

Switching legs to deceive

สับขาหลอก

March 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 12, 2012

Cartoon reads: Switching legs to deceive

Upper left: We're deceived into thinking the military would stage a coup!

Upper middle: We're deceived into thinking freedom of different thinking exists!

Upper right: We're deceived into thinking PTT and Thai Airways are being sold to the Vayupak Fund!

Lower left: Ukrit's deceived into setting up a constitutional amendment draft panel to be a false target!

Lower middle: We're deceived that Section 112 revocation is for protecting the monarchy!

Lower right: We're deceived into thinking it is for national reconciliation! Left coffin reads: Krue Sae-Tak Bai. Right coffin reads: Red shirts. Sack reads: 7.75 million baht

Thai-language Headlines of February 29, 2012

March 1, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, February 29, 2012

- Many people criticized this fagged monk who posted his photo smiling in a tent on Facebook. Office of National Buddhism will investigate and disrobe .
- NACC ordered to seized Supoj's money of 20 million baht.
- Dee Nitipong's wife will sue his ex-mistress for harassing her on phone and SMS.
- The cabinet appointed 2 more water management committees.

Daily News, February 29, 2012

- The Office of the National Counter Corruption Commission (NACC) judged the case of Permanent Transport Secretary Supoj Saplom. They will freeze a house and land worth 20 million baht.
- Many people congregated to buy a picture of a gecko that put the palms of its hands together in salute.
- Private school teachers are happy with the proposal to adjust their salary.
- The court sentenced a woman for forcing underage girls into prostitution.

Thairath, February 29, 2012

- NACC finalized that they will seize Supoj's land and houses worth 20 million baht.
- Deputy PM Chalerm denied the proposal from Wattana to abolish the constitution court and administration court. Pheu Thai vows it's just a personal opinion, they didn't discuss it yet.
- A 3-man gang kidnapped a 14-year-old girl to extort 500k baht. The police could arrest only one, the others escaped and left the girl.
- The cabinet accepted the royal advice about water management strategy.

Matichon, February 29, 2012

- A big member of constitution court responded to Wattana about his proposal to abolish some courts. Pheu Thai ordered Wattana to halt his proposal, they are afraid it will be prejudice the constitutional convention .
- The Ministry of Public health prohibits import of the SUDO drug.
- Seize Supoj's house and land worth 20 million baht in a case of unusual wealth.
- D-day in March for Poo to check canals, she also appointed 2 sets of committees to manage water.

Seven Years Ago: Malaysia: Happy Anniversary, ‘Demise’ of Local Elections

7 ปีที่แล้ว : วันครบรอบเลือกตั้งท้องถิ่นของมาเลเซีย

March 1, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [Malaysia: Happy Anniversary, ‘Demise’ of Local Elections](#)

Thailand's Sondhi Running Out of Time After Latest Conviction **สนธิไม่มีเวลาหลังจากการกระทำผิดล่าสุด**

March 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Sondhi Running Out of Time After Latest Conviction](#) – WSJ, February 29, 2012

Thailand's Tentative Peace Is Collapsing

ความสงบสุขที่ยังไม่แน่นอนพังทลายลง

March 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Tentative Peace Is Collapsing](#) – theatlantic.com, February 29, 2012

As the military and civilian government clash, this Southeast Asian country could easily blow up again, and soon...

Cambodia: Mythic Warrior Is Captive in Global Art Conflict

กัมพูชา : นักรบในนิยายโบราณถูกนำขึ้นมาโชว์ในงานศิลปะโลก

March 1, 2012

Categories: Art, Cambodia

[Mythic Warrior Is Captive in Global Art Conflict](#) – NYT, February 28, 2012

...The statue, a sandstone masterwork with a catalog estimate of \$2 million to \$3 million, was pulled from auction at the last minute last March after the Cambodian government complained it had been “illegally removed” from the country...

Cambodia's Fainting Workers

คนงานที่ล้ม仆ชาเป็นลม

March 1, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Fainting Workers](#) – the-diplomat.com, February 21, 2012

...During the tribunal, workers in the “fainting factories” recalled how they regularly work for 12 to 14 hours a day while being exposed to strong chemicals in hot and poorly ventilated environments. Most of the female workers said they also have to travel long hours, standing in overcrowded trucks, to get to work each day...

China: Occupy Men's Toilets

จีน : ห้องน้ำชายเต็ม

March 1, 2012

Categories: China

[For Chinese Women, a Basic Need, and Few Places to Attend to It](#) – NYT, February 29, 2012

...And that has thrust her into the strange, unpredictable world of Chinese citizen activists, who press for change within narrow, shadowy boundaries, never knowing if government authorities will brook them or slap them down...

Hopewell track collapses, no injuries

โครงสร้างโฮปเวลพังทลาย ไม่มีผู้ได้รับบาดเจ็บ

March 1, 2012

Categories: Mass Transit

[Hopewell track collapses, no injuries](#) – Bangkok Post, March 1, 2012

Yingluck Sent to Honor Prem

March 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 22, 2012

The caption reads: Please bless me and Thai people well.

Signs from left to right:

Bail out 112 lese majeste prisoners

Clean up the consequences of the coup 2549

Release UDD prisoners

Stop the double standards

The truth will eliminate further demonstrations

Charter amendment

The sign carried by the mouse: Reconciliation must be sincere



From Manager, April 26, 2012

Yingluck says: Hey! Where's your bowl for Songkran?

The Red Shirt leader says: Oh! Do I have to use it?

The caption reads: Someone can't be allowed to enter Prem's house because he forgot to bring a bowl.



(Source: Daily News)

Earlier: [Greeting Prem at the Party](#).

