

Bad news for energy slaves

July 1, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



02-07-57

From Manager, July 1, 2014

On the door: Whoosh!

On bucket in Piyasvasti's hand: Saline

On middle dispenser: Fuel

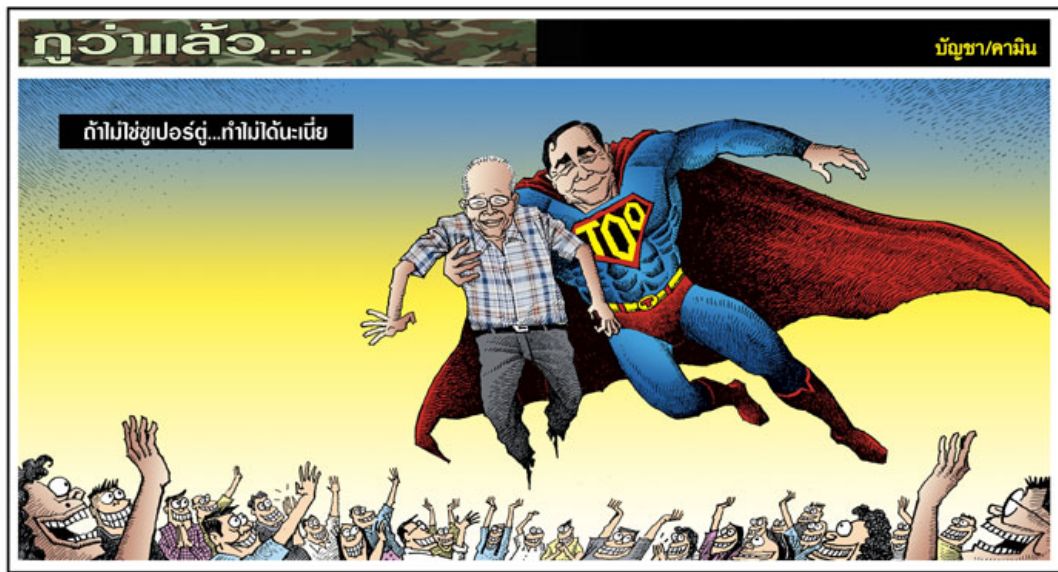
The three slaves: Piyasvasti!!

Caption: Bad news for energy slaves

Super Too!

July 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



03-07-57

From Manager, July 2, 2014

Title: If it is not Super Too, it can't be done.

Lady Liberty bullies Thailand

July 2, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 2, 2014

Statue of Liberty: I told you to be democratic or you will be hurt!!

The United States understands democracy

July 2, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 2, 2014

Uncle Sam, to Thailand's junta: In past, Iraq was governed by dictatorship, but we brought democracy to the country.

Abandoned 747 Airplane In Bangkok Suburb

July 2, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Abandoned 747 Airplane In Bangkok Suburb](#) – renegadetravels.com, December 4, 2013

Thai traveler outrage at 10,000 baht shopping limit forces customs to remove signs

July 2, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[B10,000 limit on incoming duty free – Duty free limits being strictly enforced](#)

[Thai traveler outrage at 10,000 baht shopping limit forces customs to remove signs](#)

Marcos, Suharto, Thaksin: corrupt leaders who held power through elections

July 2, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup

[Marcos, Suharto, and then Thaksin?](#) – Rappler.com, July 2, 2014

...Trying to draw parallelisms among the three leaders is a slippery slope. But this view of Thaksin as the ultimate problem that colors Thai politics is a major factor behind the acceptance, relief and support for the May coup – even though coups are an abnormal means of changing a country's political leadership of in modern times.

Giving his insights into why acceptance of a coup is not uncommon, Nirun Pitakwatchara, a commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Thailand, explained that Thai society “likes to have someone come in (from the outside) and help them”. In an interview, he added: “This is a problem of society that must be corrected...”

Update: A reader adds some perspective: *You sent out a link to this article purporting to compare Marcos and Thaksin. But the article doesn't offer much of a comparison.*

I've long wondered why no one has written about the parallels between the two leaders. The similarities between Marcos and Thaksin are many. Both were popularly elected and, initially, admired for their intelligence and audacity. Both were later accused of looting the public purse to fund vote buying. Both used populist policies favoring rural voters. Both presided over robust economic growth driven by government borrowing. Both led administrations accused of around 3,000 extrajudicial executions. Both established their own red shirt wearing cult of personality. Both presided over administrations that pinned murder charges on their primary political opponents (Aquino and Suthep/Abhisit).

In 1986, after claiming fraud and voting irregularities, the perpetually losing opposition in Philippines elections walked out of parliament and set up an alternative government. This started what has later been known as the People Power Revolution to bring down the Marcos regime. Marcos eventually fled the country after losing support in the military. I would not be surprised if the Whistleblower leaders studied the People Power Revolution carefully before embarking on their quest to remove Thaksin's influence on Thai politics.

Thai Court awards scalded Karen girl compensation—still no charges filed against her Thai captors

July 2, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Court Awards Abused Karen Girl \\$140K in Compensation](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 2, 2014

...Preeda said the couple remains on the run and Thai police had made no progress in tracking them down, adding, “We need the police officers to work harder to find this couple...”

[Kampaeng Phet Provincial Court awarded 4,603,233 baht as compensation to Girl Air for torture and cruel treatment inflicted on her by her employers](#) – AHRC, July 2, 2014

...According to Air, she was abducted by the former employers of her parents from the residence of her parents in the sugar cane plantation. Since then, she had been forced to serve as a housemaid in the house of Mr. Natee Taeng-on and Miss Rattanakorn Piyaworatham. During her time working with the two employers, she suffered abuses inflicted on her by them until she sustained grievous injuries including some wounds caused by her being poured with boiling water...

Politician's shit

July 3, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 3, 2014

The words read: Politician's shit.

Bouncing Men

July 3, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 3, 2014

Cartoon title: Bouncing men, Thailand only

On back of men bounced out: Civil servants

On chair, from front left: Civil servants; state enterprises' executives; Civil servants; Transferred; Transferred

Yingluck Shinawatra: Poo transferred just one person, and is being sued.

Mouse: C'est la vie.

The American Vulture

July 4, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 4, 2014

Bird: He said he's an eagle. He comes to help us know democracy.

Obama and Yingluck

July 5, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Naewna, July 5, 2014

Yingluck: Since the day I met you... my life was immediately damned...!! Not long after that, the NCPO seized my power.

Obama: Yes...mine too...!! In 'Merica ..., they accuse me...of being the worst president...

On the woman's back: Yingluck

On the man's back: Obama

The junta will win the reform battle

July 5, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 5, 2014

Title: Everyone wants to receive a trophy.

On the left: World cup 2014

On the right: Political reform 2014

On the trophy held by Gen. Prayuth: NCPO's constitution

Phi Nooring: Being a world champion

A mouse: Return democracy

Weekly News Magazines, June 27, 2014

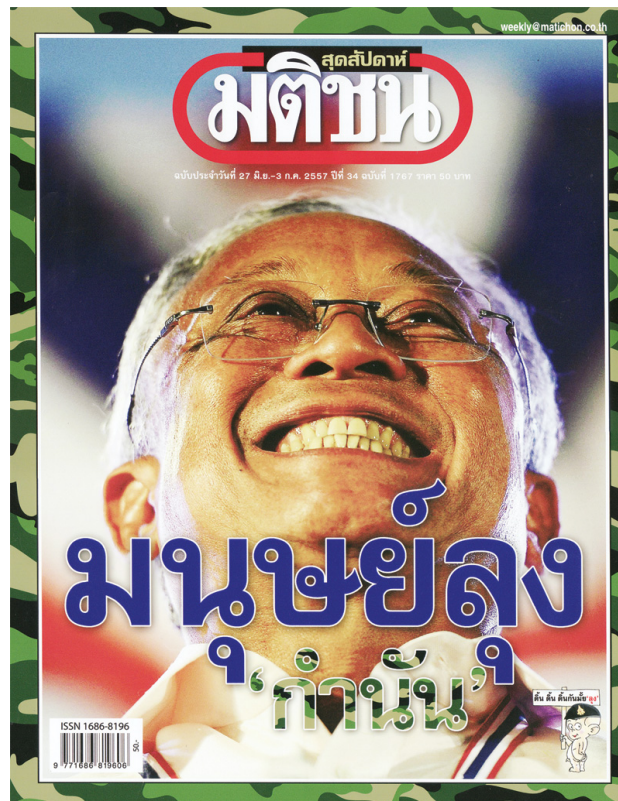
July 5, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, June 27, 2014

Cover reads: Scripture of victorious warfare



From Matichon Weekly, June 27, 2014

Cover reads: Uncle 'Kamnan' man



From ASTV Manager Weekly, June 28

Cover reads: Kamnan runs, imagining aloud at the Pacific Club

U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney is the best Red Shirt

July 6, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, July 6, 2014

U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney, giving the three-fingered anti-coup salute from *The Hunger Games*: What!?... Are you afraid of them so much that you dare not wear red shirts? Dare to uphold your principles... Like me!

Caption: There is only one true Red left in Thailand

Who ate all the rice?

July 7, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, July 7, 2014

On TV M.L. Panadda Diskul, acting permanent secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister, says: I don't understand... How can tens of thousands of tons of rice simply disappear!?

Caption: It's here!!

Helpful advice from the U.S.

July 7, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 7, 2014

Uncle Sam: The way to solve things for your country's problem is to having an election... Come on!!

Follow democracy

July 8, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 8, 2014

Word: Democracy

The military backbone of the future government

July 8, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 8, 2014

Title: Backbone of the future government

On the chair: Government for reformation 2557 (2014)

On the chair leg: NCPO

Phi Nooring: For the security

A mouse: Return happiness to Thai people

Hope not to forget the past with the new constitution

July 9, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 9, 2014

Cartoon title: Hope not to forget the past

On spine of constitution: NCPO constitution

Man: Public hearing

Voice from NCPO, from top: Adopt now and amend later; Turn left, turn right ; No amendment, but can...

Phi Nooring: Returning the democracy

Mouse: The real happiness

Advice for protesters

July 9, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 9, 2014

Left: Eating sandwiches and glutinous rice roasted in bamboo...

Middle: Woman: Next time, what should we eat to protest the junta?

A sergeant: It will be better...

Right: ...that you should eat something with iodine mixed in to improve your brain.

Must resign

July 9, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Komchadluek, July 9, 2014

Teacher: Prapas, spell it correctly and loudly!!

On the board: La-og

Prapas: Uh! L-a-Laam...



10-07-57

From Manager, July 9, 2014

Prapas: I won't quit... It's not my fault.

