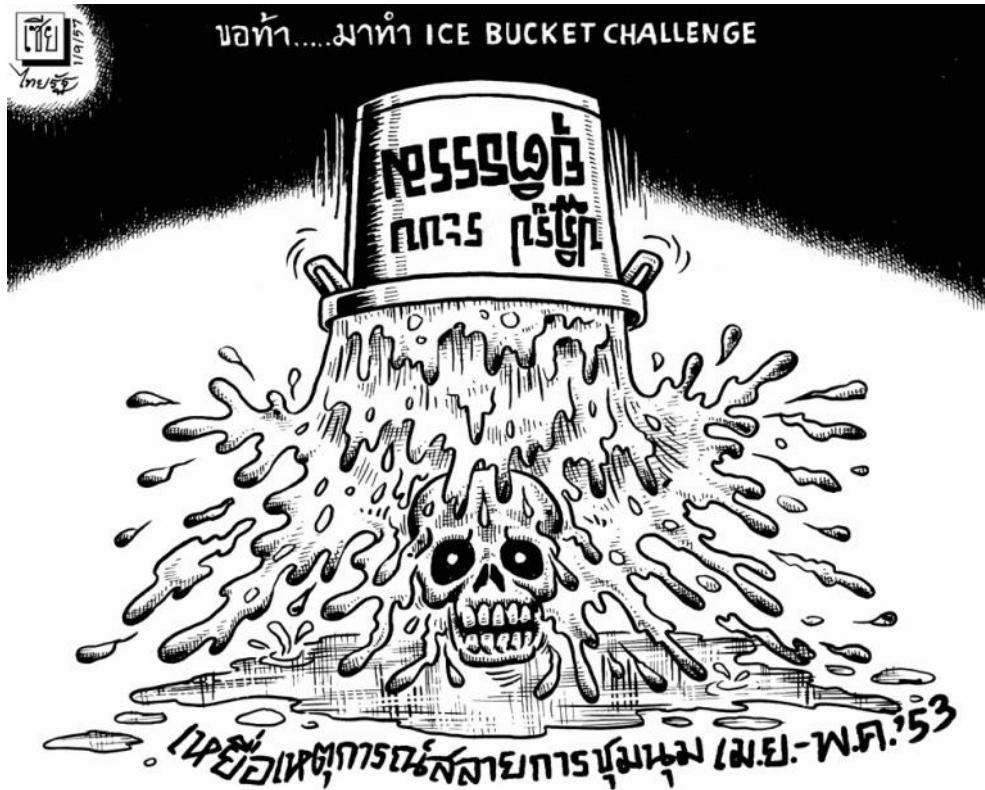


The Ice Bucket Challenge and the reform of the justice system

September 1, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 1, 2014

Title: I dare you... to do... the Ice Bucket Challenge

On the bucket: Reform the justice system

On the ground: Victims of the military's crackdown in Apr-May 2010.

Who said Prayuth is riding a tiger?

September 1, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 1, 2014

On the tiger: Tiger of the East

Caption: Who said Prayuth is riding a tiger?

Forest sign: Forests covering areas in adjacent provinces

Travel Singburi, Land of Harmony and Sacrifice

September 1, 2014

Categories: Signs and Billboards



The billboard reads: Travel Singburi, Land of Harmony and Sacrifice

Bottom right corner: the Monument of Bangrachan Patriots

Tharit the Chameleon

September 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Tharit Pengdit



03-09-57

From Manager, September 2, 2014

On the sign on the desk: NRA Application

Officer: Which organization nominates you, Khun Tharit?

Tharit: Thailand's Organization of Small Lizards.

Caption: It must be this organization that nominates Tharit.

Also: [The Downfall of Tharit the Chameleon](#)

Changing to hold onto the military boot

September 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 2, 2014

A frog: Hey!! Stop holding a log. Now, we have the new boss to hold.

Chuwit memes – Old virtue

September 2, 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: Old virtue

Keep scoring for reform

September 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 2, 2014

Cartoon title: Keep scoring

Above the Ta Kraw ball: Reform

On players' shirts, from front left: NLA ; NCPO government; NRA ; academics; civil servants; NGOs

On whiteboard: Scores – 900

Mouse: Return happiness to people

Chuwit memes – The power of change

September 2, 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: Real life is different from a book.

Gen. Prayuth has shifted from the Army's Commander-in-Chief to become prime minister;

Suthep from a politician to a monk ;

While Sondhi has changed from a journalist to prisoner .

It must be "The Power of Change".

Six Years Ago: PAD's “final war”

September 2, 2014

Categories: Today in History



Six Years Ago: PAD's “final war”

Nine Years Ago: Political Forces Scuttle Thai Eco-Car

September 2, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Political Forces Scuttle Thai Eco-Car](#)

Should the prime minister declare his assets?

September 3, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



04-09-57

From Manager, September 3, 2014

PM Prayuth: As the PM... I have to reveal my assets.

Head of the NCPO, Prayuth: Oh!!! Then, people will know how many assets the military chief and I have!!

On the chair from the right: Military chief

On the chair in the middle: NCPO

Caption: One person reveals, but three of them can be known.

Join the Reform Council!!!

September 3, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Signs and Billboards



Title on top: Return happiness to Thailand; Private and public sectors join hands to select the National Reform Council

On dark blue tint: We invite juristic persons (for non-business) to nominate candidates for the National Reform Council's selection at the Election Committee Office

Under symbol: For more information, please contact EC Office, Government Complex (Chaeng Wattana); Tel: 02-141-8888 or 1171; www.ect.go.th, or at provincial EC offices (nationwide)

The selection is sponsored by the Expressway Authority of Thailand and the Aqua Ad PCL.

At bottom left corner: NCPO ; the Election Committee Office

Another junta billboard: [The Junta Promises](#)

Seven Years Ago: No kidding: they actually ‘own’ political parties here

September 4, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [No kidding: they actually ‘own’ political parties here](#)

The junta won't help you poop

September 4, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 4, 2014

Soldier: You call me for help because you can't poop!!? Damn!! You've already grown up... Why don't you forcefully pass feces by yourself.

On the door: NBTC

Caption: That's why he should get mad.

Land owners vs the spirit on the land

September 5, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 5, 2014

Cartoon title: Land owners vs the spirit on the land

On back of Spirit: Capitalists; civil servants; politicians; men in uniform; influential people

On land: Trespassing and taking control over armed forces' lands; trespassing and taking control over forests; taking control of public lands

Phi Nooring: Stealing land and devouring forest lots

Mouse: Farm lands back, please.

Weekly News Magazines, August 29, 2014

September 5, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, August 29, 2014

Cover reads: The promise—with the honor of the tiger soldier



From Matichon Weekly, August 29, 2014

Cover reads: Naraporn Chan-ocha, 'the wind beneath the wings'

Cartoon at bottom right corner: Sweetheart of the 'Tiger with wings'

Encroachment

September 6, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, September 6, 2014

Left: The politicians who lost their power cry out that the coup d'état has an impact on tourism.

Middle: Many resorts have been closed!

A man with a camera: Are there any guests?

Right: The military has confiscated many resorts built in the forest preserves to return the land to the national parks.

Koh Larn vendors force tourists off beach who won't rent umbrellas from them

September 6, 2014

Categories: Tourism



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



[Beach vendor bullies tourist](#) – Bangkok Post, September 6, 2014

...Shot on Nang Nual Beach on Koh Larn, the video shows a woman being approached by a beach chair and umbrella vendor as she sits on a towel on the sand. The man tells the woman she has to leave the spot and rent a chair and umbrella from him instead.

The tourist initially refuses but later starts to pack up her things. The man walks around her, kicking sand into her beach towel.

The angry tourist gets up and flings her sand-filled towel at the man, who responds by pushing her away. The pair argue briefly and the woman walks away...

Update: [Cambodian arrested after video of vendor forcing tourist off beach goes viral](#)

Nine years ago: The Royal Power controversy

September 8, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine years ago: [The Royal Power controversy](#).

Three Years Ago: First act of new Pheu Thai govt: Backs Royal Pardon to Get Thaksin Home

September 8, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Three Years Ago: [First act of new Pheu Thai government: Govt Backs Royal Pardon to Get Thaksin Home](#)
... *“Without Thaksin, we wouldn’t win a landslide in the election,” Chalerm said in comments broadcast on TNN cable television network. “If we have an opportunity, we will try everything to return fairness to Mr. Thaksin and bring him back home...”*

Blot on the army

September 8, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, September 8, 2014

The Army's airship made emergency landing in Pattani Province

Bottom right: Again...

Indict, not indict

September 8, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 8, 2014

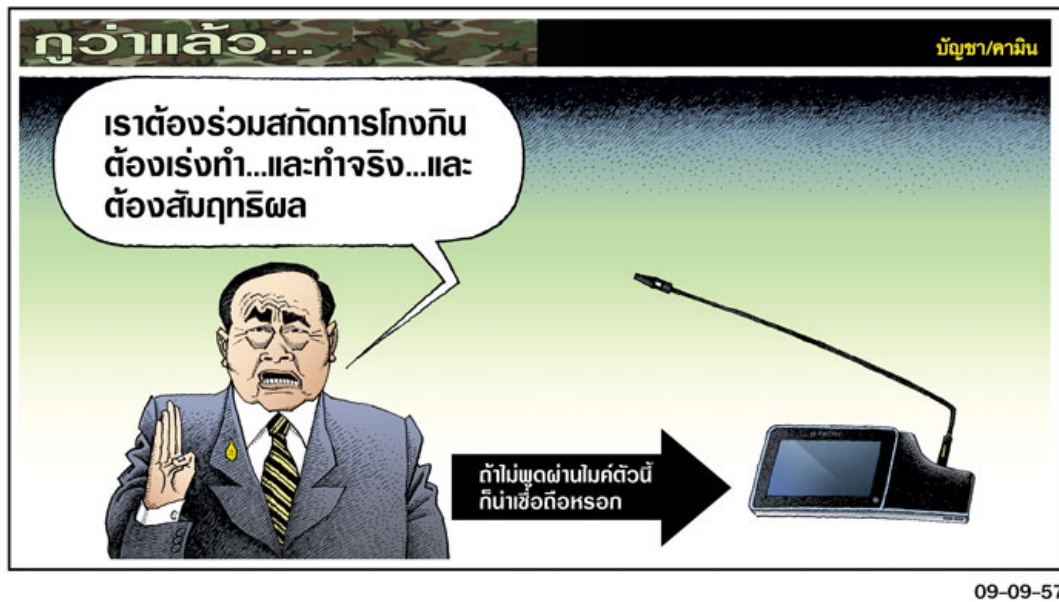
On back of man: A.G.

Attorney General: Indict, not indict

It sounds trustworthy if he doesn't speak through this microphone

September 8, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 8, 2014

Prime Minister Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha: We must join hands to stop corruptions. We must do it fast... and seriously... and must accomplish it.

On the arrow: It sounds trustworthy if he doesn't speak through this microphone.

10 years ago: Visit the Makkasan Depot

September 8, 2014

Categories: Today in History



10 years ago: [Visit the Makkasan Depot](#)

Amendments to the Foreign Business Act proposed—allow more foreign ownership, crack down on foreign nominees

September 8, 2014

Categories: Business

[Amendments to the Foreign Business Act to be proposed to Cabinet](#) – The Nation, September 6, 2014

...Several past governments have planned to amend this law, which has been in force since 1999, to prevent nominees getting around the restrictions on foreign ownership of Thai businesses while also facilitating more investment in Thailand. However, there has been little progress on such amendments, partly because of the frequent change of governments...

