaloes

August 22, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



22/08/55

From Manager, August 22, 2012

On man's shirt: Taxpayers

The red buffalo (representing Thaksin): Harder, harder! My sis needs many more trillions for her buffaloist policy.

The caption reads: In this country, humans have to work for the buffaloes.

Other posts with a buffalo theme:

[Buffaloes pee on the court](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes Again](#)

[Thaksin Tricked the Buffaloes](#)

[Fooling the Buffaloes](#)

[Thaksin and the Buffaloes](#)

[Red and Blue Buffaloes](#)

Kiwi's death raises fears of Thailand violence

August 22, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Kiwi's death raises fears of Thailand violence](#) – nzherald.co.nz, August 21, 2012

...he found it quite difficult to avoid aggressive people in Thailand...

Artists recreate Angkor Wat's lost carvings

August 22, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Artists recreate Angkor Wat's lost carvings](#) – BBC, August 21, 2012

...They are working to recreate features including Apsara figures which once decorated the roof of the 900-year-old monument...

Exotic Thailand lures foreign filmmakers

August 22, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Exotic Thailand lures foreign filmmakers](#) – aljazeera.com, August 22, 2012

...Thailand's film industry is in the midst of a boom. With the lure of high production values, skilled crew, beautiful locations, and low costs, Bangkok is blossoming into an outsourcing hub for foreign filmmakers – it is fast becoming to movie production what India's Bangalore is to call centres.

A staggering total of 578 foreign productions – movies, TV shows, advertisements, documentaries – were shot in Thailand in 2010 according to the Thailand Film Office, raking in more than \$59m for a nation that is still considered a developing country. This amount has almost been surpassed within the first half of this year...

China right-wing daily warns China should not follow Myanmar in lifting media censorship

August 22, 2012

Categories: Censorship, China, Myanmar/Burma

[China Reacts to Burma's Nascent Media Reform](#) – The Irrawaddy, August 22, 2012

...“China should follow the trend of the times and look at the practical situation of the nation,” read an opinion piece in Tuesday’s the Global Times. “Rather than being perplexed and even letting backwater countries like Myanmar and Vietnam become our idols...”

Forbes' World's Most Powerful Women

August 23, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



Yingluck Shinawatra

+ Follow (17)

At a Glance

Prime Minister, Thailand

Age: 45

Residence: Bangkok, Thailand

Country of Citizenship: Thailand

Education: Masters of Public Administration, Kentucky State University; Bachelor of Arts / Science, Chang'an University

Marital Status: Married

Children: 1

Forbes Lists

#30 Power Women

[Forbes' World's Most Powerful Women](#) – Forbes, August 23, 2012

Thailand's Prime Minister oversees a country of 67 million with a 2011 GDP of \$609 billion, the second largest economy in Southeast Asia...

Thai general accused of meddling in unrest probe

August 23, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thai general accused of meddling in unrest probe](#) – AP, August 23, 2012

...Last week, he told the Justice Ministry's Department of Special Investigation to stop accusing soldiers of having killed protesters and not to report publicly on its findings...

Press Release: “Broken government promises lead the Bangkok International Wine Fair Company to seek Compensation!”

August 23, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Press Release: [“Broken government promises lead the Bangkok International Wine Fair Company to seek Compensation!”](#) – etbmice.com, August 23, 2012

...It was less than a month before the fair was scheduled to take place – and The Bangkok International Wine Fair had still not received the tax exemption document promised by the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office, which is headed by Major Gen Sanan Kajornprasart, and which oversaw the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau in the previous government (Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva).

In an interview, Mr. Joe Sriwarin, Managing Director of the Bangkok International Wine Fair Company Limited cited that the Customs Department had failed and intentionally delayed the issuing of the tax exemption documents on goods intended for the wine trade fair. Mr Sriwarin went to see the deputy Director General in July 2010.

After the fair’s cancelation – and just seven-days before the fair was supposed to take place, BIWF received a Customs document which confirmed that three bottles of wine were allowed for the trade exhibition...