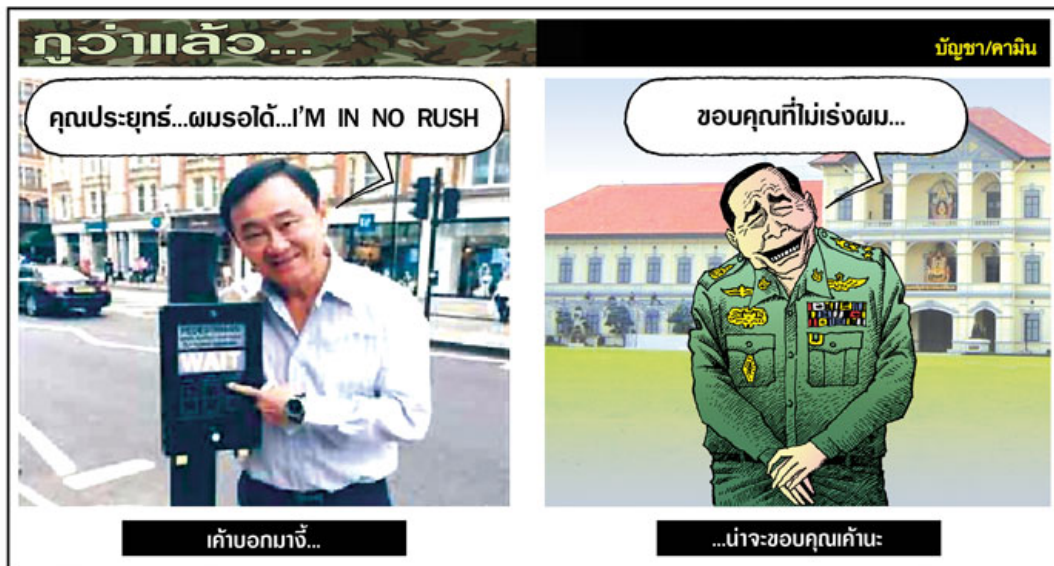
Caption on the left: This man has already confessed.

Caption on the right: ...but this man is still refusing.

Prayuth must thank Thaksin

July 10, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



11-07-57

From Manager, July 10, 2014

Left, Thaksin Shinawatra: Khun Prayuth... I can wait... I'm in no rush

Left caption: He said this...

Right, Gen. Prayuth: Thank you for not rushing me...

Right caption: ...should thank him.

Weekly News Magazines, July 4, 2014

July 11, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, July 4, 2014

Cover reads: A call from the motherland



From Matichon Weekly, July 4, 2014

Cover reads: Transformer, democracy



From ASTV Manager Weekly, July 5, 2014
Cover reads: Veera Burus

Please help return safety to the Thai people

July 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 11, 2014

Title: Please help return safety to the Thai people

A woman carried by Gen. Prayuth: victims of crime.

On the figure on the right: Criminals

Phi Nooring: Horrible cases happen everyday.

A mouse: People's morals are declining.

No responsibility

July 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 11, 2014

Title: Er... it's reasonable.

Left: The PM is not a security guard who monitors a warehouse.

Middle: An abbot is not a security guard who monitors Sister 'Sherry.'

Right: A railway governor is not a security guard who monitors a train's car.

Hey! Quick democracy!

July 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 14, 2014

Passengers: Have you finished it yet? So, we can move. We've been wasting time fixing it for too long.

Soldier: They don't even help, but only call for speeding it up.

Letters above the soldier: NCPO

Stopping drinking during Buddhist Lent Day is not enough

July 13, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 13, 2014

Cartoon title: Stopping drinking during Buddhist Lent Day is not enough

Top left: Stop making faces, and serve people!

Top right: Stop threatening and extorting!

Bottom left: Stop chasing the fashion trend of saving clothes, women!

Bottom, 2nd from left: Stop the government's lotto quotas for sleeping partner!

Bottom, 2nd from right: Stop calling yourselves democratic men!

Bottom right: Stop giving false information to foreign press to burn up your own county!

Who raped and killed the rice goddess?

July 13, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, July 13, 2014

Goddess of Rice: Those two siblings... raped and killed me... Don't you demand death sentences for them?

Caption: Yes... and they seem to be at large...

What does the U.S. want now?

July 14, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 14, 2014

Left, Ambassador Kristie Kenney: The U.S. and Thailand has established good relationship for centuries. We therefore want to support Thailand...

Middle, Ambassador Kenney: ...in terms of economy, energy and military affairs.

ACM. Prajin Juntong: Here it is...

Right, ACM. Prajin: ...just tell me exactly what you want from us this time?

The military performs magic on the police

July 15, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



16-07-57

From Manager, July 15, 2014

Gen. Prayuth: Abracadabra...!

Police officer: I can see now!... From now on, I'll see who breaks the laws.

Caption: Uncle Too's magic power is awesome... even those who are blind for a long time can be cured.

The U.S. has something to say to Thailand

July 16, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 16, 2014

On the ground: Gaza Strip

President Obama dressed as Uncle Sam: Don't violate human rights!

Who were behind the shooting of M79s at the PDRC?

July 16, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



17-07-57

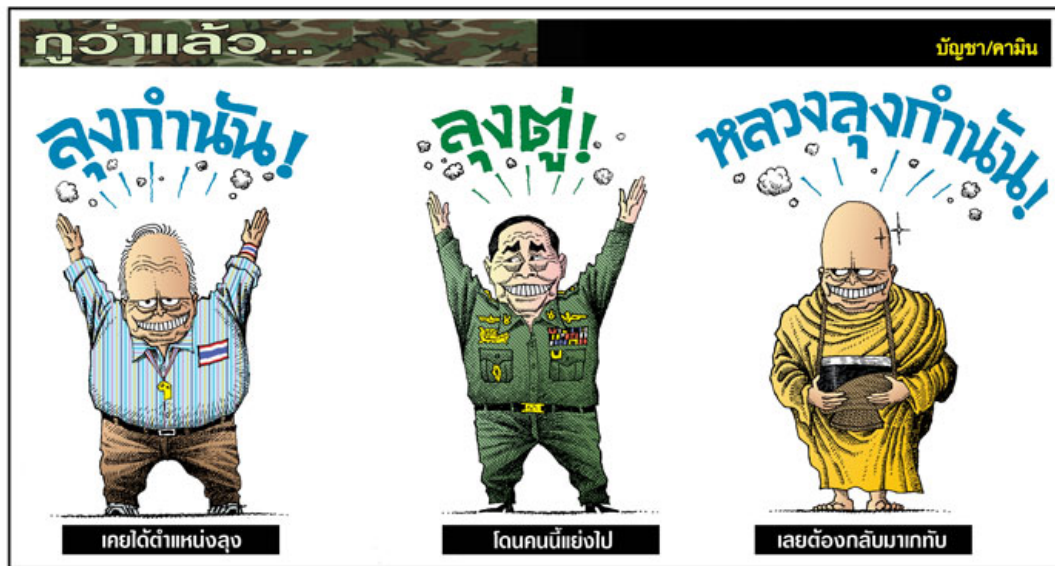
From Manager, July 16, 2014

Police: Who were behind the shooting of M79s at the PDRC?

Uncle Kamnan lost his job

July 17, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



18-07-57

From Manager, July 17, 2014

Left: Uncle Kamnan

Caption: Deserved his position as Uncle...

Middle: Uncle Too

Caption: ... but it was stolen by this man

Right: Monk Uncle Kamnan

Caption: ...so he comes up with a new position

Thais are now children of the military

July 17, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 17, 2014

Paper's subject: 12 values of Thai people for Thailand's strength

Thai people singing: Good children, you have 12 duties

Mouse: Obedient

Please leave something for the poor...!

July 18, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 18, 2014

Title: Please leave something for the poor...!

Phi Nooring: Make merit.

A mouse: Don't be selfish.

On money bags carried by the doctor: Benefits for children's education, medical care for all family members, high salary, pension and others

On a money bag held by the woman: 30-baht universal health scheme

Weekly News Magazines, July 11, 2014

July 18, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, July 11, 2014

Cover reads: “Killing train crushing her on the way”



From Matichon Weekly, July 11, 2014

Cover reads: Made-to-order dish; Retro-politics

By the small cartoon figure: The real iron wok chef



From ASTV Manager Weekly, July 12, 2014

Cover reads: “Accursed”

On the cover, left: Wanchai Saengkhae, rapist and killer of a 13-year-old girl

Middle: Mother of the rape victim who unwillingly presented a bouquet of flowers to Pol. Gen. Aek Angsanant, Deputy Commissioner General

Right: Prapas Jongsanguan, former governor of the State Railway of Thailand

Permission to go abroad

July 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



21-07-57

From Manager, July 20, 2014

Left: Talking to Suthep on the phone: You and the people have been working hard and are tired... Go home and rest. Leave it to me.

Left caption: This is what he said that day...

Right: Talking to Yingluck on the phone: You and your relatives have been working hard and are tired... travel abroad to relax and spend your money. Leave it to me.

Right caption: Today, he may have to say a similar thing.

Watch out!

July 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 20, 2014

Cartoon title: Watch out!

Top left: Watch out for a widow disguised as a brown spider!

Top middle: Want to live by the seaside, watch out for locations like Laem Chabang!

Top right: Even an old woman of 72 was raped. Watch out! You have to lookout for yourself!

Bottom left: Looking for a mate on LINE app. Watch out! You may find a .22

Bottom middle: Watch out! A scaffold may collapse on you while inspecting a rice warehouse.

Bottom right: Why not watch out for a person who used to think ill, then turned sweet.

Washington Post predicts the majority will reject the junta and unrest will rise

July 20, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup

[Can Thailand save its democracy?](#) – Washington Post, July 19, 2014

...The junta can continue down its repressive path, which will likely lead to unrest. Or, mindful of public opinion, it can restore civil liberties and return the country to democratic rule before fall 2015, as promised. This latter option must come with a constitution approved by referendum, with an elected legislature and mechanisms to ensure neutrality in the judiciary...

“Thailand itself is on trial” – Slavery Scandal Tests Thailand Legal System

July 20, 2014

Categories: Human Rights

[Slavery Scandal Tests Thailand Legal System](#) – maritime-executive.com, July 19, 2014

The International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) has described Thailand as being ‘on trial’ for allowing a company to prosecute a human rights defender who exposed modern day slavery in its canned fruit and fishing industry...

How dare they let the Shinawatras escape

July 21, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, July 21, 2014

Yingluck: So surprising!! No one from the protest group opposes us even through they know that we're gonna leave the country to escape prosecution.

Paper on the people's month: NCPO's announcement no.97

The non-profit rice pledging scheme

July 21, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 21, 2014

Left, reporter: The rice-pledging scheme was found to have huge losses. The NACC has also indicated that you will be charged (in this case). Then how will you explain this to the public?

Right, Yingluck: This is because we managed the project following the non-profit organization way.

Yingluck is responsible

July 22, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 22, 2014

Left, former prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra: For corruption in the rice pledging scheme, my duty is supervision while the operational stage was the duty of civil servants. Therefore, I shouldn't have to be convicted.

Right, man: About the rape and murder case on the train, my duty was to supervise and look out while Ai Game performed the act. Therefore, I shouldn't be guilty of the crime.

Boycott U.S. goods

July 22, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Anti-Americanism



Above: Thai giant: Don't stick your nose into other people's business for just once, will you?

Examples of more anti-American graphics being circulated in social media.