Dark days: Malaysia carrying out the broadest crackdown on opposition & activists since era of strongman Mahathir

September 8, 2014

Categories: Malaysia

[With sedition dragnet, Malaysia takes step back to Mahathir era](#) – Reuters, September 7, 2014

... Phil Robertson, Asia deputy director of Human Rights Watch, said the prosecutions were reminiscent of so-called Operation Lalang in 1987 under Mahathir, when more than 100 opposition politicians and activists were arrested under an old Internal Security Act (ISA) which allowed detention without trial.

“The parameters are basically the same – you are using an antiquated draconian law to go after the opposition,” he said...

Thai police decide not to charge maker of the video showing vendor forcing tourist off beach

September 8, 2014

Categories: Tourism

[Police Near Pattaya Opt to Not Pursue Maker of Beach Abuse Video](#) – phuketwan.com, September 7, 2014

Police have reenacted the sand-kicking intimidation incident on Lan island off Pattaya. Officers told local journalists they will no longer be pursuing the maker of the video for creating problems for Thailand tourism because what was portrayed in the video was true. Nothing was said about the owner of the sunbeds...

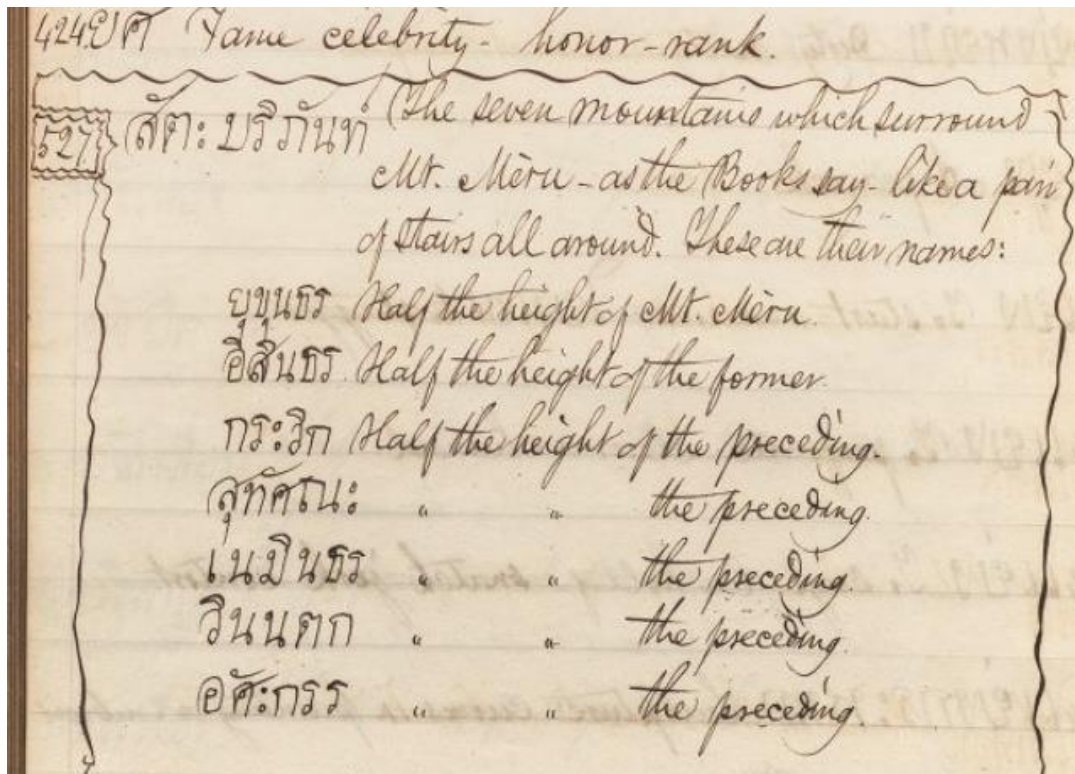
Also: [Sand-kicking vendor to be deported](#)

Earlier: [Koh Larn vendors force tourists off beach who won't rent umbrellas from them](#)

Earliest English-Thai Dictionary

September 8, 2014

Categories: Books, History, Language



[Earliest English-Thai Dictionary](#)

Nine years ago: Villagers claim ET sighting

September 8, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine years ago: [Villagers claim ET sighting](#)

69 Years Ago: Americans reveal Thais cooperated against Japanese throughout the war

September 9, 2014

Categories: Today in History

69 Years Ago: [Americans reveal Thais cooperated against Japanese throughout the war](#) – The Spokesman-Review, September 9, 1945

...virtually the entire government of Thailand, supposed to be a satellite of Japan, was actually in league with the allies.

...a list of war criminals in Thailand is now being drawn up. The list “most certainly will include”...the name of Pibul Songgram, whom he described as “the former premier who seized power as a military dictator in 1938, allowed the Japanese to march into Thailand in December, 1941, and collaborated with the occupation forces”...

September 19 anti-coup protest to coincide with anniversary of 2006 overthrow of Thaksin

September 9, 2014

Categories: 2006 Coup, 2014 Coup



[Free Thais Movement, supporters plan protest against coup on Sept 19](#) – *The Nation*, September 9, 2014

11 years ago: Government pressures TV stations over allegations against Thaksin

September 10, 2014

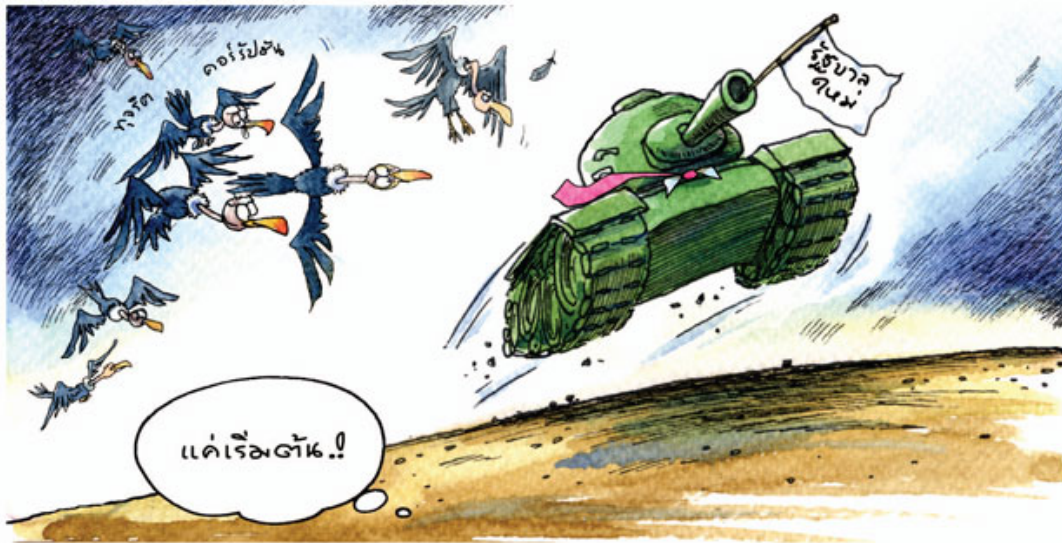
Categories: Today in History

11 years ago: [Government pressures TV stations over allegations against Thaksin](#)

The vultures are plucking

September 10, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Post Today, September 10, 2014

On flag: New government

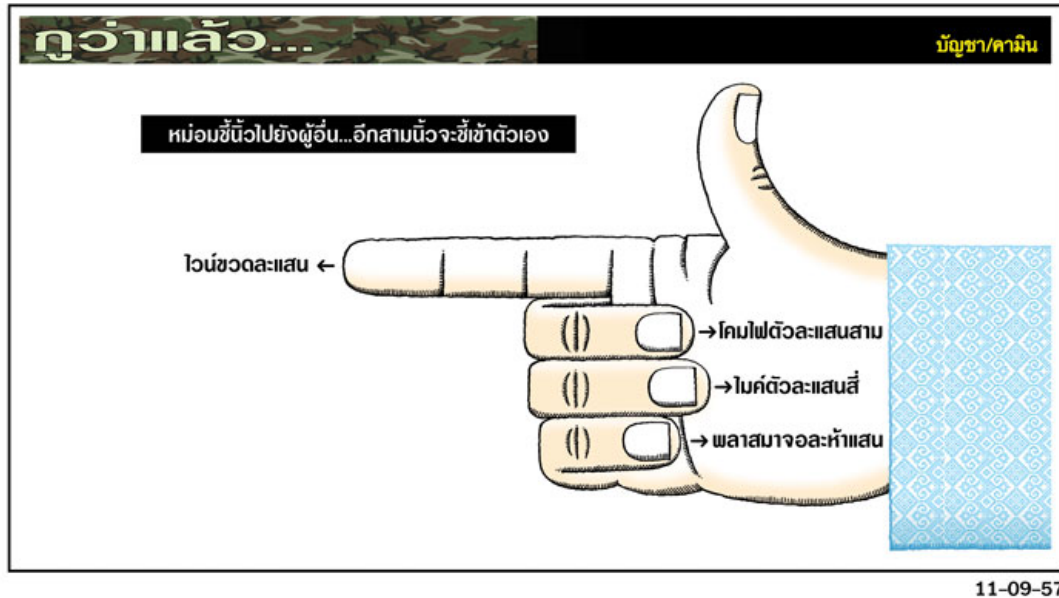
Over the vultures: Cheating and corruption

Caption: Just the beginning....!

M.L. points one finger to other people... while another three of them pointing to himself

September 10, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 10, 2014

Caption: M.L. points one finger to other people... while another three of them pointing to himself.

At the end of the index: Wine costing ten thousand baht a bottle

Middle finger: Lamps costing 130,000 baht each

Ring finger: Microphones costing 140,000 baht each

Pinky finger: Plasma TV sets costing 500,000 baht each

International Star You Should Know: Vithaya Pansringarm

September 10, 2014

Categories: Film and TV

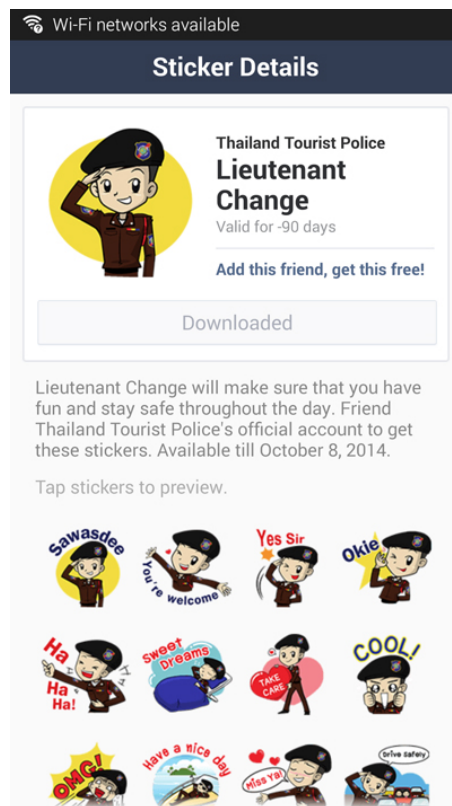


In *Variety*: [International Star You Should Know: Vithaya Pansringarm](#)

Tourist Police Mascot: Lieutenant Change

September 10, 2014

Categories: Thai Police



Be sure to get your new LINE stickers with the friendly Tourist Policeman Lieutenant Change (above).

After joining you are sent an amusing video about a deaf farang girl getting lost on Khao San Road. A Tourist Police officer, who luckily knows sign language, reunites her with her mother as nearby foreigners applaud (screen caps below).