‘Cop extortion’ video clip goes viral

August 23, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=>



[‘Cop extortion’ video clip goes viral](#) – Bangkok Post, August 23, 2012

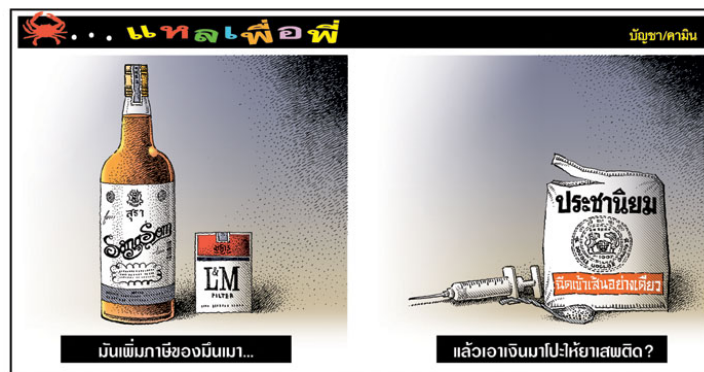
...According to Mr Virun, a quarrel erupted between his family and the “law enforcement officers” when one of the men surreptitiously slipped a pornographic CD into a computer in the shop and then slapped him with charges.

Mr Virun said the group of men threatened to seize all the computers in his shop if he refused to pay them 50,000 to 70,000 baht and that he would have to pay a fine of 200,000 baht if he continued to fight...

Populism is an Addictive Substance

August 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24/08/55

From Manager, August 24, 2012

Left, below whiskey and cigarettes: It increases taxes on addictive products...

Right: To spend the money on another addictive substance?

On the white bag: Populism, inject into the veins only

Japan's crooked-teeth 'Yaeba' trend: Imperfection said to add to sex appeal

August 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

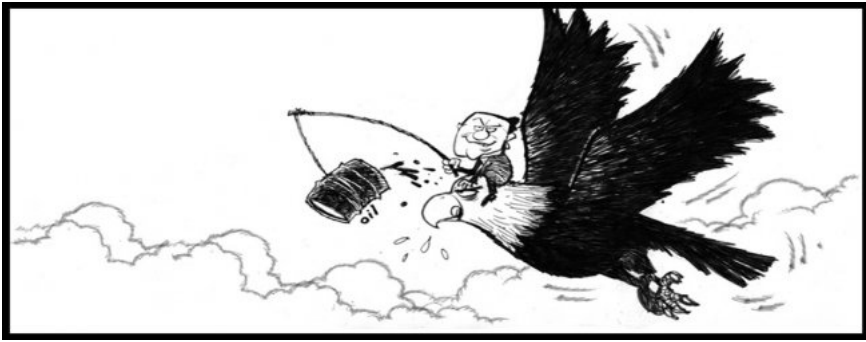
[Japan's crooked-teeth 'Yaeba' trend: Imperfection said to add to sex appeal](#) – nydailynews.com, August 7, 2012

...In the U.S. people aim for perfectly straight dentures, but an entirely different trend has taken off in Japan. Many teenaged girls have undergone dental procedures called yaeba to elongate their canines, producing a fang-like imperfect – and some say childlike – appearance...

Thaksin Tempting the U.S. with Oil

August 25, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 20, 2012

Lights, Camera, Dissatisfaction

August 25, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Lights, Camera, Dissatisfaction](#) – Bangkok Post, August 7, 2012

...He said that Thai casting directors also routinely cheat actors and foreign productions and that Hollywood has gotten wind of these practices, which is why fewer films are coming to Thailand.

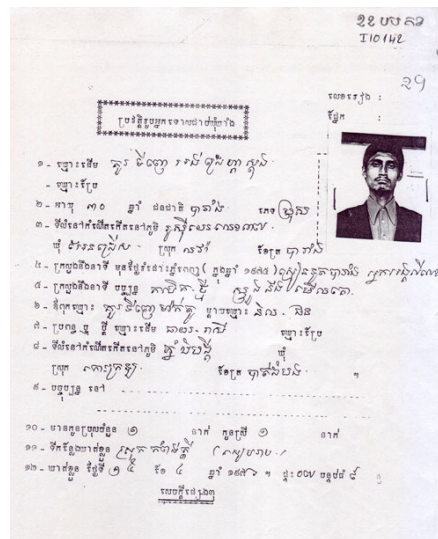
"Actors have spoken out and been blacklisted by Thai casting agents, but not before the international productions have found themselves in the middle of an ugly situation," Pearson said. "I have turned down roles I have been cast for after they changed my fee at the last minute, hoping I was desperate to be in front of the camera, then seemed shocked when I walked."

He said that actors often complain to foreign production companies while on set. "Hollywood does not need the headache. Actors complaining, Thai film companies ripping them off, even individuals in the Thai government coming along for their piece of the pie..."