More: [Uncle Sam: Hold elections now!](#)

More: [Is the United States the puppet master?](#)



"Thailand People ... Boycott U.S.A. Goods"

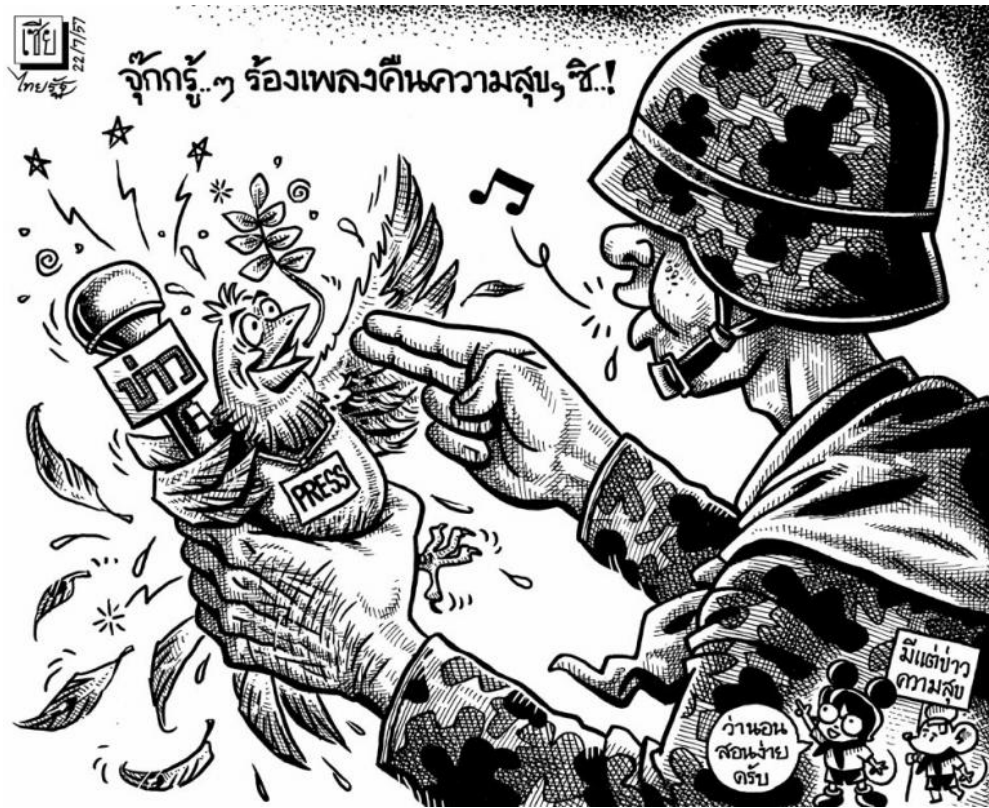


Above: Raise a warfare flag, boycotting every kind of consumer products from the U.S.

Ordered to report only happy news!

July 22, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 22, 2014

Title: Jookkru... sing a song "Return the happiness!!!"

On the microphone: News

Phi Nooring: So obedient...

A mouse: There is only happy news.

Cutting back the healthcare plan

July 22, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 22, 2014
On the bomb: Health security

From “Siamese talk” to “Kristie talk”

July 23, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 23, 2014

Left: Thai man: In the past, due to the miscommunication, foreigners criticized Thai people saying that when Thais say something, they do the opposite. So, they called it “Siamese talk.”

Middle: Thai man: Luckily, America sends its ambassador to help us solve this criticism.

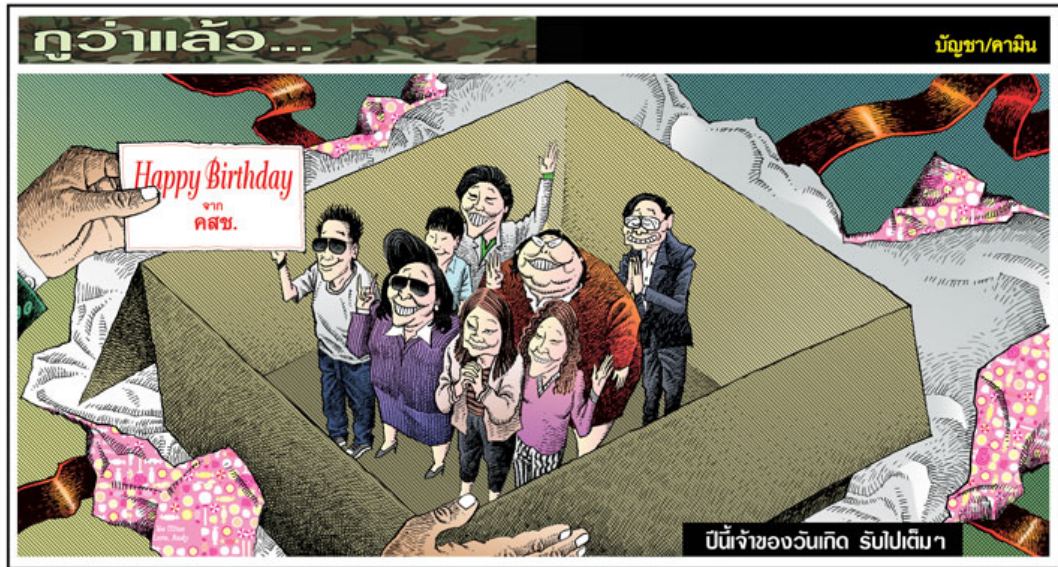
A man: How?

Right: It changes from “Siamese talk” to “Kristie talk.”

For Thaksin's birthday

July 25, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



25-07-57

From Manager, July 25, 2014

This year, the Birthday Man receives plenty.

The card is signed: From the NCPO

In the box: Pojjaman Damapong, former wife of Thaksin, and their three children; Yingluck Shinawatra and her son; Yaowapha and Somchai Wongsawat, sister and brother-in-law of Thaksin.

Good deeds passport

July 25, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 25, 2014

Title: Passport to Goodness!

Men in the back row (L-R): Exchange for the position of adviser, exchange for a position in the cabinet

Men in the front row (L-R): Exchange for a position in the Reform Council, exchange for a position in the legislative assembly

On passports: Good people/Good boy

On bag held by woman: Ministry of Education

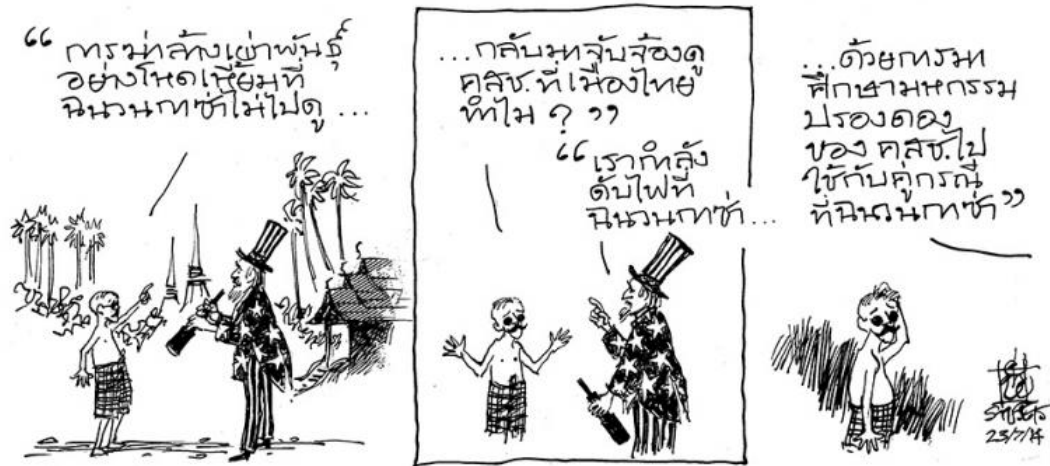
Phi Nooring: Return happiness to good people

A mouse: Good people love to do as their group wants.

Uncle Sam, why don't you pay attention to the genocide in the Gaza Strip

July 25, 2014

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 25, 2014

Left, Ai Joi: Why don't you pay attention to the genocide in the Gaza Strip...

Middle, Ai Joi: ...instead of watching the NCPO in Thailand?

Uncle Sam: We are putting out the fire in the Gaza Strip...

Right, Uncle Sam: ...by studying the reconciliation activities of the NCPO to adapt it to the parties in conflict in the Gaza Strip.

Wrong way junta

July 25, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, July 25, 2014

Cartoon title: We're on the right path...

The Roots of the Thai Political Crisis: Thaksin as Prime Minister

July 26, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics



Above: [Thaksin takes over the Phalang Dharma Party in 1995](#)

Today is Thaksin's birthday.

With so much being written about the future of Thailand, it is useful to remember the real roots of the crisis—a conservative and finely balanced political system that was rocked by an ambitious billionaire.

Initially, Thaksin's Thai Rak Thai party arose not because of the organic popularity of the party, but because of the purchase and absorption of existing political factions and parties. The ease with which the existing political establishment acquiesced to Thaksin was indicative of the weakness and vacuousness of the political world that Thaksin would change forever.

The progressive 1997 constitution enabled the Thaksin revolution. The charter was intended to create a few large stable parties to replace the unstable coalition governments of previous decades. In particular, it banned the ease with which MP factions could instantly leave a government. The charter succeeded in this goal, but the strong party it created—Thaksin's Thai Rak Thai—then went to work to subvert the checks and balances intended to check the political abuse of power.

At the height of Thaksin popularity and power a real clampdown on the media began. The *Bangkok Post* editor was replaced, webboards were flooded with pro-government posts or pressured to shut down, TV shows featuring political analysis were removed from the airways, polling organizations were raided, iTV's investigative reporting was silenced, and critical reporters found themselves on lists to be investigated for money laundering.

It was feared that this was leading to a Malaysian- or Singaporean-style one-party government that would dominate the press, the military and the monarchy. In a system where political parties were business entities that often took turns holding power, the specter of a prime minister for life represented a fundamental change.

The roots of the present political crisis are not easy to find online. Since English-language sources of news like *The Nation* and *Bangkok Post* change their link structures about twice a year, it is difficult to find news items from Thaksin's time as prime minister.

Even before the Red Shirt protests in 2010, there was a distinct lack of on-the-ground photos and commentary on Thai politics. The coup of 2006 received minimal outside attention. Even the chaotic events of 2008 and 2009 received only passing coverage and little in-depth comment in English.

This changed in 2010. During the Red Shirt protests that year, dozens of foreign bloggers were roaming around the Red Shirt redoubt in Rajaprasong posting photo essays and breezily commenting on the Red Shirts' democracy movement. Since that time there has been an explosion of comment on Thai affairs online facilitated by websites such as Facebook and Twitter which essentially allow free blogging services.

This burst of information starting in 2010 impacts the way the Thai political situation is viewed. Most journalists simply use a Google search for their background material. The dearth of info prior to 2010 means that the definition of the present conflict tends to be that the "elite are trying to keep a democratically elected leader from power." This is certainly the view that pro-Thaksin groups have tried to portray from the beginning.

However, the Thai establishment was more than willing to let the Thaksin-directed Pheu Thai Party raid the nation's finances to create populist programs to reward its supporters and spend on a scale unimagined by previous governments. Histrionics by the opposition Democrats to stop the Pheu Thai in parliament were met with indifference by the general public.

It was only the attempt to create an amnesty for Thaksin and rewrite the constitution to cement the power of the government that created the imperative to stop the Pheu Thai from creating Thaksin's one-party state.

Thaksin's march to power and what it meant to Thai democracy begins well before the 2010 protests or even the 2006 coup. Below is a sampling of news items from Thaksin's controversial years as prime minister that sheds light on the origins of the present political crisis.