Gen. Prayuth Army Sticker app

September 11, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



Above: The Army Sticker app featuring benevolent leader Gen. Prayuth

[Website of the developer](#)

Yesterday: [Tourist Police Mascot: Lieutenant Change](#)

Bomb detector or expensive microphone?

September 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 11, 2014

Left: Oh! Why is a soldier still holding a GT200?

Right: No! The soldier is holding the Government House's microphone.

Microphone or bomb detector

September 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Komchadluek, September 11, 2014

Left: Why is a soldier still holding a GT200?

Right: No! The soldier is holding the Government House's microphone?

My lackeys... It's time to wake up now!

September 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 11, 2014

Demon tree, representing Thaksin: My lackeys... It's time to wake up now!

Caption: Being dead for 3 months... they start to revive.

Is Gen. Prayuth really growing “eccentric” or “superstitious” as Time Magazine claims?

September 11, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Analysis, Local Beliefs

This brief article in *Time* alleges growing “madness” in Gen. Prayuth and also compares Prayuth’s “eccentricities” with those of North Korean leaders: [Thailand’s Military Ruler Grows Increasingly Eccentric but No Less Dangerous](#) (*Time*, September 11, 2014).

While we can expect ineptitude, corruption, and a ham-fisted approach to dealing with the media from the Thai military, the allegation that the new prime minister is displaying growing insanity for believing in signs and symbols simply indicates a writer unaware of customary Thai behavior.

Belief in signs, symbols, and fortunetellers is deeply engrained in every level of modern Thai culture. Politicians and those in lofty positions openly engage in what a Westerner might consider “superstition” to ensure their good fortune.



Above: From *Manager*, October 5, 2010

Ajarn Ma: What’s up, junkie?

Caption: The day Ajarn Ma takes back

Every new government redesigns the landscaping in front of government house according to their favored “luck gurus,” sometimes sparking political battles over which design is best. Spirit houses are erected in front of high rise buildings in Bangkok where passing employees “wai” to show their reverence and ensure good fortune.

The predictions of fortunetellers are front page news in Thai newspapers. These predictions indicate the important role fortune tellers have in Thai society in general and in politics in particular. The predictions themselves are about as prescient as next Tuesday. However, they usually indicate the current wisdom—what most people are thinking at the present time about a subject or what they are expecting to happen. Deposed Prime Minister Thaksin openly followed [Burmese fortune teller “ET.”](#)

Gen. Prayuth’s coup is a risky gambit. The intent of the coup is to demonstrate to the Thai political class that the military has the iron will to resist Thaksin for years to come. Thus, Gen. Prayuth’s rule is indeed depressing for supporters of Thaksin’s amnesty plan as well as to those who hoped for chaos during a royal succession. Those with lofty hopes that a military government can govern wisely and honestly will also be disappointed—the very nature of Thai mutually reinforcing cronyism means that rot will swiftly overcome any good intentions.

Time magazine may feel Gen. Prayuth is dangerous. However, there is very little unusual or eccentric about Thai leaders (and Thai people in general) believing in signs, symbols, and fortunetellers. Gen. Prayuth's level of "superstition" is no greater or less than that of previous government leaders—or the average Thai.



Above: From Daily News, March 18, 2010

The headline reads: Red blood all over – in front of Government House – the Democrat Party HQ – in front of Mark's residence – Suthep reveals sabotage is likely – Arisman announces they will absolutely take the blood of Abhisit and aristocrats to wash their feet unless parliament is dissolved – Meanwhile the Red Shirts splash blood

From 2006: [The belief in spirit houses including the destruction of the Phra Prom Shrine by an insane person and its implications for a key intersection in Bangkok](#)

From 2006: [Editorial Cartoons about Thaksin and the Burmese fortuneteller "ET"](#)

From 2007: [Warin: fortune-teller of CNS period \(fortune teller for the post-2006 coup government\)](#)

From 2009: [Bangkok international airport shifts "demons"](#)

From 2012: [ET – Fortuneteller's life told on Thai TV](#)

From 2013: [Thaksin's soothsayer: Profile of fortune teller to the Burmese and Thai elite, "ET"](#)



Above: 2004: Workers repositioning cannons to correct defective feng shui in front of the old Defense

Department building. This was to help bring luck to government efforts to fight separatists in the Thai Deep South.

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

Crackdown on the Men in Black

September 11, 2014

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Police arrest 5 infamous ‘men in black’ for 2010 protest violence](#) – Bangkok Post, September 11, 2014

...Five soldiers were killed in the April 10, 2010 clash that began as soldiers tried to clear out protest camps at the Khok Wua intersection near Democracy Monument, Tanao Road and adjacent zones in Bangkok.

Among the dead was senior army officer Col Romklao Thuwatham.

The shadowy “men in black” remain one of the lasting images of the 2010 protests by red-shirted supporters of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra who were rallying against the Abhisit Vejjajiva government.

Their existence – and what they had done – became almost folklore as people on both sides of the conflict attributed a number of shootings and bomb attacks to the dark-clad figures.

[Five arrested, two sought for killing of military officers](#) – The Nation, September 11, 2014

...Romklao and four other army officials were killed during a military crackdown on red shirt protesters in 2010 at Kok Wua intersection when grenades were fired. Romklao was promoted to the rank of army general in honour for his sacrifice...

[Romklao’s wife thanks police for arresting ‘men in black’](#) – The Nation, September 11, 2014

...Nicha posted a message on her Facebook Wall saying she hoped the arrest would expose the mastermind of the attacks.

[Police: Arrested Men in Black suspects not responsible for Gen Romklao’s death](#) – ThaiPBS, September 11, 2014

...Deputy commissioner of the Royal Thai Police Pol Gen Somyos Poompanmuang said they were only responsible for battling with troops and firing at the protesters during the red-shirt protests at the Democracy Monument, at the same day when Gen Romklao was killed.

He said the killing of the general was the work of another group of men in black which the police are still investigating...

Earlier: [Catching the Red Shirt gunmen](#)

Earlier: [Thaksin to file defamation suits against those accusing him of being behind the men in black](#)

Earlier: [‘Men in black’ are policemen, Chalerm claims](#)

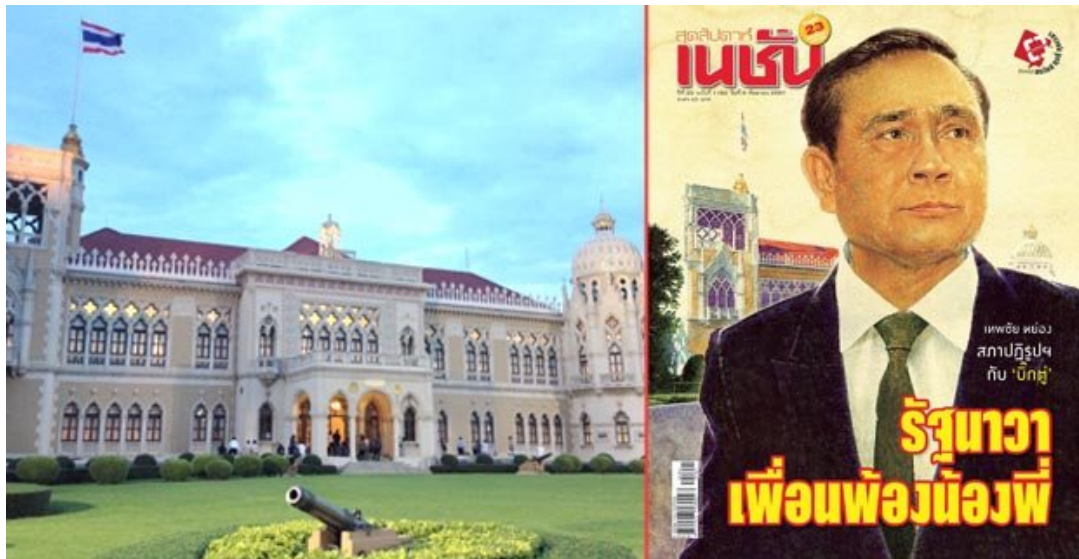
Earlier: [More on Chalerm and Prasong and the Men in Black](#)

And an editorial cartoon: [No One Saw Any Men in Black?](#)

Weekly News Magazines, September 5, 2014

September 12, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, September 5, 2014

Cover reads: The Cabinet Ship of friends and brothers



From Matichon Weekly, September 5, 2014

Cover reads: The flower at the end of the barrel



From ASTV Manager Weekly, September 6, 2014

Cover reads: M.L. Rungkhun Kitiyakar, stock trader on energy reform

Kamnan Sticker app

September 12, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



Above: The Kamnan Sticker app featuring anti-Pheu Thai government protest leader Suthep. Suthep started his political career as a village headman or “kamnan.”

[Website of the developer](#)

Earlier: [Tourist Police Mascot: Lieutenant Change](#)

Earlier: [Gen. Prayuth Army Sticker app](#)

Who shall be more ashamed?

September 12, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, September 12, 2014

Title: Who shall be more ashamed?

On lyric: Conscience

On the chairs: Dean of Mahidol and Ministry of Health

Phi Nooring: Corruption during working hours.

A mouse: It's incorrect since the beginning.

Animated videos lauding Thaksin–He always “defies his fate”

September 12, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Above: The accomplishments of Thaksin and his family—launching Thai-owned satellites

Below: The official music video



https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/_gyaBcl18RA

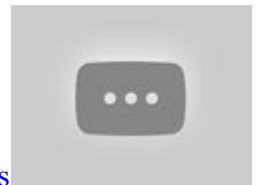


Above: Thaksin as a heroic police officer

Below: Part one of the story of Thaksin's life



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



[After months of silence, Pheu Thai, Red Shirt leaders making public appearances after getting Thaksin okay.](#)

– The Nation, September 12, 2014

...On Tuesday, Panthongtae again posted the message: “In two days and everyone will stop missing him”, along with the YouTube link (youtube.com/thaksinstory).

The link leads to a 2.14-minute animation clip, titled “Ta Doo Dao, Thao Tid Din” (Looking at Stars with Feet on the Ground), depicting Thaksin's life.

The lyrics in the accompanying soundtrack say: “Looking at the stars with feet on the ground, this is Thaksin who always defies his fate.”

The clip ends with the words “coming soon” in English...



Al Jazeera bemoans “heavy-handed” crackdown on illegal vendors in Phuket

September 13, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Scams



https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/w7I_BNdq7Eg



[Thai anti-corruption drive hits Phuket hard](#) – aljazeera.com, September 12, 2014

Demolition of makeshift bars, restaurants and vendor stands deprives many locals of their sole means of livelihood...