Rare Photo Found of Westerner Killed by Khmer Rouge

August 25, 2012

Categories: Cambodia



[Rare Photo Found of Westerner Killed by Khmer Rouge](#) – VOA, August 25, 2012

...Chhang Youk said researchers stumbled on Courtigne's image during a document search aimed at trying to identify two other Western prisoners whose photographs were among hundreds donated to the center earlier this month...

Do you understand why I must tell a white lie?

August 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



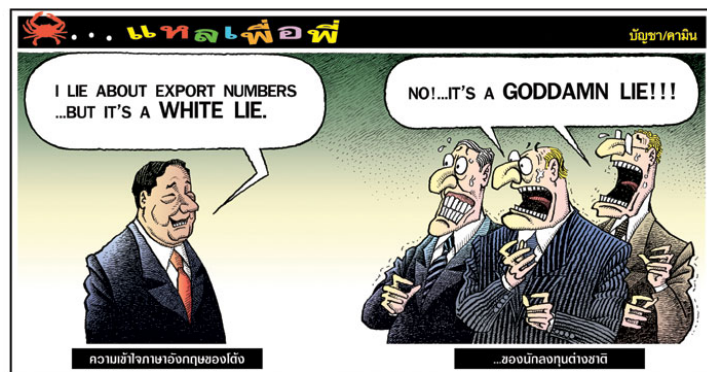
From Komchadluek, August 27, 2012

Finance Minister Kittiratt Na-Ranong says: Now, do you understand why I must tell a white lie?!!

Telling a Lie About Export Numbers

August 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



27/08/55

From Manager, August 27, 2012

Left: The meaning that Tong understands...

Right: ...and what foreign investors understand.

Graffiti artists thrive in reform-era Myanmar

August 27, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Graffiti artists thrive in reform-era Myanmar](#) – Reuters, August 27, 2012

...Graffiti of an electrical socket trailing a wire, usually accompanied by the slogan “Plug the city”, became common in Yangon in May, when frustration over chronic power shortages led to nationwide protests.

“We didn’t do it on the people’s behalf, but because we ourselves were affected by the lack of electricity,” says Twotwenty, 27, the pseudonym for a member of the collective Yangon Street Art, known by its plump, multicolored tag “YSA”...

BlackRock Bullish on Thai Bonds, Region's Worst

August 27, 2012

Categories: Economy

[BlackRock Bullish on Thai Bonds, Region's Worst](#) – businessweek.com, August 27, 2012

...Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra's government has raised minimum wages and pledged to spend more than 2 trillion baht (\$64 billion) on infrastructure and water-management projects over the next seven years to boost growth and minimize the damage from future floods.

"We're bullish on Thailand," Yichun Shi, a Taipei-based fund manager who helps oversee NT\$109 billion (\$3.6 billion) of assets at Eastspring Securities Investment Trust Co., a unit of Prudential Plc, said in an Aug. 24 interview. "Although we think the central bank probably won't cut interest rates this year, we think it will continue with its expansionary monetary policies..."

Big Man Duang

August 28, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 1, 2012

Duang: "Do you know what my rank is?"

A journalist's account of a Cambodian activist's death

August 28, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[A journalist's account of a Cambodian activist's death](#) – cpj.org, August, 2012

...Cambodian journalists have been threatened in the past for reporting on alleged government complicity in illegal logging, according to CPJ research. International environmental groups say the government and the military are frequently complicit in the rampant illegal logging in Cambodia, The Associated Press reported...

Taxi drivers can be arrested for refusing service

August 28, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Fine for cabbies refusing service](#) – Bangkok Post, August 27, 2012

Traffic police will introduce a new penalty for taxi drivers who refuse service to passengers by arresting and fining them without a prior warning, effective from Sept 1...

Man ‘solves mystery’ of Thai genetically modified stingray shoes

August 28, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Man ‘solves mystery’ of stingray shoes](#) – ninemsn.com.au, August 28, 2012

... Rayfish Footwear, which is purportedly based in Thailand, has provoked outrage among animal lovers since 2010 when it launched a website describing its mission to customise the animals for fashion.

It said it had genetically modified the rays to have colourful, patterned skin perfect for shoes by mixing its genes with a rattlesnake and fish.

Earlier this year the company said it would sell customised shoes created from the stingray “leather” for \$1800 a pair...

White Buffalo Says Goodbye

August 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 29, 2012

White buffalo: A white buffalo like me has nowhere to stand in this country. The government only favors the red buffaloes.

Caption: Why Boonma, the buffalo, ran away.