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [*The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations*](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

[What choice do we have?](#) – September 29, 2004

[Thaksin and the National Anthem](#) – October 20, 2004



[The outrage of the Tak Bai deaths](#) – October 31, 2004

[Thaksin "bans" Tak Bai video footage](#) – December 11, 2004

[Thailand's strongman: Do we have another 'indispensable man'?](#) – December 26, 2004

[The Weird Claims of Dhammakaya](#) – July 31, 2002

['Foreign debt: We could try the Thai way'](#) – August 18, 2003

[Pro-Government forumers who are hired to spin debate on forums](#) – January 6, 2005

[Thaksin company courts controversy](#) – July 16, 2005

[T is for trouble in the age of libel](#) – July 29, 2005

[Thaksin's wife owns new party headquarters](#) – July 15, 2005

[Notes on the canceling Muang Thai Rai Sapdah](#) – September 17, 2005

[Thaksin's Burma blunder](#) – March 6, 2006

[The Gutting of iTV](#) – March 7, 2006

[William L Monson vs Thaksin](#) – May 11, 2006

[Finland, monarchy: a dangerous mix](#) – May 25, 2006

[Extrajudicial killings of alleged drug dealers in Thailand](#) – May 29, 2006

Thaksin. If that will lead to 3,000-4,000 deaths of those who break the law, then so be it.]



Thai editorial cartoons from the Thaksin years: [Is a dealer worth more than an addict?](#)

Thai editorial cartoons from the Thaksin years: [Sucking up MPs](#)

Thai editorial cartoons from the Thaksin years: [Time to Shoot Those Involved in Drugs](#)

[Who wants to lead the United Nations?](#) – June 5, 2006



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: Thaksin's unusual election: the controversial voting booth placement on April 2, 2006 with booths arranged to face outward so the choices of the voters could be monitored.

[The boycotted election](#) – April 30, 2006

[PM's role as defender of democracy is a joke](#) – Bangkok Post, July 10, 2006

...But most offending of all seems to be a famous remark about democracy unwittingly made by Mr Thaksin some time ago. "Democracy is not an end in itself, but just a means..."

[Consequences of Thaksin's botched foreign policy](#) – June 8, 2010

[Book Review: Thaksin and Thailand's contentious foreign policy](#) – August 3, 2010

AIRPORT 'CRACKS' ROW: Govt may sue over runway report

Published on August 12, 2005

'Bangkok Post' faces a fresh blast of political heat despite retraction. The government is considering suing the Bangkok Post over its front-page report about "cracks" along a runway at Suvarnabhumi Airport, despite the English-language daily retracting the story.

A source close to Transport Minister Pongsak Ruktapongpisal said yesterday the minister was summoned by Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra shortly after the report appeared in the Bangkok Post on Tuesday. At that meeting, the PM reportedly instructed the minister to consult his ministry's lawyers and the Attorney General's Office for possible legal action.

[Suvarnabhumi Airport Runway Cracks](#) – November 3, 2006

[Washington Post: Thaksin and Absolute Power](#)

[The dark age of cowardly dumbed-down TV](#)



Above: Minister – Made in Hong Kong – Arun, Krungtepturakit, January 27, 2008
It reads: Minister. Made in Hong Kong

Note: An earlier version of this article was originally posted on Thaksin's birthday in 2011.

Karoon Hosakul enters the monkhood

July 28, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Karoon Hosakul enters monkhood](#) – thaipbs.or.th, July 26, 2014

More background on this person: [Another Colorful Politician: Karun Hosakul](#)

Manager Group weekly news magazine under pressure from the junta

July 28, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From *ASTV Manager Weekly*, July 26, 2014

Cover reads: Jenny 91, when it's time for the Lost Star Begins Again

On green color at bottom: Big Tou charter, NCPO's the father of every institute?

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

[Press Council eyes 'Manager' mystery](#) – Bangkok Post, July 28, 2014

The National Press Council of Thailand is launching a probe into alleged false reporting by Manager Weekly magazine — even though it has no idea what it is investigating...

[Junta asked to explain what offended them in newspaper](#) – The Nation, July 28, 2014

...Junta warns Manager Group over “dishonest intent to undermine the credibility of the NCPO...”

[The 'big stick' of martial law must be used sparingly](#) – Bangkok Post, July 28, 2014

...In a post on his Facebook page, National Press Council president Chakkrish Permpool asked the NCPO to submit its evidence in writing.

He urged the junta to clearly point to the false information contained in the magazine, as required by the council's charter, so that his group can start its ethics probe...

More: [Weekly News Magazines, August 1, 2014 and Manager Weekly's response to junta pressure](#)

Also: [Junta blocks Economist's "Five hundred days of dictatorship" article](#)

Happiness and Thaksin

July 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, July 29, 2014

Woman: I am so proud of the NCPO's performance in returning the happiness to the people. I can't hold my tears back from it.

Thais are fourth heaviest drinkers in the world

July 29, 2014

Categories: Food and Drink

[Thais are fourth heaviest drinkers in the world](#) – thaipbs.or.th, thaipbs.or.th

...Thais were found to be the fourth hardest drinkers at 4.5 shots per week, closely trailing behind South Korea, Russia, and the Philippines.
South Koreans, who topped the list, drink more alcohol than Russians, Americans, and Britons combined...

Give us a little more time, and then the beautiful land will return

July 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



30-07-57

From Manager, July 29, 2014

Song: ...Give us a little more time, and then the beautiful land will return... We'll do it honestly. Just trust in us and believe in us... The land will become fine soon...let us return happiness to you, the people...

Caption: In the three provinces in the deep South... this song may not be a hit.

All come from the election

July 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, July 29, 2014

Title: All come from the election

Left: A vote canvasser pays a poor person for his vote.

Right: Junta chief Gen. Prayuth paints a poster of the next prime minister.

Poster Gen. Prayuth is leaning out of: NCPO elects the NLA.

Poster he is painting: the NLA elects the PM.

Rape in the past and present

July 29, 2014

Categories: Culture and Society



This is from a graphic circulated in social media.

Title: TV series and news in the country of Bangkok

Top, from left: TV series in the past; TV series in the recent past: TV series at present

Bottom left: News in the past. Headline: Accursed karma, punched the stomach and raped a girl

Bottom middle: News in the recent past. Headline: Chased and immediately apprehended a lustful taxi driver who raped a young female passenger

Bottom right: News at present. Headline: Notify the U.S. to extradite Kham, a banished monk who raped girls

The power of the press

July 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 29, 2014

Cartoon title: Be careful of the “necrotizing fasciitis”

On pen stuck in the soldier’s foot who represents the ruling military junta: The press

Above nails on ground: Violating human rights

Below the nails: Discriminating

Phi Nooring: It’s widespread now.

Mouse: Could die from being careless

Weekly News Magazines, July 18, 2014

July 29, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, July 18, 2014

Cover reads: Path of Dham, Paphakaro Phikhu

Text in white: A story from Suan Mokkh, the first day of Monk Suthep



From Matichon Weekly, July 18, 2014

Cover reads: Screaming whistle, 30 baht cannot cure all

Cartoon: The “golden whistle” disease.

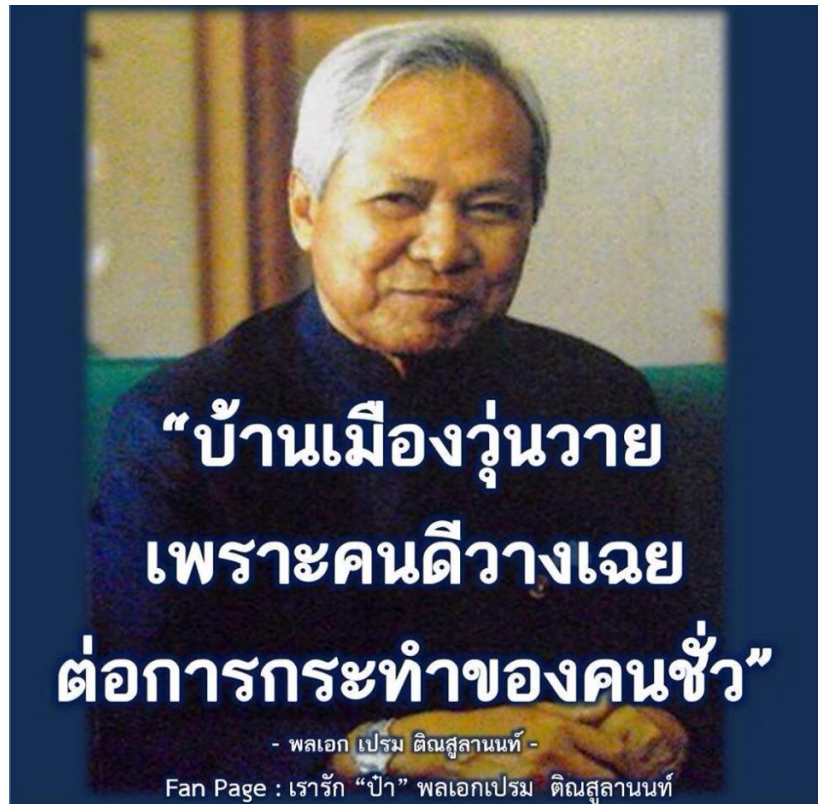


From ASTV Manager Weekly, July 19, 2014
Cover reads: "Coach Choi" said goodbye

We love Papa Prem graphic

July 31, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Graphic of Privy Council President Prem circulated in social media. It reads: “The unrest in the country is because decent people remain idle to the acts of bad people” Gen. Prem Tinsulanont

Fan Page: We Love “Papa” Gen. Prem Tinsulanont

Gen. Prayuth could dismiss PM Prayuth?

July 31, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, July 31, 2014

Gen. Prayuth to another Gen. Prayuth sitting in a small prime minister's chair: The constitution authorizes me to dismiss you. Therefore, you should work properly.

On the big chair: NCPO President

Caption: If Gen. Prayuth becomes the PM... he shall be pressured by the NCPO.

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

Weekly News Magazines, July 25, 2014

August 1, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, July 25, 2014



From Matichon Weekly, July 25, 2014



From *ASTV Manager Weekly*, July 26, 2014

Cover reads: Jenny 91, when it's time for the Lost Star Begins Again

On green color at bottom: Big Tou charter, NCPO's the father of every institute?

73 Years Ago: Japanese demand Thai bases and resources, offer Laos and Cambodia

August 1, 2014

Categories: Today in History

73 Years Ago: [Japanese demand Thai bases and resources, offer Laos and Cambodia](#) – The Evening Independent, August 1, 1941

...Japan's high-pressure march to the south took another big stride today with reported demands on Thailand (Siam) for military bases and control of that country's rubber, rice and tin production.

...Japan in exchange had offered to restore the province of Laos and the ancient city of Angkor, both in Japanese-dominated French Indochina...

The rubbish talks back

August 1, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, August 1, 2014

Rubbish: You can't clean up this place because the interim constitution doesn't give you power to do so.

On the rubbish: Politicians who lost their power

On the rubbish truck: NCPO

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [*The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations*](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

Super Tou!

August 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 2, 2014

Cartoon title: Super Tou... part 1

Top left, caption: Another day of Super Tou's routine life

Top left, a woman screaming: Scream! Burglar... Super Tou, Help!

Super Tou: Aha... Someone cries out for my help!

Top right: I must transform into Super Tou... perfect... my regular telephone booth for the transformation.

Bottom left: Take off; Tada!... Eh!

Bottom right: ...Wrong uniform ...this uniform is prepared for my premiership ...must take this layer off...