10 years ago: Thaksin orders Education Ministry to prepare for Thailand's hosting of 2016 Olympics

September 14, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 years ago: [Thaksin orders Education Ministry to prepare for Thailand's hosting of 2016 Olympics](#)

Eight Years Ago: Editorial cartoons from before the 2006 coup

September 14, 2014

Categories: Today in History

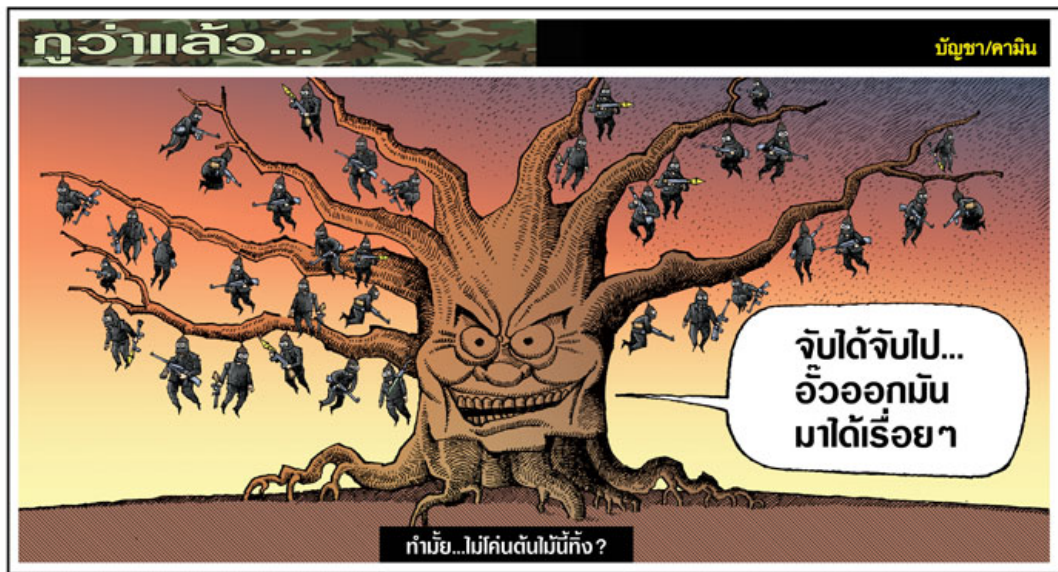


Eight Years Ago: [Editorial cartoons before the 2006 coup](#)

Why don't you cut the tree?

September 15, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 15, 2014

Tree: Catch them as much as you can. I have a lot.

Caption: Why don't you cut the tree?

Eight Years Ago Today: Thailand's Prime Minister, a 'Caretaker' on a Roll

วันนี้เมื่อ 8 ปีที่แล้ว : นายกรัฐมนตรีรักษาการณ์ชั่วคราว

September 16, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Prime Minister, a 'Caretaker' on a Roll](#)

When the Thaksin wave comes... it will be gone?

September 16, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



17-09-57

From Manager, September 16, 2014

PM Prayuth: Please help me to rebuild the country to be peaceful like before.

Caption: Next year, when the wave comes... it will be gone?

Bloodbath in Paradise

September 16, 2014

Categories: Crime, Tourism



[Bloodbath in Paradise](#)

Chuwit memes – Congratulations to the new PM

September 17, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, 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.

August 29, 2014:

Congratulations to the new PM. In this period, no one is more suitable than you are. However, I'm curious that if people have some problems, who is the one that they should inform—either Gen. Prayuth the PM or Gen. Prayuth the NCPO leader?

Eight Years Ago Today: Hat Yai Blasts วันนี้เมื่อ 8 ปีที่แล้ว : ระเบิดที่หาดใหญ่

September 17, 2014

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[Hat Yai Blasts](#)

Nine years ago: Thaksin cancels Sondhi's show, keeps Samak's right-wing show that supports him

September 17, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine years ago: [Thaksin cancels Sondhi's show, keeps Samak's right-wing show that supports him](#)

57 Years Ago: Sarit deposes Phibul

September 17, 2014

Categories: Today in History

57 Years Ago: [Sarit deposes Phibul](#) – St. Petersburg Times, September 18, 1957

...Army commander Sarit Thanarat moved yesterday to set up a new government which he pledged would not swerve from the pro-Western policies of ousted premier P. Pibulsonggram. Sarit, recently forced to resign a cabinet post, toppled the Pibulsonggram leadership in a swift, bloodless coup. Sarit also removed another foe and strongman, Gen. Phao Sriyanond who commanded Thailand's 40,000-man police force.

...Thailanders are considered the gayest people of the Far East. When it comes to politics and government, in the words of one of their critics "they just don't give a damn..."

Nine Years Ago: Thailand's “Iron Lady” pressured to leave key post after exposing government corruption

September 18, 2014

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Thailand's “Iron Lady” pressured to leave key post after exposing government corruption](#)

A country that's against pornography vs a country that produces porn

September 18, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Left, Title: A country that's against pornography

From top, Frame I, Father: In our country, porn is illegal! Cannot produce, cannot watch, cannot help yourself.

Mother: Block it!

Frame II: Ranking 2nd in the world in pregnancy rate of girls at premature ages.

Girl: I'm pregnant. What to do?!

Man: Can't help it, I don't have porn to help myself. I have to use the real thing.

Frame III: Ranking 29th in the world in number of rape cases

Girl screaming: Don't

Man: Can't help! They don't let me watch porn. I have to rape a real human.

Frame IV: Ranking 1st in the world in number of whores to that of the national population

Man: They don't allow porn so I've to buy sex.

Right, Title: A country that produces porn

From top, Frame I: Our country allows porn production because masturbation is natural.

Frame II: One of the lowest ranking in the world in terms of pregnancy at premature age rate

Boy: I don't have to have sex with my girlfriend because I can watch porn as substitute to real sex.

Frame III: One of the world's lowest numbers in rape cases

Boy: I don't want to rape any woman because I release my need by watching porn.

Frame IV: One of the countries with lowest whore number in the world

Boy: Whores are expensive and dirty. I can just watch porn. Cheap and not risky

The strange case of the Gen. Prayut/Prayuth's name change

September 18, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup

Word is spreading today in the Thai print media about a required change to the name of Thailand's junta chief and prime minister, General Prayuth Chan-ocha.

Starting today, the English-language media are required to spell the general's name "Prayut Chan-o-cha." The "h" in Prayuth is dropped and an extra hyphen will be added.

Suspicious abound that this is a case where a fortune teller must have told Gen. Prayuth (or now Gen. Prayut) to alter his name in English spelling to improve his luck.

This will no doubt add to the international media's focus on the general's superstitions—although such behavior is not unusual for Thai leaders or Thais in general. However, giving the media an opportunity to cast scorn on the odd behavior of Thailand's absolute ruler demonstrates the ineptitude in dealing with the press that the military has long been known for.

Oh, and [stop Photoshopping him too...](#)

Earlier: [Is Gen. Prayuth really growing "eccentric" or "superstitious" as Time Magazine claims?](#)

Weekly News Magazines, September 12, 2014

September 18, 2014

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, September 12, 2014

Cover reads: The analog epic



From Matichon Weekly, September 12, 2014

Cover reads: Black monitor on Channel 3; War of TV, analog vs digital



From ASTV Manager Weekly, September 13, 2014

Cover reads: Have today because of this young brother; Paiboon Khumchaya, a small gentleman with big heart

On the crossed white circle: I have today because of big brother.

On red tint: Eyes at the stars, feet running away from bars

Somaly Mam Public Relations Blitz: ‘I Didn’t Lie’

September 19, 2014

Categories: Cambodia

[After Long Silence, Somaly Mam Hits Back](#) – cambodiadaily.com, September 18, 2014

...Within hours of the Marie Claire article hitting the Web, Scott Gorenstein, vice president of public relations firm Jonathan Marder + Company, sent an email to journalists claiming the Newsweek story was full of “inconsistencies, innuendos and inaccuracies.”

“material has effectively destroyed the reputation, and decades of work, by a woman whom even he acknowledges had done enormous good,” the email continues.

In the email, Mr. Gorenstein also offers interviews with Ms. Mam, who is “now willing to speak for the first time” in the hope that she can restore her reputation.

Contacted by telephone Wednesday evening, Mr. Gorenstein said Ms. Mam was “en route to New York at the moment” and the company would be scheduling interviews with journalists starting September 22.

Asked who was paying for the New York-based firm’s services, Mr. Gorenstein, who also represents American actress and singer Liza Minnelli, said: “I’m not going to get into that...”

[Somaly Mam Public Relations Blitz: ‘I Didn’t Lie’](#) – marieclaire.com, September, 2014

...Mam denies coaching the girl to lie. The journalist who made the film, Claude Sempere, says he does not believe Mam coached the girl. He says he plucked the girl and several others for filming from a group of children, and that “it’s completely mad” to suggest the girl’s interview was fake. The young woman, now married, couldn’t be located. Mam says she lives in a Phnom Penh suburb but declined to put me in touch. The reason, she says: The young woman has problems at home because her husband hadn’t known she had been trafficked until the news coverage came out...

Remembering the coup of Sep. 19, 2006 (because the Thai media have been silenced on this anniversary)

September 19, 2014

Categories: Today in History



[Remembering the coup of September 19, 2006 \(because the Thai media have been silenced on this anniversary\).](#)

10 years ago: Land grab charge against Chamlong

September 22, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 years ago: [Land grab charge against Chamlong](#)

Eight Years Ago: The Coup – Roundup of TV images

September 22, 2014

Categories: Today in History



Above: Blocking CNN and BBC reports with Ashlee Simpson

[Eight Years Ago Today: The Coup – Roundup of TV images on the night of the coup](#)

Part 2 of the Story of Thaksin's Life

September 23, 2014

Categories: Thai Politics



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/udp8tPEcJgA>



Part 2 of the Story of Thaksin's Life: The failure of the silk business and family entertainment

Earlier: [Animated videos lauding Thaksin–He always “defies his fate”](#)

10 years ago: Swedish PM rejects Thaksin's jets-for-chicken trade

September 23, 2014

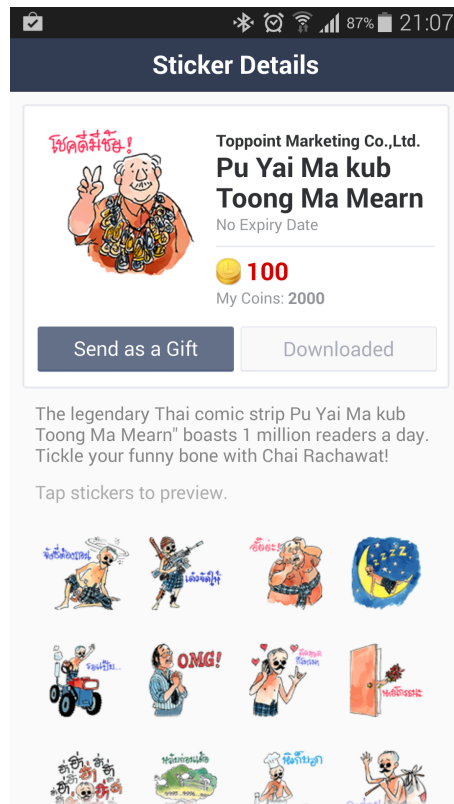
Categories: Today in History

10 years ago: [Swedish PM rejects Thaksin's jets-for-chicken trade](#)

Chai LINE stickers

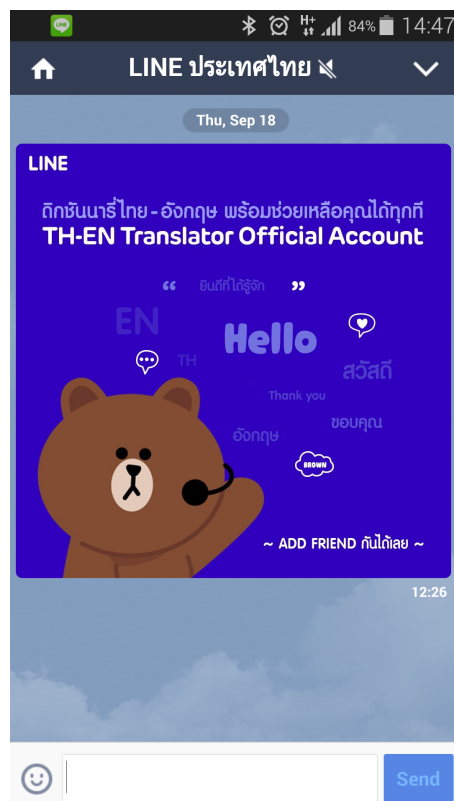
September 24, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Above: Chai stickers featuring his famous characters for LINE

Below: New LINE chat translating service



10 Years Ago Today: Chumlong vs Thaksin

วันนี้เมื่อ 10 ปีก่อน : จำลองกับทักษิณ

September 24, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

One of the strangest political pairings ever, the aesthetic Chumlong and the worldly Thaksin. 10 Years Ago Today: [Chumlong vs Thaksin](#)

Throw the podium at the reporter

September 24, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



25-09-57

From Manager, September 24, 2014

A reporter on the left: Oh!... You're so funny.