Ancient Thai boxing gains new life as fitness regime

August 29, 2012
Categories: Sports

[Ancient Thai boxing gains new life as fitness regime](#) – Reuters, August 29, 2012

Once the province of men in dark, smoky stadiums and shadowed by an image of violence, Thailand's ancient martial art of Muay Thai is being reborn – as a fitness regime...

Thailand gives Nagaland condom vending machine

August 29, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand gives Nagaland condom vending machine](#) – calcuttanews.net, August 29, 2012

The Thailand government has donated a condom vending machine to the Nagaland government to ensure that people can easily access condoms at controlled prices, Nagaland Health Minister Kuzholuzo Nienu said Wednesday...

Thai-Style Olympics

August 30, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 6, 2012

Take this team to London Olympics 2012, and we will surely sweep the medals!



Natthawut says: It's on me!

Participating in the torch lighting is Natthawut who is famous for setting Bangkok on fire.



Duang: "Now you know who my father is!"

The winner for the gold medal for shooting can't be anybody else but him — Duang, the man whom Pol Snr Sgt-Mag Yim and those who went to the Twenty Pub witnessed his sharp-shooting skill.



Pol. Gen. Adul will take care of the pole vaulting, his skill that once wowed everybody in the Royal Thai Police.
On the cards in front of the men: First senior officer, Second senior officer



Pheu Thai MP Karun says: Here you are, father and mother!
Competing in the Taekwondo must be 'Ai Keng' Don Muang who is skillful in using his foot for brain!



Arisman says: London must become a sea of fire!
For long throw, it must be Phi Kee who once threw a Molotov cocktail bomb over the Royal Thai Military HQ's fence.



With the fans to pressure—oops! To watch over the referees.



Top: This sport doesn't exist in the Olympics. However, this woman will surely win a gold medal for lifting shopping bags from downtown Oxford Street.
Below: This height-disabled man is waiting to grab medals in the Paralympics.

Woman forced to eat MAGGOTS while locked up in Thai prison for NINE YEARS after trying to smuggle heroin into the U.S.

August 30, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Woman forced to eat MAGGOTS while locked up in Thai prison for NINE YEARS after trying to smuggle heroin into the U.S.](#) – Daily Mail, August 30, 2012

When Angela Carnegie made the disastrous decision to smuggle heroin from Thailand, she had no idea how much worse her life could get.

After being caught at Bangkok airport, she was sentenced to life in a Thai prison in 1993 – where she was forced to eat rotting food teeming with maggots, sleep next to prisoners with leprosy and survive without running water...

Burma Releases Names of Those Removed from Blacklist

August 30, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma Releases Names of Those Removed from Blacklist](#) – The Irrawaddy, August 20, 2012

...Among the most high-profile names are Dr Sein Win, the leader of Burma's government in exile; Aung Din of the US Campaign for Burma; Zipporah Sein, secretary of the Karen National Union; Dr Cynthia Maung, founder and director of the Mae Tao Clinic; Bo Kyi, Tate Naing and other members of the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners; Aung Moe Zaw of the Democratic Party for a New Society (DPNS); Maung Maung of the Federation of Trade Unions of Burma (FTUB); Khin Ohmar of the Network for Democracy and Development; Aung Htoo of the Burma Lawyers Council; and Naw Lay Dee of the Burmese Women's Union...

Eight Years Ago: Backdown on GMO farming – PM orders proposal recalled from cabinet

August 31, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Backdown on GMO farming – PM orders proposal recalled from cabinet](#)

Independent Cambodian Radio Station Runs Without Jailed Owner

August 31, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Independent Cambodian Radio Station Runs Without Jailed Owner](#) – VOA, August 29, 2012

...She is dismissive of the court case against her husband – as well as even the idea that he could be planning a secession in rural Kratie in Cambodia’s northeast. “How do we lead an insurrection just with two, three farmers earning a living feeding chickens and pigs? How do we secede? It is not true. It is not possible,” she said...

Forbes: Thailand's 40 Richest

August 31, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's 40 Richest](#) – Forbes, August 29, 2012

From jousting with Heineken to opening a plant in Africa, Thailand's tycoons are making a mark around the globe as their wealth rises for the second consecutive year...

Rare recording of Thai King's music returned

August 31, 2012

Categories: The Monarchy

[Rare recording of Thai King's music returned](#) – au.news.yahoo.com, August 31, 2012

A collection of 18 rare Thai records are back in Bangkok, after more than 60 years in storage in Sydney.

The records are of the old, flat, round variety that play at 78 revolutions per minute, and they feature, among others, the musical talents of the world's longest serving monarch, Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, on saxophone...