Caption on bottom right: How will the story be... continued tomorrow.

Eliminating the plague

August 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 2, 2014

Cartoon title: Eliminating the plague

Left, top: Yesterday;

Left, bottom: Bird flu

Right, top: Today

Bottom: Politic flu

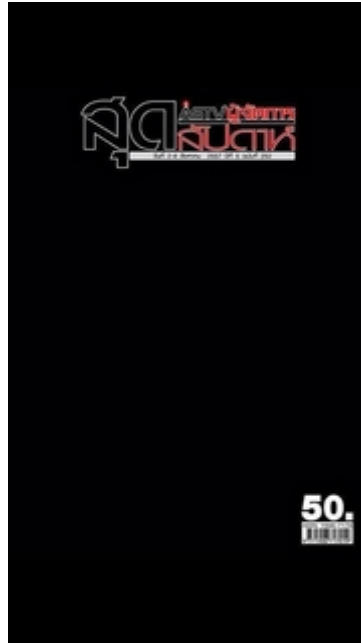
On the left wall: Former MPs and senators

On the right wall: Being revoked

Manager Weekly to cease publication for three weeks for offending junta

August 2, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



Above: Black cover of the August 2, 2014 issue announcing the suspension of the weekly magazine under junta pressure

[ASTV Manager takes a break](#) – Bangkok Post, August 2, 2014

ASTV-Manager Weekly Magazine says it will temporarily stop publishing for three weeks as a response to the junta's intimidation...

One of the headlines read "Prayuth's charter: NCPO is dad of all institutions". "The message parodies and may cause misunderstanding that the NCPO is above the higher institution," the letter said.

"Dad of all institutions" is an expression used by vocational students to insult vocational students from other schools...

Analysis here: [Manager Group weekly news magazine under pressure from the junta](#)



Above: Cover of the offending issue from July 26, 2014

In 1992 we feared a military-drafted constitution and a senate composed of soldiers

August 2, 2014

Categories: Today in History



[In 1992 we feared a military-drafted constitution and a senate composed of soldiers](#)

How big will your butt get, Gen. Prayuth???

August 3, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



04-08-57

From Manager, August 3, 2014

Man: You said you have to make yourself smaller, but why is your butt getting bigger?

Gen. Prayuth: In case I have to sit on 3 chairs.

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Rolling out the red carpet for Myanmar

August 4, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, August 4, 2003

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is rolling out a carpet. On the carpet: Myanmar's coalition, democracy in Myanmar

Under the carpet: Intervention from the West

Sign in front of the cage: Aung San Suu Kyi

Caption: Use the Eastern way to lead to peace.

Nine Years Ago: Prem accuses Thaksin of employing “double standards”

August 4, 2014

Categories: Today in History

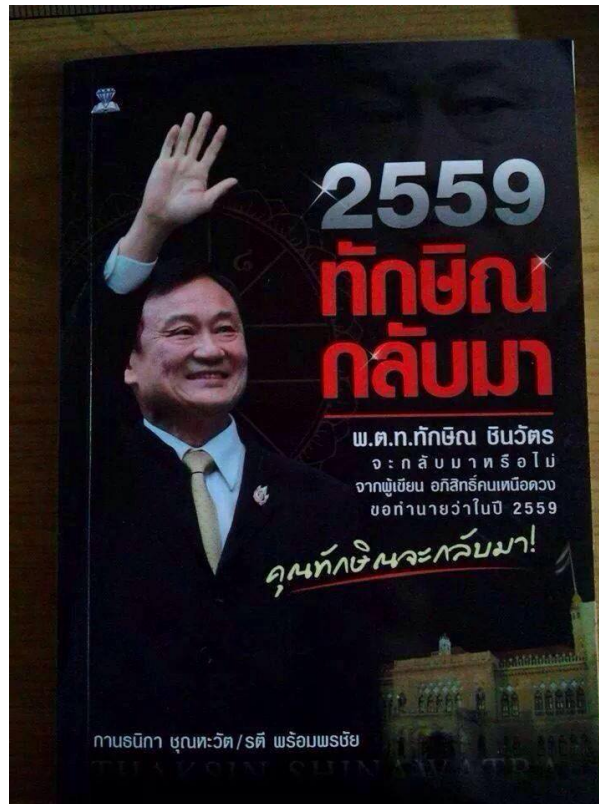
Nine Year Ago: [Prem's 'plea' or 'accusation'?](#)

It was around this time nine years ago that the split between Thaksin and Prem was becoming clear.

Thaksin coming back?

August 4, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



This is a photo circulated on social media with the caption: Souvenir being given away at Thaksin's birthday party in Paris, France. It's said that this is the book Thaksin gave to guests at his own birthday party in Paris. Who wants to read it?

The cover reads: 2016, Thaksin comes back; Will Pol. Lt. Col. Thaksin Shinawatra return? From the author of "Abhisit, the person who rises above fate"

Forecast that in 2016, Khun Thaksin will return!

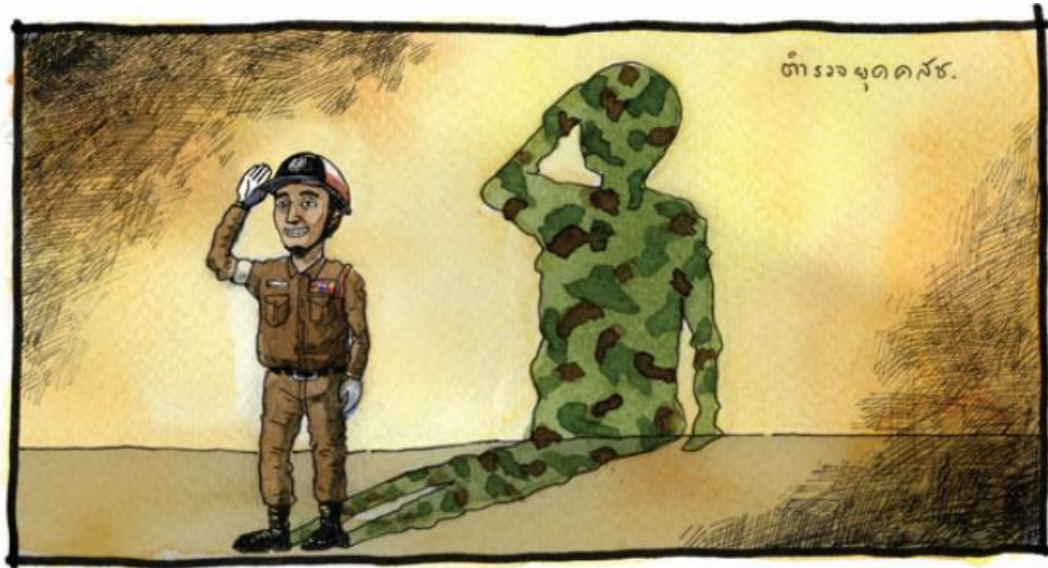
Kanthanika Chunhawatt/Ratee Prompornchai

Shinawatra family response to this: [Thaksin 'Not Responsible' For Return to Thailand in 2016 Prediction](#) – Khaosod, July 31, 2014

The era of the independent (and politicized) Thai police is over

August 7, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons, Thai Police, The Thaksin Years



From Post Today, July 18, 2014

Title: Police in the NCPO era.

Update, 2015: [Junta reverses course: No reform of the Royal Thai Police](#)

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris' book, [The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

Foreign press speaking in near unison on Thailand

August 7, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup

The Wall Street Journal: [The New Thai Dictatorship](#)

...But nobody should be under any illusion that this is a return to civilian government. Developments since May's coup suggest that Thailand is unlikely to return to full democracy next year as promised...

The Economist: [Five Hundred Days of Dictatorship](#)

...To stay in power till the next royal succession, the generals must prove that their brand of authoritarianism can improve the lot of 68m Thais. If they pulled it off, theirs would be the first coup anywhere since the end of the cold war that actually raised the pace of income growth. It will never be known what Thailand could have achieved for itself this decade within a democratic framework. If Thailand's own history is a reliable guide, abandoning democracy can be expected to lead straight to economic stagnation and exacerbated inequality.

U.S. Torture in Thailand: The full report is coming

August 7, 2014

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Torture in Thailand: The full report](#) – Bangkok Post, August 7, 2014

...The most common form of “enhanced interrogation” to be revealed in the US report is waterboarding. Several al-Qaeda prisoners were waterboarded at the CIA safe house in Thailand, whose location is still top secret among US and Thai officials...

[All the earlier mentions of the Secret Thai Prison going back 2003](#)

Two Years Ago: Criminals in Phuket targeting Australian tourists not brought to justice and some have official protection

August 8, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Two Years Ago: [Criminals in Phuket targeting Australian tourists not brought to justice and some have official protection](#)

How the military coup finally brought law and order to chaotic Phuket

August 8, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Analysis

In the 1980s there was rising alarm that a key Thai resort—Pattaya—was being overwhelmed by graft, over-development, pollution and general lawlessness. This was facilitated by the area being ruled by powerful local families who ran the province as their own personal fiefdom (still common in many areas of Thailand). They made the deals they wanted and ignored national-level laws.

Despite many plans to reclaim Pattaya, it only sank deeper into chaos with foreign mafias now claiming a place in the resort town. And despite the example of Pattaya, over the past 20 years Phuket also followed the downward spiral of Thai resort towns—unplanned development, encroachment on beaches, pollution and intimidation of tourists. All facilitated by local influential families cutting their own deals and ignoring laws that apply elsewhere.

This feeds into Thai concepts about elected politicians. It is thought that those elected are beholden to their political allies and will make any kind of deal to increase and prolong their time in power. Thus, from a Thai perspective, it is a commonsense idea that elected officials cannot be counted on to enforce laws. This is demonstrated by the examples of rule breaking throughout the country—particularly where the police, seen as the great facilitating middlemen for vested interests—stand by or even coordinate the law breaking.

So when the military sweeps across Phuket beaches in front of TV cameras, forcibly clearing out illegal vendors who have been undisturbed for years, they are playing into the notion that elected authorities and their lackeys, the police, cannot be expected to enforce the laws without favor. The continuous calls from the Pheu Thai since its election to “bring Thaksin home” is seen in this light—the natural inclination of the elected to rewrite laws to extend their own rule.

The military, by its actions, is emphasizing its own self-image—that it is not influenced by elections and favoritism to one side or another, but only acts with selflessness for the people, the nation, and the monarchy.

This military self-image will strike many with long enough memories as odd. Pre-2006 putsches were all firmly in the cold war vein of canny and unprincipled officers seizing power with an eye to participate in government without having to resort to pesky elections. It is strange to think that many of the same citizens who once hated the military for the wanton killings on Bangkok streets in 1992 would later cheer them on to topple elected governments in 2006 and 2014.

Continued military involvement in the political system is the greatest pitfall for the current junta. Military men are as much a part of the Thai world as politicians are. This world encourages *quid pro quo* and facilitation of every kind of illicit deal as being part of a polite society and strengthening social bonds.

The longer they are part of the political world and deeper they entrench themselves, the greater the chance of overreach. The military’s foe—Thaksin and his political clique—are waiting for just such missteps to appear and will trumpet them to the world at the first opportunity.

2Bangkok.com Editor Ron Morris’ book, [*The Thai Book: A Field Guide to Thai Political Motivations*](#), is available in the Kindle Store.