A reporter close to a podium: Yes! You've a sense of humor.

A reporter on the right: Oh... You said you'd throw a podium and then you did it. So awesome.

Caption: At present, if he throws it... no one will complain.

Eight Years Ago: Post-Coup News

September 24, 2014

Categories: Today in History



Eight Years Ago: [Post-Coup News: September 24-October 9 news](#)

Thai PM Prayuth says ‘no harm’ listening to fortune-tellers

September 24, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Local Beliefs

[Thai PM Prayuth says ‘no harm’ listening to fortune-tellers](#) – AFP, September 23, 2014

... "There's no harm in listening to fortune-tellers. Fortune-telling is an art. But if a fortune-teller tells a person that they will be rich and then they stay in bed all day, then what is the use?" Prayuth told reporters on Tuesday.

"I listen to their words. They warn me that I might clash with the media," he quipped.

Prayuth told an audience earlier this month he had doused himself from head to toe in holy water to ward off curses his enemies had put on him.

Bangkok's skyline is that of a country hurtling towards modernity, but pre-Buddhist animist beliefs continue to exert strong influence on Thai culture. Many of the country's top politicians have consulted fortune-tellers over policy changes...

Earlier: [Is Gen. Prayuth really growing “eccentric” or “superstitious” as Time Magazine claims?](#)

Watchdog

September 25, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



From an image circulating on social media: Convicting the rice pledging scheme's corruption is not easy. Watch a croc lying across the canal.

On the crocodile: Attorney General; Above the crocodile's tail: The croc lying across the canal

The chart, starting from the purple spot:

In the purple spot: NAC ; Resolved to indict; the G-to-G corruption case; Yingluck against the Section 157 case

On purple arrow: Submitted to the attorney general; delay the case claiming that the information is incomplete

Red stripe: Attorney and NAC co-working team; no time limit

Green arrow from red stripe to purple spot: Attorney refuses to indict

Grey arrow pointing red spot: Both parties resolve to indict the case

On green arrow pointing to red spot: NAC appoints lawyers to file a lawsuit

On red spot: Supreme Court

On the stripe under the crocodile (brownish to represent the canal the crocodile is blocking): Attorney General indicts the case (very slim chance)

Symbol of dog at bottom right corner: Watch dog

In praise of Prayuth's words and a Chuwit meme

September 26, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Above: From an image circulated on social media lauding PM Gen. Prayuth: “Personally I believe in good virtue, that it will defeat the bad and will be able to get through all of the obstacles.”

Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, Prime Minister and leader of the National Council for Peace and Order or NCPO at the 13th NCPO meeting on Sept. 2, 2014



Above: 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.

The words read: Martial Law

Three years ago: The Nitirat Group can help prevent a coup

September 27, 2014

Categories: Today in History



Three years ago: [The Nitirat Group can help prevent a coup](#)

Ordered to wear hats

September 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 29, 2014

Title: Ordered to wear hats

On two men's coats: NLA

On the paper held on the left: Constitution

On the paper held on the right: Reform the country?

On a paper hold by the smaller man at right: Freedom

Phi Nooring: It's trendy .

A mouse: Return a democracy

Throw the podium again

September 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, September 29, 2014

Left, PM Prayuth says: I'm not gonna throw all the money for populist policies which will cause the Ministry of Finance to run out of money as in the past.

Middle: But I can throw something else that will not cause the Ministry of Finance to be in trouble.

Reporter: What are you going to throw, sir?

Right: Throw the podium.

Reeducation for Red Shirt villagers to promote unity and appreciation of the monarchy

September 29, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup

[Reconciliation Trainings Target Northeastern Villages](#) – isaanrecord.com, September 28, 2014

...These activities were all part of a training recently conducted in Khon Kaen as part of an extensive tour of three-day events in villages across Isaan. The military government has convened these training camps, complete with lectures, performances, and physical exercises, with the aim of dissolving the political tension that they cite as the reason for the May 22 coup. But villagers here say the event avoided discussing the country's political rift altogether and failed to address the economic concerns of the people of the Northeast...

10 years ago: Thaksin worries about the “rebels of September 9”

September 30, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 years ago: [Thaksin worries about the “rebels of September 9”](#)

Gen. Prayuth billboard at the Army Club

September 30, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



Billboard in front of army club:

Royal Thai Army Vision 57

Smart: Improve yourself (basic knowledge both in work and academy)

Intelligent: Enhance the knowledge for being an army, expert or developer (through trainings/seminars, unit school, real practice and study the previous lessons.)

Modern: Catch up with the new technology, have the knowledge on the world situation/new threats, etc., and apply those knowledge in order to improve the Royal Army's works

(Good) vision: Have positive thinking for improving yourself and your units as well as the Royal Army

Old politicians joining the NRC

September 30, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



01-10-57

From Manager, September 30, 2014

Newin: Dad, good news. Khun Pom will invite you to be the head of the NRC.

Sign on the grave: Chai Chidchob

Sign behind the grave: Teng

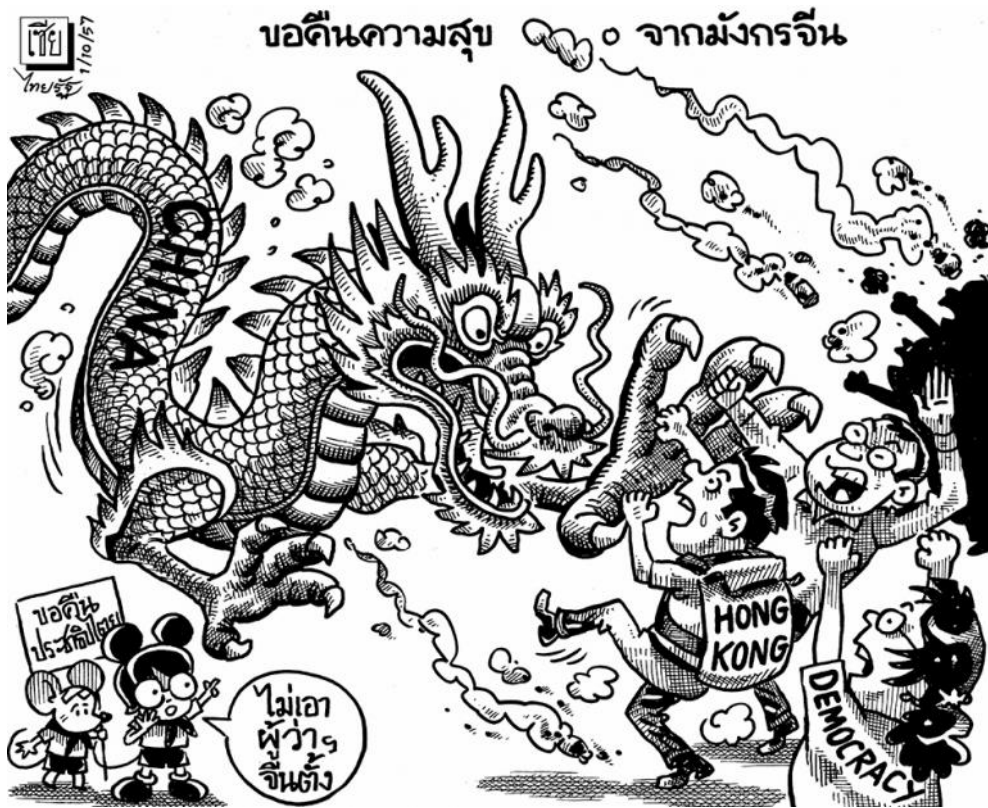
Sign on the gate: A grave of the old politicians

Caption: Do we need to dig them from the grave?

Return happiness to the Dragon

October 1, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 1, 2014

Caption: Return happiness to the Dragon.

Phi Nooring: We don't want the chief executive to be nominated by China.

A mouse: Return democracy

Student leaders in Hong Kong are recommending FireChat for fear authorities may shut off communications

October 1, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Student leaders in Hong Kong are recommending FireChat for fear authorities may shut off communications](#)

FireChat: [Soon no need for net providers or wifi, even now there is an app that lets every phone connect to every phone](#)

[FireChat – the messaging app that’s powering the Hong Kong protests](#)

Holiday Killing 101: Checklist for Thai Authorities

October 1, 2014

Categories: Crime, Humor, Thai Police, Tourism

[Holiday Killing 101: Checklist for Thai Authorities](#) – Asia Sentinel, October 1, 2014

...Crime scene? Let's all have a look: Even the most novice gumshoe knows that when it comes to investigating a crime, two heads are better than one. And the heads of everybody around wearing a uniform as well as some guys who don't have any actual status, but want to have a look-see, well that's even better. "Contamination" is such an ugly word – let's call it "scene enhancement".

Blame the victim: Thai culture's glorious roots date back generations and for years we have celebrated and upheld the virtues of modesty at all times and even get a kick out of that mask dancing you see sometimes at temple fairs. Unfortunately foreigners do not share these traits and as such they often fall afoul of the cultural tenets we hold so dear. It is important to consider these failings when explaining the incident at hand.

Blame it on other foreigners: As a senior policeman noted in a report filed by the BBC's Jonathan Head, no Thai would ever commit a crime like that one on Koh Tao. While our country is not crime free, no Thai would ever commit heinous offences that would put you off your morning rice congee upon reading of them...

2 years ago: Thai Editorial Cartoons About the Report on the 2010 Protest Deaths

October 1, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



2 years ago: [Thai Editorial Cartoons About the Report on the 2010 Protest Deaths](#)

5 years ago: Red Shirt Publications: The poor and oppressed are not allowed

October 1, 2014

Categories: Today in History



[Red Shirt Publications: The poor and oppressed are not allowed](#)

Live Updates: Immigration Crackdown in Chaing Mai, Thailand

October 1, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Live Updates: Immigration Crackdown in Chaing Mai, Thailand](#)

I'm sitting here at PunSpace the coworking space in Chiang Mai, and about an hour ago 20 armed uniformed police and immigration officials stormed in and detained everyone. Currently 18 tourists are in a police van being taken to Thai Immigration near the airport.

The only four tourists left at PunSpace right now is a European guy that has his passport and a valid Education visa, myself, and an American couple who are on 30 day visas on arrival...

Tools used to “kill” Samak and Yingluck as PMs

October 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 11, 2014

Title: The same killing tools

On the judge: Hastening

On book held by judge: Thai Dictionary

On man being hit (the man is supposed to be former premier Samak): “Tasting, Grumbling”

On shirt of man in the front: NACC

On a book held by him: TDR research study

On a paper held by Yingluck: Rice pledging scheme

Book in a toilet: Law

On paper in the toilet: Justice

Phi Nooring: The same schools.

A mouse: Reform the justice system

The person who destroys the sand castle

October 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 2, 2014

Title: The person who destroys the sand castle

Girl: You lie to me!