[Opinion: How the military coup saved Thailand’s top holiday island of Phuket from ruin](#) – CNN, August 8, 2014

...Though many Western countries have condemned Thailand’s latest coup, it may just have saved Phuket from further decay — also producing some useful social outcomes for similarly troubled holiday destinations in other parts of the country.

All beaches in Thailand are public space by law. The prohibition of private business operations on these public beaches is without exception, but has been ignored on Phuket and some other tourism destinations.

Restaurants and beach clubs illegally encroached onto the beaches, right down to the high-water mark in some places, too many deriving private profits by ignoring the law and doing as they pleased. Because Phuket is 860 kilometers south of Bangkok, administrators posted by the central government seemed reluctant to interfere...

Now, says Major General Somchai, complaints are being listened to and acted upon, without regard to the degree of influence Thailand's resident "big people" have always had under civilian governments. "Enforce the law," the major general tells his officers, "free from favor."

"By November we will have made Phuket safe, clean and appealing to everyone," he says. Coup, what a difference it's made here.

Earlier: [Honorary consuls once labelled Phuket "the most corrupt province and Thailand," with as many as 14 government agencies said by locals to be involved in graft](#)

Junta blocks Economist's "Five hundred days of dictatorship" article

August 9, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Censorship

Thailand's political future

Five hundred days of dictatorship

Aug 5th 2014, 8:05 by The Economist | BANGKOK

Timekeeper

Like

739

Tweet

124



THE ARMY has been the most powerful force in Thai political life since the introduction of constitutional monarchy in 1932. Since its most recent power grab, in a coup d'état sprung on May 22nd, a junta has been busy building a façade of legitimacy—as if to obscure from view their new dictatorship. An interim constitution grants absolutist powers to the military men, who effectively

[Junta blocks Economist's "Five hundred days of dictatorship" article](#)



And the Economist's retort on Facebook:

Our piece on Thailand's illiberal government <http://econ.st/1pAdFu5> Has now been blocked by the Thai government, proving our point. This is what readers in Thailand see when they click on the piece <http://econ.st/1zZAJk7> Thai readers can, for now, still access our print piece on the junta. <http://econ.st/XH4Wgx>



Weekly News Magazines, August 1, 2014

August 9, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, August 1, 2014

Cover reads: Twinkle Angel



From Matichon Weekly, August 1, 2014

Cover reads: Jenny uprising



From ASTV Manager Weekly, August 2, 2014



The title reads: ASTV Manager Weekly insist that they performed their duty as the media honestly.
Section 44 = The NCPO's head is the father of every institution?

A trick?

August 12, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 12, 2014

The words read: Suppression of corruption

HM The Queen's Birthday

August 12, 2014

Categories: HM The Queen's Birthday

HM The Queen's Birthday

August 12 is the birthday of HM The Queen's Birthday and a national holiday. It is also Thai Mother's Day.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

From 2012

Above: The sign reads: Support – Thailand's light, OTOP's evolution in honor of Her Majesty
Following in Her Majesty's footsteps and her kindness given to Thais by supporting products made by Thais
– February 21-27, 2012, 10am-9pm at Impact Muang Thong Thani Challenger Building Halls 1-3



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

From 2001

Above is a large portrait of HM The Queen on Ratchadamnoen Avenue in downtown Bangkok on August 12, 2001. There are about a dozen of these signs erected in the middle of the street for The Queen's birthday. There are also Christmas lights along the road.

From 2003

[Nationwide candle-lighting ceremony for HM the Queen](#) – TNA, August 12, 2003

Thai people from all walks of life took part in a candle-lighting ceremony this evening, which was organized simultaneously nationwide, to pay tribute and homage, and to extend their best wishes to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit on the auspicious occasion of her 72th birthday anniversary...



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

From 2009

Above: The billboard reads: Revive the forest land by royal grace – In recalling of Royal grace on the occasion of Queen Sirikit's birthday – The project to fight economic crisis by the principle of self-sufficiency economy by the Internal Security Operations Command



From 2006

Above: Matichon and Khaosod from August 12, 2006

Below: KomChadLuek, August 12, 2006





From 2008

Above: Above are full page tributes in Matichon, August 12, 2008

Let's share the cake

August 13, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 13, 2014

Cartoon title: Let's share the cake

On suit of man on the left: Civil servants

On suit of man on the right: NLA

On the cake: 2015 budget

Phi Nooring: Think about the maximum benefits.

Mouse: Share it with the people.

The Junta Promises

August 13, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



The billboard reads: “We’ll pursue our promise. Give us a little more time, and our beautiful land will return...”

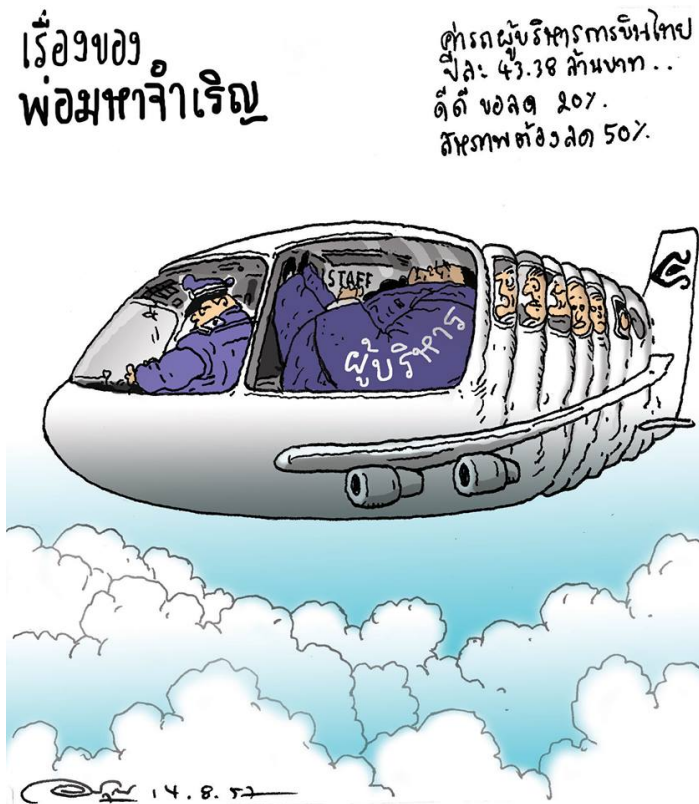
At bottom left corner: NCPO

At bottom right: Sponsored by the communications and tourism business group

The story of the VIP

August 14, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, August 14, 2014

Title: The story of the VIP; Thai Airways executive's transport allowance is 43.38 million baht a year... DD is requesting to cut this 20% while the Union has to reduce 50%.

On a man's suit: Executives

Law and order no parking sign

August 14, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Thai Police



The sign reads: NO! Taxi cannot park to wait for passengers here. Violator will be fined 1,000 baht Traffic works, Paholyothin Police Station

11 Years Ago: One of the world's “most lethal terrorists” captured north of Bangkok

August 15, 2014

Categories: Today in History

11 Years Ago: [One of the world's “most lethal terrorists” captured north of Bangkok](#)

Nine Years Ago: Thaksin Combines Family Interest and National Interest in Burma

August 15, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Thaksin Combines Family Interest and National Interest in Burma](#)

Weekly News Magazines, August 8, 2014

August 15, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, August 8, 2014

Cover reads: Lightning rod



From Matichon Weekly, August 8, 2014

Cover reads: Dome in their hearts

Cartoon at bottom right corner: T.U. teaches you to love NCPO ???



Above: The ASTV Manager Weekly is still not publishing this week to protest the military junta pressuring them over articles about the extent of military power after the coup.
More about this here: [Weekly News Magazines, August 1, 2014](#) and [Manager Group weekly news magazine under pressure from the junta](#)

The Democracy Returning Team

August 16, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 16, 2014

Cartoon title: The Democracy Returning Team, Sir

On document: Certifying Thailand's reform

Stamp on the left: NLA

Stamp on the right: NRA

Phi Nooring: Write the rules carefully.

Mouse: Justice back.

Thailand beats United States in number of true beachfront hotels

August 16, 2014

Categories: Tourism

[Thailand beats United States in number of true beachfront hotels](#) – AP, August 15, 2014

...The Southeast Asian country ranked first with more than 1,250 beachfront properties, followed by the United States with 1,016 and Mexico with 943. Spain, with 736, was fourth, trailed by the Philippines, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Egypt and Sri Lanka, said the survey by the Beachfront Club, a website that maps and details seaside hotels around the world...

Tourist arrivals “increase gradually” or “still falling?”

August 16, 2014

Categories: A Tale of Two Newspapers

ThaiPBS: [Tourist arrivals increase gradually](#)

Department of Tourism says foreign tourists are returning to the country with arrivals last month gradually rose to 1.91 million from 1.56 million in June.

However when compared with the same month in July last year, arrivals still fell 10.9%, it said.

It said the number of foreign tourists arriving in Thailand in July this year fell 10.9% from a year earlier.

But compared with 1.56 million arrivals in June this year, July's arrivals of 1.91 million represented improved tourism situation...

Bangkok Post: [Tourist arrivals still falling](#)

The number of international tourists arriving in Thailand in July fell 10.9% from a year earlier, according to data from the Department of Tourism, showing the industry has not recovered from the impact of prolonged political tension.

The lucrative tourism sector, which accounts for about 10% of the economy, suffered its biggest drop in visitors in June – the first full month after the army took power on May 22 in a bid to end tensions and get economic activity going again...

12 Years Ago: Swedish tourist in KNU ranks

August 17, 2014

Categories: Today in History

12 Years Ago: [Swedish tourist in KNU ranks](#)

11 Years Ago: In Praise of Thaksin: ‘We could try the Thai way’

August 18, 2014

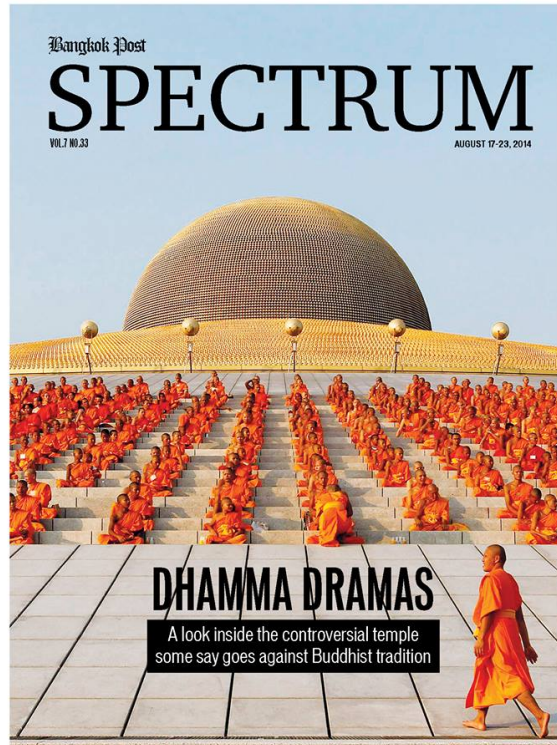
Categories: Today in History

11 Years Ago: [In Praise of Thaksin: ‘We could try the Thai way’](#)

Thaksin's Temple: Dhammakaya

August 18, 2014

Categories: Buddhism, Dhammakaya Movement



[Dhammakaya Temple: Making money over merit](#) – Bangkok Post, August 17, 2014

[TRT and Dhammakaya Temple – perfect match](#) – The Nation, September 27, 2006

...The former abbot of Phra Dhammakaya Temple was the first one to initiate contact with members of Thai Rak Thai. It was decided that the Thai Rak Thai Party would have Dhammakaya's backing. Thai Rak Thai representatives were given the opportunity to speak to the temple's followers, who were urged to cast their votes for the party, as it would naturally be beneficial for their master and temple.

According to the law of karma as promoted by the temple, Thaksin Shinawatra was hailed as the ideal lay Buddhist, who had been blessed by the merit of his past lives and was endowed with a great many virtues. The temple played a song praising Thaksin composed by the Phra Dhammajayo himself on its Dow Tham satellite television channel – broadcasting 24 hours a day. However, the gathering clouds of controversies and criminal investigations surrounding him prevented Thaksin from visiting the temple. Nevertheless, senior Thai Rak Thai leaders, such as Sudarat Keyuraphan and Suriya Jungrungreangkit, began regularly attending the monastery...



[Dhammakaya reports on Steve Jobs' new life](#)

[Sangha feudal hierarchy has to go for good](#) – Bangkok Post, October 30, 2013

...Wat Paknam, you see, is closely linked to the all-powerful Wat Phra Dhammakaya and its highly controversial abbot Phra Dhammachayo, who basically teaches you can buy “boon” or merit _ and even a place in nirvana, which he describes as a celestial abode.

...Interestingly, Phra Dhammachayo’s capitalistic version of Buddhism meshes well with the rich and powerful, and others who think it is simply great to be able to buy a place in heaven.

At the height of the controversy in 1999, the late Supreme Patriarch issued an ordinance declaring that Phra Dhammachayo must be defrocked for distorting the Buddhist canon, dividing the Sangha, and for fraud and embezzlement.

It is no secret that the Pheu Thai-led government supports the Dhammakaya abbot. And it came as no surprise that the public prosecutors eventually dropped the charges against him in 2006...

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

They saved Bangkok from an atomic bomb, nuns flew up and harmlessly captured falling bombs during World War II...

March 2010: [100,000 Dhammakaya monks to protect the marching Red Shirts?](#)

Thaksin has had a close relationship with Dharmakaya...

So when the above banners went up throughout the country in recent weeks, rumors began circulating that these novice monks would be used as human shields in the Red Shirt march on Bangkok...

[Thousands of chairs for Thaksin](#) – The Nation, July 17, 2006

[Dhammakaya denies helping TRT friends](#) – Bangkok Post, July 14, 2006

Wat Dhammakaya yesterday denied that a gathering of local administration bodies from across the country at its temple was intended to muster support for embattled caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra... Close relations between government leaders and the temple played no part in the decision to hold the event, he said.

A former member of the House committee on religious affairs said Wat Dhammakaya has close ties with leading Thai Rak Thai party figures such as party secretary-general and caretaker Industry Minister Suriya Jungrungreangkit and caretaker Labour Minister Somsak Thepsuthin. Mr Suriya’s wife, Surisa, once donated 40 million baht to the temple.

The temple has been criticised for its fund-raising and teaching methods. Its former abbot, Phra Dhammachayo is being investigated over land embezzlement...

Thai Land's Ku Klux Klan hey...hey...!

August 18, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 18, 2014

Cartoon title: Thai Land's Ku Klux Klan hey...hey...!

On the KKK men's hats, from left: NLA ; NFA ; CDC

Sign in hands of the CDC: Thailand's reform, loathing politicians

Phi Nooring: Don't do it with a discriminatory attitude

Mouse: Want democracy back.

Chuwit memes – Like you, like me

August 18, 2014

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit



Since the coup, political gadfly Chuwit Kamolvisit has been using Photoshop to create humorous graphics about the political situation. Many of these have become memes widely circulated in Thai-language social media.

Above: The words read: Like you, like me

Left is former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. In the background is a rice warehouse stuffed with rice from her government's rice pledging scheme. The plan caused the government huge losses and resulted in corruption charges for the former PM.

At right is Suthep Thaugsuban, former Democrat Party deputy prime minister in the Abhisit Vejjajiva's cabinet and leader of the protest movement that paralyzed Thai politics in early 2014, leading to the coup. In the background is an unfinished police station from the scandal-ridden police station project initiated during Suthep's deputy premiership when he oversaw the police.

Every applicant is valuable

August 18, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



19-08-57

From Manager, August 18, 2014

Man: Khun Leena Jung... please... don't withdraw... It's hard to find any applicants now... please...

On wall: NFA application

Caption: When needed... every applicant is valuable.

They are all the same

August 19, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 19, 2014

Green bean: Mr. Spokesman... I am the Long Green Bean... from... the province...

Caption: Who said this NLA has a lack of variety?

Anybody has any problem?

August 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Thai Police



21-08-57

From Manager, August 20, 2014

Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha: Anybody has any problem?

Sign on desk: RPC

Caption: No problem, sir... We dare not!!!

More: [The era of the independent \(and politicized\) Thai police is over](#)

If you have enough food, then you will be happy

August 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 20, 2014

Title: Distribute the happiness

On the pot: 2558 Budget of 2.575 trillion baht

Phi Nooring: If you have enough food, then you will be happy.

A mouse: The new comer is learning to distribute.

Suppressing the Mafia

August 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 20, 2014

A soldier: Sir, I am not sure whether the measures to suppress the Mafia will work.

Above the flowers: Twinkle

Leaning...

August 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, July 31, 2014

Title: Leaning ... for the big job hasn't finished yet

On suit of man on the left: EC

In man's high hand: Revoke the right

In his lower hand: Dissolve the party

Papers on the ground, from left: Let the mob hurting people and police ; officers abandoning the ballots ; obstructing the election ; Shutting down Bangkok

Sign raised by people: P.M. visits people

Phi Nooring: The Leaning Tower tour

Mouse: Hunting for the oriole tour

Chuwit memes – Junta message to politics

August 20, 2014

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit



Since the coup, political gadfly Chuwit Kamolvisit has been using Photoshop to create humorous graphics about the political situation. Many of these have become memes widely circulated in Thai-language social media.

Above: Junta chief Gen. Prayuth says to parliament (and Thai politics): “Shut up”

Gen. Prayuth approves of Gen. Prayuth

August 21, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



22-08-57

From Manager, August 21, 2014

Left (Prayuth as junta head): I guarantee... no matter how badly you govern the country... I will never dismiss you.

Right (Pryauth as army Commander-in-Chief): Me, too... I ensure you that I will not overthrow your government in the same way I did with the former PM.

Caption: There has never been a PM who has those with such strong confidence in him like this.

Excuses

August 21, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 21, 2014

Man: Are you crazy? You see, I have been nominated to do the ice bucket challenge in this room!!

Nine Years Ago: The Stabilizing Force of the King Against Greedy Politicians

August 22, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [The Stabilizing Force of the King Against Greedy Politicians](#)

Chuwit memes – Chuwit's advice

August 22, 2014

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit



Since the coup, political gadfly Chuwit Kamolvisit has been using Photoshop to create humorous graphics about the political situation. Many of these have become memes widely circulated in Thai-language social media.

Above: Members of the National Legislative and National Reform Assemblies , no matter what your backgrounds are, I ask for just one thing. Don't do what these people did.

WOW! Thailand's first tunnel under the Chao Phraya River is underway

August 22, 2014

Categories: Mass Transit

[Country's first river tunnel below Chao Phraya River is underway](#) – ThaiPBS, August 22, 2014

The 'Blue Line' subway train route which will extend the existing line from Sanam Chai – Tha Phra is making progress with now a tunnel is being bored underneath the Chao Phraya river...

Remembering the Thaksin Years: Trying to get Thaksin

August 23, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia, The Thaksin Years



From Thairath, August 23, 2003

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is holding a gun.

Signs (from left): Terrorist; the pressure from the great power

Caption: Being Thai... is terribly difficult.

It is easy to become the prime minister

August 23, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 23, 2014

Title: Governing the country... It isn't difficult.

On the chair: The 29th PM

On the backs of men: NLA

Phi Nooring: The parliament is full of his supporters.

A mouse: Return happiness to people

You have to choose what you are going to carry

August 24, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 24, 2014

On the country: Thailand

Caption: The next step will be more difficult. You have to choose what you are going to carry.

Anonymous Posters at Thammasat University

August 25, 2014

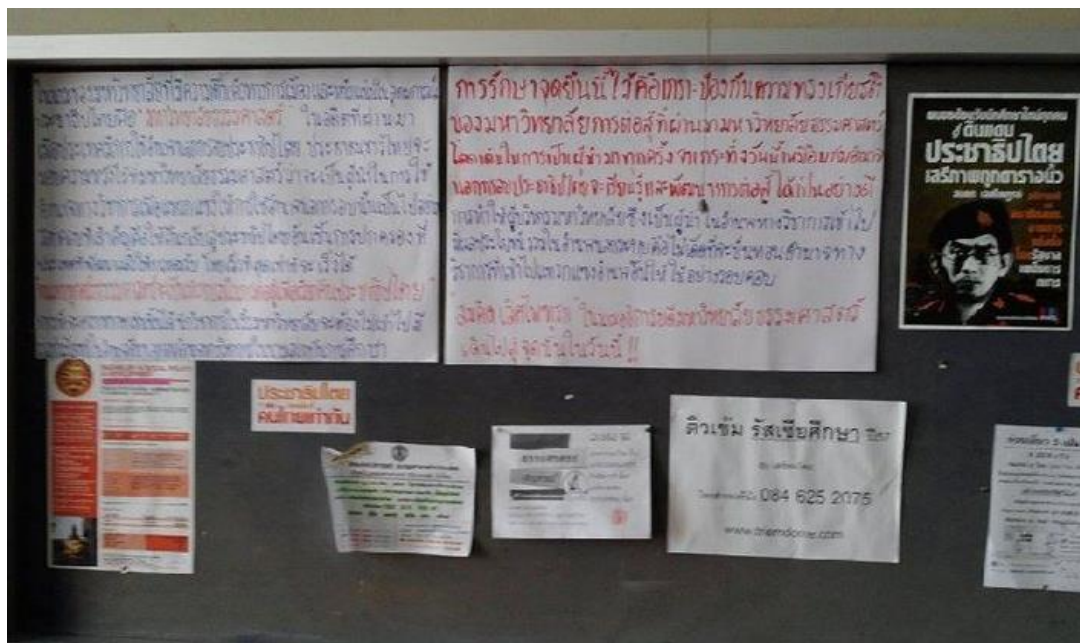
Categories: 2014 Coup



Left sign reads: Oh Somkid, NCPO is here.
NLA brothers, don't be disharmonious.
Just one lawsuit, still, you don't try to protect.
The salary paid to you comes from many sources.
The salary paid to you comes from many sources.
Middle sign reads: Democracy; Thai people are equal.
Right sign: "Don't make this coup wasteful." (Somkid Lertpaithoon)

These are the anonymous signs ridiculing the Thammasat University rector's support of the post-coup government ([Anonymous Posters at Thammasat University Denounce Pro-Coup University Rector](#)). Thammasat University students have played a historic role in [resisting dictatorships and military governments of the past](#) and academics there are among the few in the country willing to openly discuss issues like [the relevance of the monarchy in Thailand](#). Protest and sacrifice are part of the history and pride of the university.