Phi Nooring: Who said he would harmonize?

On the hand representing the military: Reform Thailand

On the man's suit: NRC, 40 senators

On the man's trousers: PDRC

On the sand castle: Harmony

Mouse: Return the happiness to 40 senators and the PDRC

Who is stronger? Prem or Prawit?

October 2, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



03-10-57

From Manager, October 2, 2014

Gen. Prawit: The size of our feet may be the same.

Caption: On that day, there is a person who is keen on knowing the size of Pa Prem's feet.

Social manners, the important things we should teach kids nowadays

October 3, 2014

Categories: Local Beliefs



From an image circulated on social media:

Title: Social manners, the important things we should teach kids nowadays

No matter how the eras have changed, valuable “manners” shall be preserved, especially towards senior people. Be it father, mother, relatives and teachers, younger people should behave properly.

1. Love and respect senior people
2. Don't gossip
3. Pay attention when they teach us
4. Speak nicely with sentence-end word
5. Behave properly
6. Don't interrupt when senior people are talking
7. Be helpful
8. Be grateful

Earlier: [Thai Social Etiquette](#)

Still More Falling in Thailand

October 3, 2014

Categories: Falling

[Irishman killed in Thailand balcony fall ‘was trying to get into friend’s apartment without disturbing neighbours’ – inquest](#)

[British Man fall to his death at Pattaya Hilton Hotel](#)

[Swedish man falls to death in Phuket](#)

[Northern Ireland student killed after plunging through the roof of Thai shopping complex](#)

[British Man falls from balcony of 2nd floor Pattaya Nightclub](#)

[Police files checked on death of Australian in Thailand](#)

[Polish girl dies in city hotel fall](#)

[Tata Motors MD falls from Bangkok hotel](#)

From Not the Nation: [Non-Naked, Non-German, Non-Sex Tourist Plunges From Hotel](#)

[Mistress falls to death in Bangkok](#)

[3 Aussies fall from balcony in Phuket](#)

Earlier: [More Falling in Thailand](#)

Earlier: [Falling in Thailand](#)

If elected politicians are dismissed, the Red Shirts won't help them

October 5, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 5, 2014

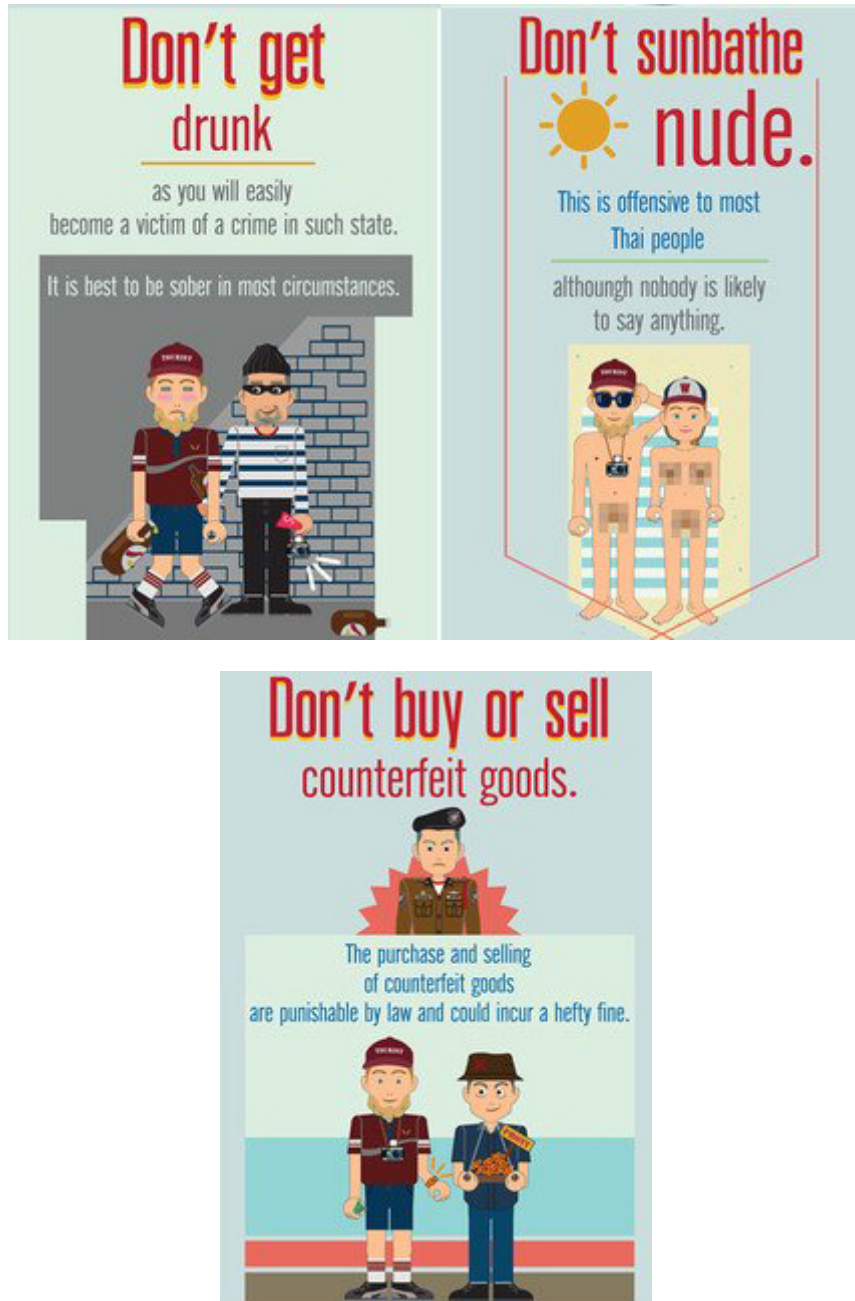
Former Pheu Thai MP Worachai Hema: NCPO, if you dismiss us... I will call for a protest to fight your martial law!

Signs held by other Red-Shirt leaders behind (L-R): I'm not involved with him for so long.; We're not the same group. He's crazy!; I don't know and I'm not involved with him.; I don't know about this.; I'm not involved. I'm not involved with him.; I don't know and I'm not involved.

Advice from the Tourist Police: Prostitution is a serious crime in Thailand

October 6, 2014

Categories: Uncategorized





Above: Some of the surprising information from the Tourist Police LINE app (which usually dispenses information in the Thai language only).

Below is the full text of the etiquette guide for tourists.



Don't spit.

The fine will be imposed on a person who spits, discards cigarette stubs or litters in public areas.



Don't yell

or raise your voice.

Thais are generally polite and calm, so always keep your voice down and don't be aggressive when speaking.



Don't buy or sell counterfeit goods.

The purchase and selling of counterfeit goods are punishable by law and could incur a hefty fine.



Don't engage in prostitution

as it is a serious crime in Thailand.



Don't get yourself involved with drugs.

Drug offences are taken very seriously and carry severe penalties.



Don't support wildlife trade.

Never purchase any wildlife goods as it is illegal.



Don't Touch a Thai person's head.

Thai people regard the head as the highest part of the body, both literally and figuratively.



Don't hitchhike.

Walking alone on quiet streets or hitchhiking is not recommended.



Don't be

overly affectionate in public.

Public displays of affection are frowned upon. Physical contacts like kissing could lead to major misunderstanding.



Don't touch anybody with your feet.

Placing your feet on the table or pointing your foot at anything is considered extremely rude.



Don't get drunk

as you will easily become a victim of a crime in such state. It is best to be sober in most circumstances.



Don't sunbathe nude.

This is offensive to most Thai people although nobody is likely to say anything.



Do greet people with the traditional "wai".

For a proper wai, bring your open palms together at chest height, then bow slightly.



Do show respect when the thai national anthem

is played at 8.00 am and 6.00 pm every day in public places. Everyone must stop and stand still until the song has ended.



Do respect the places and dress modestly,



especially when visiting temples and religious sites.



Do respect the elders.

In Thai society, showing respect for your elders or those of higher ranks are considered polite and a must.



Do Treat women with respect.



Do be careful when crossing the roads or driving.



Driving and crossing the roads in Thailand can be quite challenging and should be done with extra care.

Do treat

any image of Buddha and Buddhist monks with high respect and refrain from touching them.



Do dress properly in public.

Avoid wearing very short shorts, miniskirts and sleeveless tops.



Do keep your belongings with you at all times.

Make sure your belongings like money, jewelry, and passport are not left unattended to prevent loss.



Do show respect to the King and the Royal family.

Thai people have a deep, traditional reverence for the Royal Family. Everyone is expected to show respect for the Royal Family.



" ฉันต้องการความช่วยเหลือ

กรุณาโทร 1155 เบอร์สายด่วนตำรวจท่องเที่ยว

Please show this card to a Thai person when you need help.

The Thai message above means

"I need help. Please dial 1155 (Tourist Police) for me. Thank you."

1976 Student Massacre Remembered in ‘Politics-free’ Commemoration

October 6, 2014

Categories: October, 1976



Above: From 2006: Melding imagery from the October 6 events with present-day fears. The banner reads: Globalization, transfer assets to capital, FTA, populist policies, freedom capitalism world

FT: [Thai student massacre remembered](#)

[1976 Student Massacre Remembered in ‘Politics-free’ Commemoration](#)

[Student Activist Decries University’s ‘Silencing’ of 1976 Massacre](#)

More: [1976: A Nightmare of Lynching and Burning](#)

Myanmar goats

October 7, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 7, 2014

Left: Now it is difficult to find Thai laborers... so I have to hire Myanmar laborers instead.

Right: Now it is difficult to find Thai goats... so I have to catch Myanmar goats instead.

When I draw a sword... the Red Shirts will be afraid and faint

October 8, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



09-10-57

From Manager, October 8, 2014

PM Prayuth: When I draw a sword... the Red Shirts will be afraid and faint.

On the sword: Martial law

On the sign held by Thaksin in the background: Pretend to be afraid and faint

The goal is to destroy Yingluck

October 11, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 11, 2014

Title: We have to follow the ‘goal’ set

On the flag: To destroy Yingluck

On the papers from left to right: Legal methods, rice pledging scheme, crime, dismiss.

On the chairs from left to right: OAG, NACC

Phi Nooring: Call for a return of the justice

U.S. diplomatic drift and Thailand

October 11, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Analysis

[US, Thai officials planning Cobra Gold exercise despite May coup](#) – Stars and Stripes, October 10, 2014

The United States and Thailand will scale down next year's Cobra Gold military exercise because of the rift in relations that followed Thailand's military coup earlier this year.

"In light of the current political situation, the U.S. government has reduced the scale of the exercise and increased its focus on non-lethal activities, such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief," the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok said in a statement Friday...

Update: January 27, 2015 – [US slams junta: Impeachment "politically driven," Yingluck targeted while democracy interrupted](#)

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

Being caught by their own traps

October 12, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 10, 2014

Title: Being caught by their own traps.

On box held by the police: Asset account for funds supporting intelligence missions

On box held by the military man: Asset account for government funds

On bag held by man in background: Normal rich

On shirt of the man: NLA

Phi Nooring: Set your own traps and then being caught.

A mouse: How did you get the money?



From Komchadluek, October 12, 2014

On the bags: Assets

On the sign: Declare the assets

Let's burn it. I will take a responsibility for your actions.

October 13, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



14-10-57

From Manager, October 13, 2014

A man holding the megaphone: You don't need to bring anything with you. Flowers to be placed on the site of cremation can be found later. Millions of people will join. The crematory will be like a sea of fire!!