These anonymous postings are meant to show the hypocrisy of the rector this university cooperating with the coup plotters. However, it is uncertain how widespread this sentiment actually is. In the past, there has been little student interest in supporting Thaksin-directed governments and their struggles to maintain power. From time to time the Red Shirt movement has either claimed student activists supported Thaksin or [openly complained](#) that students were not marching for the cause as they did for democracy movements of the past.



Sign: Upholding this standpoint is like an armor protecting the honor of the university. In the past, Thammasat University always played the outstanding role in leading the fight. Until today, it seems that you admire the undemocratic power...

Chuwit memes – Thaksin and Sondhi

August 25, 2014

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit



Since the coup, political gadfly Chuwit Kamolvisit has been using Photoshop to create humorous graphics about the political situation. Many of these have become memes widely circulated in Thai-language social media.

From top: Thaksin cannot return to Thailand. Sondhi cannot leave Thailand.

Drove Thaksin out because of corruption, yet he himself has to be behind bars because of corruption cases. Beginning to be scared as a new monk in Surat now.

10 Years Ago: Fear of Thaksin Lawsuits: Press Struggles to Mention Senate Voting to Benefit Shin Corp

August 25, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 Years Ago: [Fear of Thaksin Lawsuits: Press Struggles to Mention Senate Voting to Benefit Shin Corp](#)

You don't have to ask me...

August 25, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 5, 2014

Caption: It's that clear!

Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha: You don't have to ask me what criteria I used in selecting members of these two assemblies.

Left: NLA

Right: NRA

What you see is not what it is

August 25, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, August 25, 2014

Cartoon title: What you see is not what it is.

Top left: What you see is god on Facebook. What it really is is a demon.

Top middle: What you see is the democracy's advocate. What he really is is just a bully.

Top right: What you see is surrogacy. What it really is is a womb-renting business.

Bottom left: What you see is a drug suppressor. What he really is is a drug trafficker.

Bottom middle: What you see is the democratic regime. What it really is is political business.

Bottom right: What you see is a man lying still. What it really is is a politician playing dead.

Shinawatra II, Chan-ocha I

August 26, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 26, 2014

Thaksin: See!! We almost had a hat-trick, but why does this family name show up?

On the board: Shinawatra II, Chan-ocha I

Wait out the junta

August 26, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, August 26, 2014

Thaksin: During this period, we should hibernate and wait until the NCPO is gone. Then, we'll come out.
On the boot: The NCPO

10 Years Ago: Thaksin Praised for His pro-GMO Stance

August 26, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 Years Ago: [Thaksin Praised for His pro-GMO Stance](#)

Unhappiness for the farmer

August 26, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 26, 2014

Title: Over-down the wall

On a paper held by Prayuth: Return the happiness' popularity

On papers held by a farmer: rice price, agricultural product price, rubber price

Phi Nooring: Happiness is stabbed down.

A mouse: Return happiness to the farmers

Stocks of “Well-known Families” Rising

August 26, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, August 26, 2014

Headline: Stocks of “Well-known Families” rising upon speculation on new cabinet; Brokers said ‘construction group’ sees bright future

Above building: Government House

Military shutting up the ASTV Manager Group

August 26, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



27-08-57

From Manager, August 26, 2014

Man on couch: Our favorite satellite TV channel is going to broadcast again.

His wife: So excited...

Soldier on chair: Done... prepare to be on the air now.

Thai-language Newspaper Headlines on the Military Prime Minister

August 26, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From ASTVManager, August 22, 2014

Top right: NLA gave landslide votes to support Prayuth, immediately submit name of the premier to the King; Speedily form new cabinet in line with road map

Middle left: Another death! Japanese student, victim of a drunken Thai driver; FM monitors the case closely

Middle right: Finance-Energy take the ball, performing alchemy, to run PTT's pipeline separately; demands for release of energy reform's leaders

Bottom: Scandalous! Thai women infected with Ebola, PH instantly denied claiming an investigation is needed



From Komchadluek, August 22, 2014

Main headline: NLA 191 landslide votes: Prime Minister named Too

Bottom left: Pornpet submits the name to the King, the man said no worry about his new duties

Bottom right: Private sector supports Prayuth, continuously unlocking economy, await new cabinet

In blue frame: Young Prayuth Noh. Doh. 8969, the Nual Noradis Temple



From Krungthep Turakit, August 22, 2014

Main headline: Business confident taking the country out of crisis; NLA's unanimous vote of 191, submitting Prayuth's name to the King

Bottom: Boonyasit worried 2nd-half purchasing power hard to revive



From Matichon, August 22, 2014

Top, in red: Southern rubber planters threaten big mob–7 day deadline

In frame on the left: Bargaining Petchaboon, ‘surrogate’ mother fled; Dr. ‘Pisit’ contacted to see police on Sept. 6

Main headline: NLA’s unanimous, 191 votes; Big Too ready, not worried about taking the premier’s office; Pornpet submits to the King; Finance’s permanent-secretary’s fingers crossed, await economic team expecting to recover confidence; 3 candidates for Labor, ‘Big Chat’s mentor’ outstanding

At bottom: Arrested, seized assets of ‘Sua Roj’ drug gang



From Thaipost, August 22, 2014

Top: Panic! Ebola infected, ‘PH’ denies , saying it is only hives

Top left: Abhisit afraid of missing the trend, accepts the ice-bucket challenge

Main headline: Provoking anti-Prayuth , ‘unlawful freedom’, some opposed to his premiership, Pornpet already submitted to the King
 Right: EC emphasizes no specification for NRA selection



From Thairath, August 22, 2014

Main headline: Landslide votes for ‘Big Too’, the 29th Prime Minister, name was submitted , holding another seat in Defense

From top: Investigating teacher doing students’ homework for pay; Education jumps , orders disciplinary punishment indicating copying the actions of a senior

Arrested more bank robbers claiming have to do it for out of jobs

Ungrateful grandchild, killed grandparents in bed, bought a gun and shot one by one, revenge for being scolded for being useless

PH monitors Thai women return from Liberia



From Daily News, August 23, 2014

Main headline: Empower fortune to welcome Premier Prayuth, planting yellow Ixora at Government House, announced to move the country forward

Middle left: Sent to quarantine room, Thai woman suspected of being infected with Ebola, PH announced no disease, ordered to take care of relatives and close contacts

Bottom left: Snatched and ran, 'karma' on a rocket, the thief rode into a pole and died

Bottom right: Collided, 4 deaths, 7 injured; Grape-loaded truck collided with public coach, tragically young construction contractor had no chance to see his new-born baby

At bottom: Barged into 4 villages for surrogacy



From Khaosod, August 23, 2014

Top: PH quarantined Thai woman-suspected of Ebola

Main headline: Big Too announced not to worry about him being PM, waiting for the royal appointment;
 NLA unanimous, 191 votes, ordered to improve Government House's Feng Sui by planting colorful
 Gardenia–yellow Ixora, Surat rubber planters threaten–demand to solve the plummeting prices
 Bottom right: Saudi envoy left without schedule to return



From Matichon, August 23, 2014

Top right: Foreign Ministry insisted Saudi did not downgrade diplomatic relations, just returns to his country
 In frame above main headline: Southern rubber planters give NCPO a deadline in 7 days to solve the plummeting prices–threatening that they will hold a big mob

Main headline: ‘Big Too’ ready for the Premiership, no worry; NAL voted 191; Pornpet submitted the name to the King; Renovating Government House; Finance’s permanent-secretary await the economic team expecting to build confidence; Army’s big shots expected to control Labor

In frame next to main headline: Crowds of people line up at Booth 12 hospitals, Matichon Health Care vigorous

In frame under main headline: Seized assets of ‘Sua Roj’ drug gang, trafficking from the North to Big Bike gang



From Thaipost, August 22-23, 2014

Headline: A vendor weeps after being burglarized 8 times..p. 3

Sign reads: Dear all individuals and groups of thieves. This house doesn't have any assets left to be stolen any more... this year 8 times. Please stop breaking windows, cutting the curved steels , prying and breaking doors. We cannot keep up with finding money to have it fixed now.

Please return happiness to the rubber planters

August 27, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, August 27, 2014

Cartoon title: Please return happiness to the rubber planters.

Left: Yingluck government

Signs from the front: Plummeting rubber price; ousting the government; Not 80 baht per kg., we want 100 baht

Man in the front: If not 100 baht, the government must get out.

On the man's shirt: D.P.

Right: NCPO government

Signs from the front: Plummeting rubber price; rubber price is down to 50 baht per kg.; protesting

Man in the front: Let's stop growing rubber plants and raise cows instead.

On the man's shirt: D.P.

Mouse: So that more variety to eat

Chuwit memes – Insider wants out, outsider wants in

August 27, 2014

Categories: Chuwit Kamolvisit



Since the coup, political gadfly Chuwit Kamolvisit has been using Photoshop to create humorous graphics about the political situation. Many of these have become memes widely circulated in Thai-language social media.

Above: Insider wants out, outsider wants in

“Women in national legislative assembly no cause for alarm”

August 27, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



If you have seen BK Magazine over the last few weeks you might have read the sarcasm directed at the junta and its handpicked assembly. Above is from the August 14 issue.

Interestingly, the short, humorous pieces are apparently [not online](#).

Super Too!!!

August 27, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 27, 2014

Super Too: I will control the lottery price... suppress the motorcycle taxi mafia... control the mini-buses... enforce the traffic laws... bring beaches back... bring conserved forests back... stop corruption... eradicate the corrupt politicians... suppress people whom insult the Royal family... restore state enterprises... build the infrastructure... manage water... reform politics... these will be completed within 1 year!

Superman: Everything, within 1 year? I respect you.

Caption: Even a superman can't.

Imposing a curfew is really not democratic

August 28, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



From a graphic circulated on social media: The U.S. isn't democratic. Imposing a curfew is really not democratic—just like what Ambassador Kristie said.

The karma god may have a hidden agenda

August 28, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



29-08-57

From Manager, August 28, 2014

Man: Why do you only take care about the henchmen?... When it comes to Thaksin and his family, you've touched them... Did you made any secret deal with him?

Sign on Karma seat's platform: Karma

News paper headline: Seh Pia coma, admitted to hospital

Caption: The karma may have a hidden agenda like somebody.

Weekly News Magazines, August 22, 2014

August 29, 2014

Categories: Uncategorized



From Nation Weekend, August 22, 2014

Cover reads: Premier 'Too', from Warrior of the East to Government House



From Matichon Weekly, August 22, 2014

Cover reads: Tiger with 'wings'

It is not a democracy

August 30, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, August 30, 2014

Title: The World is shock!! Children's dream is gone when the company reveals that Hello Kitty is not a cat.

Left: Shocks the world

Above Hello Kitty: It is not a cat.

Right: Shocks Thailand.

Above the democracy monument: It is not a democracy.



From Komchadluek, September 1, 2014

Mother: The fact is it is not a democracy, but it's a girl.

The real wind beneath Premier Prayuth's wings

August 31, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, August 31, 2014

Yingluck Shinawatra: Chuh... no credit for me... If I were not the dumbest and messiest prime minister before him would Khun Too look this smart!!!?

On cover of Matichon Weekly: Naraporn Chan-ocha, "the wind beneath the wings"

Caption: Here... is the real wind beneath Premier Prayuth's wings.