Man at right: Let's burn it. I will take a responsibility for your actions.

Caption: Encouragement is needed even to bring people to a funeral ceremony.

Thailand is the champion of alcohol consumption in ASEAN

October 13, 2014

Categories: Food and Drink



This sounds like Bangkok in the early 1990s: Urban decay cools hot Philippine economy

October 13, 2014

Categories: The Philippines

[Urban decay cools hot Philippine economy](#) – AFP, October 12, 2014

...Galang spends three hours commuting to work every day, half of which is spent in queues. For other commuters on buses or in cars, daily gridlock worsens to a complete standstill that can trap people for hours when even small rain storms trigger flash floods...

Plans for trans-Asian highway from India to Thailand

October 13, 2014

Categories: Highways and Roads

[Roadmap to Bangkok to be ready in '17](#) – Guwahati (The Asian Age), October 10 2014

The idea of driving down to Bangkok in a car or bus from any North Eastern State may become reality by 2017, with India signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Myanmar on opening four-lane motorways to promote trade and tourism from the North Eastern States into that country, and on to Thailand, and eventually Cambodia and Vietnam as well...

10 years ago: Lengthy prison sentences for those who criticize Thaksin's company

October 13, 2014

Categories: Today in History

10 years ago: [Trying to create a legal precedent—lengthy prison sentences for those who criticize Thaksin's company](#)

Chalerm denies he has died

October 13, 2014

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Thai Politics

[I'm still alive, says Chalerm](#) – Bangkok Post, October 13, 2014

Former deputy prime minister Chalerm Yubamrung Sunday dismissed social media rumours claiming he had died from cancer of the larynx.

Mr Chalerm told reporters he is “in perfect health” because he has started a daily regime of physical exercise.

Rumours about the alleged death of the controversial politician have been doing the rounds on the social media for several months...

More about colorful Chalerm

[Who is Chalerm Yoobamrung?](#)

[What is Chalerm's Goal?](#)

[Chalerm says he will disguise himself to arrest Suthep](#)

[Chalerm's Rolls Royce](#)

[Another Chalerm Bluff on Terrorism?](#)

[Kicking Chalerm](#)

[Furious Chalerm](#)

[Chalerm and Peace](#)

[Making Chalerm Go to the Deep South](#)

[Chalerm Does Care](#)

[Chalerm Does Care, Part 2](#)

[Chalerm vows Thaksin will be home this year – Behead me if he isn't, deputy PM tells reds](#)

[Yet Another Attempt to Rehab Chalerm's Disgraced Son](#)

[Chalerm Points Out the Bombs](#)

[Chalerm: I'm Thaksin's servant](#)

[Coffee Made Chalerm Drunk](#)

[Now a fire is burning Chalerm](#)

[Chalerm to Rescue the South!](#)

[The Chalerm Boys](#)

[Chalerm Snakebitten](#)

[Chalerm Adopts Yingluck](#)

[Chalerm's Angels](#)

[Chalerm denies warning about bomb attacks](#)

[Chalerm and Prasong Soonsiri](#)

[More on Chalerm and Prasong](#)

[Chalerm's attack on NACC unwarranted](#)

First KFC coming to Myanmar

October 13, 2014

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Yum! Brands & Yoma Strategic to Bring First KFC to Myanmar](#) – straitstimes.com, October 13, 2014

...”Bringing KFC to Myanmar is an important step to achieving Yoma Strategic’s goal in being a key player in the country’s food and beverage sector,” Mr. Serge Pun, executive chairman of Yoma Strategic, said in the company’s statement to the Singapore Exchange...

Remembering U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney

October 13, 2014

Categories: Analysis, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Manager, May 27, 2014

U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney thinks: ...”Seuak”

Caption: Ambassador Kristie must look for the meaning of this word fast.

Update from late 2015: [The new U.S. ambassador is a meddler](#)

[US ambassador connects with Thai ‘Tweetherts’](#) – www.mysinchew.com, July 13, 2011

...Kenney denied her informal style — “Good morning tweetherts!” is a typical daily message — detracts from more serious diplomatic matters, such as keeping secrets, delivering speeches and providing feedback from Washington...

U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Kristie Kenney had the highest profile of any recent U.S. ambassador due to her use of social media. Daily tweets meant that the average Thai citizen could become aware of the ambassador as an accessible person. This is in marked contrast to former U.S. ambassadors, mostly unknown to the general public, who spent their days in tipsy cocktail parties gossiping with high-born Thais.

U.S. statements about Thailand holding quick elections, widely disseminated throughout social media, along with high-profile visits of U.S. officials to Red Shirt villages in the Northeast, led to conspiracy theories that the U.S. was wanting a quick return of Thaksin and a sellout of Thailand to foreign interests. It also led to an unusual amount of personal criticism of the ambassador. This hypersensitivity, along with the ridicule of Kenney, is ironic considering the actual anemic response to the coup by overseas governments.

All of this means that it is unlikely that the next ambassador will be allowed to use Twitter like Kenney did. The exposure of the general public to her everyday tweets and the increased visibility this created meant that U.S. boilerplate statements about condemning coups had a human face for the public. This ended up feeding into anti-American sentiment about “meddling” foreigners.

It is also unlikely that U.S. officials will continue to openly visit and be feted at “Red villages” in the north and northeast. As the “Red village” concept is one of the anathemas to the establishment’s fetish for Thai “unity” and its exposure in social media has impacted the U.S. image, it is likely that no more high-profile Red Shirt meetings will take place.

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

Also: [U.S. diplomatic drift and Thailand](#)



From Thairath, July 14, 2014

Left, Ambassador Kristie Kenney: The U.S. and Thailand has had an 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?



Above: From Komchadluek, June 3, 2014



07-07-57

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



Above: Tweet from the U.S. Embassy seeming to laud pro-Red Shirt media outlet Prachatai.



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



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.”



An example of anti-American graphics being circulated on Thai social media. The text reads: Don't stick your nose into other people's business for just once, will you?



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.



Above: Thais opposed to Thaksin have criticized U.S. officials for visiting and thus legitimizing “Red” villages

Col. Pia died because the elite ate his lung

October 14, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 12, 2014

Left: Mr. Apiwan died because of a lung infection.

Caption: The explanation from a doctor

Right: Col. Pia died because the elite ate his lung.

Caption: The explanation from the Red Shirt leader

If you don't respect us, please think about people who died

October 15, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 15, 2014

Title: If you don't respect us, please think about people who died.

Chaianan: I want the unelected PM.

On his suit: NRC

On a paper: To reduce the number of MPs who come from elections

On a cloth: People-students-university students who died in order to call for democracy from 14 Oct 2516 to 19 May 2533

Phi Nooring: Love to dominate.

A mouse: To reform politics

Bangkok may have one of the tallest buildings in the world by 2019

October 15, 2014

Categories: Buildings



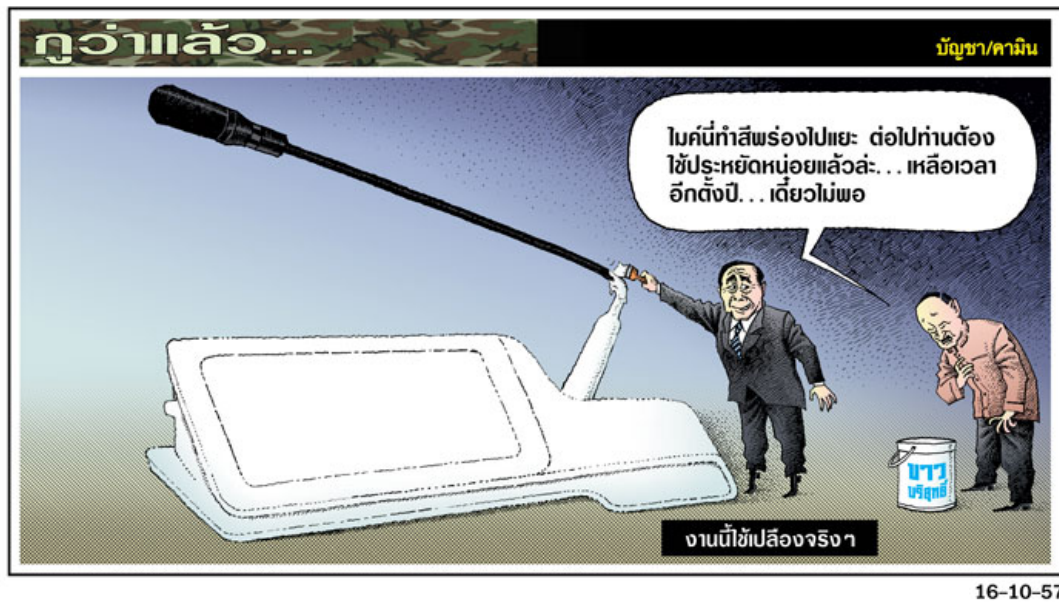
[Tallest skyscraper in Asean planned for Bangkok](#) – Bangkok Post, October 15, 2014

...The 18-billion-baht 615-metre “Rama IX Super Tower” is set for completion by 2019 on 73 rai of land in the Grand Rama 9 mixed-use development site near the intersection of Ratchadapisek Road, the company, known as G Land, said at a press conference...

Same cartoon from pro- and anti-Thaksin cartoonists

October 16, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Manager, October 15, 2014

ML Panadda: This microphone has made the color fade. We have to be careful using this. We only have one year left. It may not be enough.

On the bucket: White

Caption: This job uses a lot of budget.



From Thairath, October 16, 2014

Title: Gold microphone is not expensive. Golden man is not at fault.

ML Panadda: I don't see corruption, but it has to be re-procured.

On his shirt: Permanent Secretary, Minister

Below the microphone: Government House's microphones

Left signs: The quality is the same as the White House and the price is about at Mars' level. Not corruption, but it's not good to have the large price gap.

Right signs: Installed before setting the price. The media, please understand. It's just makes people concerned.

Phi Nooring: Good man can't cheat.

A mouse: To oppose corruption

This coup is good for the Pheu Thai party

October 19, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



20-10-57

From Manager, October 19, 2014

PM Prayuth: How did Lerm say like this!? He said this coup is good for Pheu Thai party...Thaksin should sent 12 boxes of first class wines to us!?

On the newspaper: Chalerm says the coup benefits Pheu Thai.

Caption: Lerm may say it too late.

This group should be reformed first

October 19, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 19, 2014

Title: This group should be reformed first.

On the basket: Independent agencies of the justice process

In the basket:

On the sword: NACC

A man with glasses in the back: Inspector

On police officer: scapegoat

Man with glasses next to the policeman: the double standard of justice

Man on the right: working fast without consideration

Two men in front: EC and NHRC

On a paper held by a many outside the basket: NRC

Phi Nooring: Put them in the basket and wash it.

A mouse: The cause of the conflict

Imagine...

October 19, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 19, 2014

Title: Imagine...

Top left: Imagine that it's ok to rape a blind woman because she doesn't know who did it.

Top middle: Imagine that the ballot box is only thing that proves democracy.

Top right: Imagine that the police always catch the scapegoat.

Bottom left: Imagine that Attorney-General is the country's lawyer.

Bottom middle: Imagine that good people leave and die outside the country.

Bottom right: Imagine that the police will stop receiving bribes when their boss gives them bribes instead.

Is it a populist program?

October 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



07-10-57

From Manager, October 6, 2014

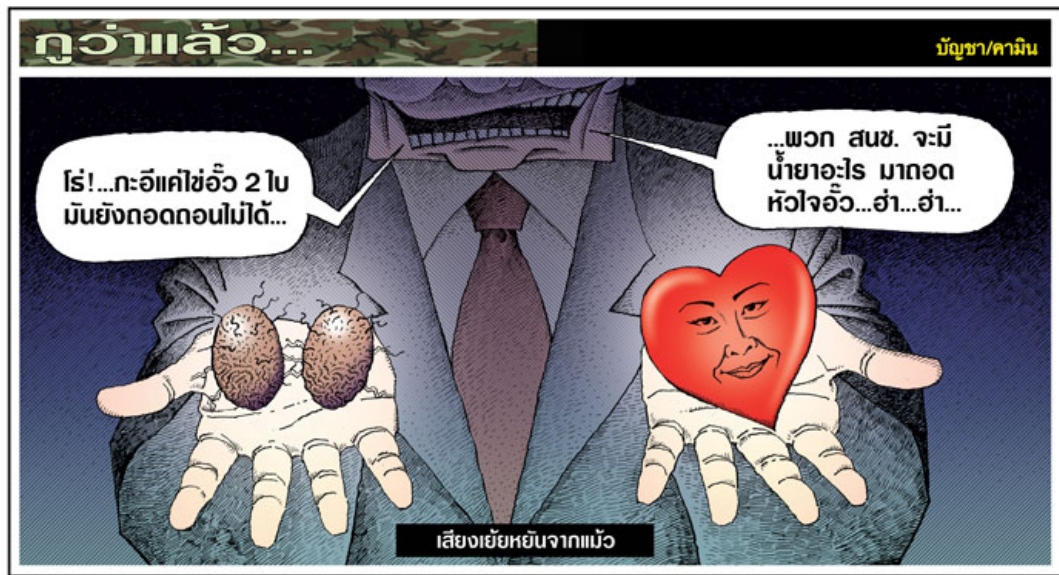
Farmers: We insist that to Uai's policy to give money to us is not a populist policy because it only gives us a thousand baht per rai! We don't like it!

Caption: A confirmation from those farmers... may help Uai.

How will the NLA will have the power to take out my heart?

October 20, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 20, 2014

Thaksin (left): Only my two eggs they couldn't take out...

Thaksin (right): Then, how will the NLA will have the power to take out my heart? Ha ha ha...

Brave Apiwan has died

October 22, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 9, 2014

Text at top right: The democratic heart is still alive.

Brave Apiwan has already died. He said goodbye to all his friends on 6 October. Even though he passed away, his democratic heart is still with us.

Written by MP Sunai Julpongthorn

Mouse: Rest in Peace

On wreath: People who love democracy

On Apiwan's shirt: Democracy

Sign on his statue: Apiwan Wiriyaichai

Toad 'Tu' Vs. Duck 'Lerm'

October 22, 2014

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Naewna, October 22, 2014

Title: Toad 'Tu' Vs. Duck 'Lerm'

Caption: Maew may have to wait for so long.

The toad and the Red Shirt fund

October 23, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24-10-57

From Manager, October 23, 2014

Toad: If I really embezzled from the Red Shirt fund, then, I am not a human anymore.

Caption: Yes!... you have not been a human for so long.

Fighting the loan sharks

October 23, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Post Today, October 23, 2014

On the flower: Loan sharks

Trick them and then stab them and put them in the bag

October 24, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 24, 2014

Title: Trick them and then stab them and put them in the bag

On the bag: Reform the country

Men on the left: MPs and political parties

Men on the right: NRC

On the knife: Constitution written as we want

On the bag at bottom right: Destroy the opposition political parties

Phi Nooring: Don't trust it.

Mouse: Compromise reform

Reopen Akeyuth's case

October 24, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News



From a post on social media: Reinvestigate the past case which can impact Thaksin's regime!

There is a new evidence! It is a hard disk stored with data from the CCTV cameras installed in Akeyuth's house. It has the clear picture of the persons who killed him.

“Mr. Ball said that he kept the hard disk of the CCTV cameras installed in Akeyuth's house. On the hard disk it will show the image of persons who killed him and how many of them. He also kept a white gold necklace, an amulet and Rolex platinum white gold watch.”

2013: [Killing a Government Critic as a Warning](#)

2013: [The hasty open and shut liquidation of anti-Thaksin critic Akeyuth](#)

2013: [2 murderers... 1 mastermind](#)

2013: [The Wheel Begins to Turn: Weekly Rallies and Disapproving Academics](#)

2004: [Akeyuth targeted by the government](#)

The heroic story of Thaksin continues: Feet on the ground, eyes to the stars

October 24, 2014

Categories: Thai Politics



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/3VjStKuvnEw>



U.S. military cooperation more important than coup punishment: Cobra Gold 2015 set for February

October 25, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup, Thai Military

[Kenney: US did not downgrade ties after coup; Obama-Prayut handshake possible](#) – The Nation, October 25, 2014

...Prime Minister and coup leader Prayut Chan-o-cha and President Barack Obama are scheduled to attend the Asean Summit in Myanmar's new capital Nay Pyi Taw on November 12-13. The Thai and US leaders are expected to sit next to each other under the seating arrangement.

Despite US disapproval of the takeover, the US ambassador said the coup leader-turned-prime minister could expect the US president to treat him as per diplomatic protocol.

"The president is always gracious and will never be rude. He values protocol over political disagreement," she said in reply to a question on whether the two leaders would shake hands with each other...

[Cobra Gold 2015 set for February](#) – Bangkok Post, October 21, 2014

...The future of Cobra Gold, first held in 1982, was threatened briefly by the May 22 military coup. US- and Thailand-based rumour mongers tried to spread false reports in June that the US military was considering moving the exercise to Australia, a move that never was contemplated...

Another U.S. take on Cobra Gold and the coup: [US Scales Back 'Cobra Gold' War Games in Thailand](#) – VOA, October 24, 2014

The United States has confirmed it is scaling back a major annual defense exercise in Thailand, where Washington has criticized a coup by the country's military.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok told VOA on Friday the so-called Cobra Gold 2015 exercise set for February will be "refocused and scaled down..."

Also: [Remembering U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney](#)

Also: [U.S. diplomatic drift and Thailand](#)

Shadow of the scapegoat

October 27, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, October 27, 2014

On the sign: Koh Tao

On the shadow of scapegoat: A murder of foreign tourists

Pressure mounts on BMA to help solve Silom line bottleneck

October 27, 2014

Categories: Mass Transit

[BTS ready to demolish station – Pressure mounts on BMA to help solve Silom line bottleneck](#) – Bangkok Post, October 26, 2014

...The two main options that the BTS has put to the Bangkok Metropolitan Association are to knock down the station completely, or to move a section of the King Taksin Bridge to allow room for a second rail line to be built. The second option would be considerably more expensive and time consuming.

Commuting on the Sukhumvit line during peak hours is easy and predictable, Mr Anat said, while BTS management has been struggling to handle rising passenger numbers on the Silom line.

Mr Anat said trains on the Sukhumvit line run every two to three minutes in peak hours and six to nine minutes off peak. During rush hours on the Silom line, however, trains only arrive every four minutes. Mr Anat said the sole cause of the delay is Saphan Taksin station.

The station has only one platform, which must serve trains going in both directions. Because the station is wedged in a narrow gap between two elevated roads, there is no room to expand it or add a second platform. If the station were demolished, however, a second rail line could be built, allowing more frequent services along the entire Silom line. Saphan Taksin was only ever meant to be a temporary station and was due to be demolished as soon as the Silom line extension was completed...

The Super Tower

October 27, 2014

Categories: Buildings

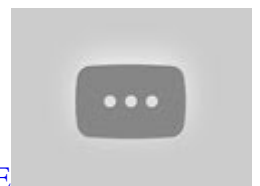


Here is a dramatic video (with menacing music as the building rises) of the Super Tower to be built behind Central Rama 9 (which is across the street from Fortune town).

This brings to mind a [theory](#) about the top of a growth cycle. In economics when a city/country/region builds the tallest building in the city/country/region, it is sometimes is the sign of the end of a boom cycle—and a bust immediately follows the commencement of construction. Groundbreaking on the Super Tower is due this year.



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/Q3uNfFVDvYE>



The big nosed foreigners of Exxon and Chevron

October 28, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



29-10-57

From Manager, October 28, 2014

Gen. Prayuth: Hey!.. Lucky! They give us bread in return for a 30-year oil drilling concession in our well.

Caption: Nowadays, this tribe still exists.

Babying the Thai economy

October 28, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, October 28, 2014
Thai economy

Building the cult of Prayuth

October 28, 2014

Categories: 2014 Coup



The book cover reads: The biography of Gen. Prayuth Chan o-cha, the 29th PM who followed his dream from being a temple boy to meteorically rising at Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy and finally becoming the army leader who was behind seizing power twice.

His name is 'Tu.'

From the army to the Government House

Nation Weekend Editorials

The bad figures must be cut off

October 29, 2014

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 29, 2014

Title: My organization... no one can intervene.

Left to right: 1st man, on his suit: EC

Sign held by him: Imbalanced

2nd man, on his suit: NACC

On the sword: Destroy Yingluck

On the jar: Pending Abhisit and Democrat party's cases

On the gavel: A quick and careless consideration

On the paper held by the 4th man: Double standards

On the box covering the woman's head: NHRC

On the hand: (Un)independent regulatory agencies

Phi Nooring: The bad fingers do not need to be reformed anymore. They have to be cut off.

A mouse: Try to be independent.

Also see: [Controversial decisions by key government agencies](#)

Thailand Approves Kunming-Singapore Rail Line

October 29, 2014

Categories: Mass Transit

[Thailand Approves Kunming-Singapore Rail Line](#) – Forbes, October 27, 2014

Rail lines running north from Bangkok to Chiang Mai have become so decrepit that derailments occur regularly. But plans to upgrade are also sidetracked with high frequency. So Asian transportation experts, and railway buffs everywhere, were surprised by the Thai military government's sudden approval in July of a \$23 billion plan to upgrade and expand rail lines and other infrastructure. Included were two lines that could revolutionize the region's freight service, linking ports around Bangkok and in Singapore with China and onward to Europe...

Tornado near Amata City Industrial estate

October 29, 2014

Categories: Weather



Tornado near Amata City Industrial estate at 4:30pm on October 28

[Here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)

British activist acquitted of defamation over slave labor claim

October 29, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Andy Hall acquitted of defamation](#) – Bangkok Post, October 29, 2014

... "The court hearings were yet another confirmation that, as Finnwatch's report revealed, there are serious problems in working conditions at Natural Fruit. The question that now must be asked is why Thailand's authorities have not taken action against the company however," Ms Vartiala said.

Mr Hall's report investigating working conditions at a fruit processing factory belonging to Natural Fruit in southern Thailand levelled accusations of forced and child labour, unlawfully low wages and long hours. Natural Fruit, a major supplier to the European drink market, denies the allegations...

Rice audit finds 90% substandard, State loss from scheme could rise to B700bn

October 29, 2014

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rice audit finds 90% substandard, State loss from scheme could rise to B700bn](#) – Bangkok Post, October 29, 2014

...On Tuesday, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha revealed the outcome of a nationwide rice audit led by ML Panadda Diskul, permanent secretary for the Prime Minister's Office, that reported only 10% of the 18 million tonnes of rice was of good quality.

"The report shows 70% of the rice is tainted with a yellow colour, while the rest is in bad condition and not edible and should only be allocated for ethanol production," said Gen Prayut.

The inspection also found about 100,000 tonnes of rice missing...