Thai-language Headlines of March 1, 2012

March 2, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 1, 2012

- Mr. Worajet who is a core leader of the Nitirat Group, was punched in the face by two men.
- An effeminate monk will not be disrobed.
- In the next 28 years, an asteroid will hit the world.
- Residents blocked the road with the intention to dismiss the governor of Rayong

Matichon, March 1, 2012

- Mr. Worajet was harmed at Thammasat University by two men who are a member of a mob which is against the amendment of Article 112.
- Revealed – The main reason for the amendment of the current constitution.
- There are 18 brands of car which will join the “First Car Campaign” and will expand the period of purchasing.
- There was a scandal of Samut Sakorn Hospital about a million drug tablets.

Daily News, March 1, 2012

- Mr. Worajet revealed that he was harmed because of his objective to amend Article 112.
- There was a warrant to arrest a pharmacist involved with the dishonest distribution of drugs.
- There was confiscation of 19 elephants at Saiyok Elephant Park.

Thairath, March 1, 2012

- Mr. Worajet, who is a core leader of the Nitirat Group, was harmed at Thammasat University.
- The Austrian model died in a motorcycle accident.
- Police found two more Iran suspects involved in the bombing.
- The Metropolitan Police Bureau in area 2 raided the source where amphetamine was produced.

This unzoned entertainment establishment is illegal

สถานที่ที่ไม่ได้ถูกกำหนดให้เป็นสถานที่บันเทิงถือว่า ผิดกฎหมาย

March 2, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: This unzoned entertainment establishment is illegal. Other unzoned entertainment establishments nationwide are not permitted to stay open until 4 or 5am, but not in Samut Songkhram no matter who asks. What is the legal standard ... ????

Thailand Should Store Crude for Producers Spooked by Iran Threat, PTT Says

ประเทศไทยควระกักเก็บน้ำมันดิบสำหรับผู้ผลิตที่ตกใจกลัวจากภัยคุกคามจากอิหร่าน, ปตท กล่าว

March 2, 2012

Categories: Energy

[Thailand Should Store Crude for Producers Spooked by Iran Threat, PTT Says](#) – bloomberg.com, March 1, 2012

Thailand should be used as a base to store crude-oil supplies from Middle East producers spooked by Iran's threat to shut the Strait of Hormuz, according to the head of the country's biggest energy company...

Ryan Gosling's Thailand gangster film goes to Radius-TWC **กองถ่ายหนังของไรอัน กอสลิง ที่ประเทศไทย ไปบริษัทเรเดียส – ที่** **ดับลิวชี**

March 2, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Ryan Gosling's Thailand gangster film goes to Radius-TWC](#) – ew.com, March 1, 2012

...Only God Forgives, the next collaboration between Ryan Gosling and his Drive director, Nicolas Winding Refn. In the film, which is currently in production in Bangkok, Gosling plays a former kickboxer and gangster whose brother is murdered by a ruthless Thai policeman...

Thai firm to unveil anti-protester condo หนังไทยเปิดเผยการต่อต้านผู้ประท้วงคอนโด

March 2, 2012

Categories: Buildings

[Thai firm to unveil anti-protester condo](#) – Property Guru, March 2, 2012

...Without going into details, Thanawan Chaiwatana (pictured), Managing Director of Magnolia Finest, said the special security feature integrated into the development's architectural design will help keep out protesters...

Bird's-Eye View into the Past

มุมมองกว้างในอดีต

March 3, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Bird's-Eye View into the Past](#)

Thai-language Headlines of March 2, 2012

March 3, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Thairath, March 2, 2012

- Arrested – Twins who punched Mr. Vorajed Pakeerat because they wanted to ventilate their rancor about the article 112 movement.
- Let engineers check Hopewell collapse and the railway to Hualampong.
- Democrats want to strictly fix that the constitution amendment will not touch 4 points.
- Southern terrorists set up fire bombs in 4 places including companies and department stores.

Matichon, March 2, 2012

- Wildfire officials assisted by resident handle wildfires in the north of Thailand.
- Hopewell collapse sparks probe.
- Twins confess to attack on Nitirat leader.
- Ms. Sodsri's idea is to dismiss five from the Office of the Election Commission of Thailand.

Daily News, March 2, 2012

- The national lottery jackpot won from the house number where a gecko was photographed putting the palms of his hands .
- Twins who punched Voravej still didn't accept their mistake.
- Arrested – a man who sneaked into the home of Thai country song singer, Baitoey, and took her cellphones while she was sleeping.
- At there is still chaos, bombs and burning in the south.

Komchadluek, March 2, 2012

- Twins confessed to the police because they didn't agree with Nitirat.
- A blind man misunderstood that his 84-year-old mother condemned him, so he threw her to her death.
- Hopewell collapsed because the thieves stole steel that was propping it up.
- The police attacked drug dealers, arrested 1 member, but the leader escaped.

Controversy Over New Chao Phraya Bridge

การโต้เถียงอย่างรุนแรงเกี่ยวกับสะพานข้ามแม่น้ำเจ้าพระยา

March 3, 2012

Categories: Bridges

[Troubled waters over a bridge](#) – Bangkok Post, March 3, 2012

...The plan calls for a 2.95-km bridge that starts at Lat Ya intersection-Din Daeng pier and ends near the Hua Lamphong intersection.

The four-lane bridge will cross the Chao Phraya River to link Lat Ya Road on the Thon Buri side with Maha Phruttharam Road on the Bangkok side.

The cost of the project is estimated at 5 billion baht: 2.3 billion baht for construction and 2.3 million baht for land expropriation and related works such as environmental impact studies and public relations.

Ms Suthasinee said the bridge is not investment-worthy as it will not help to ease traffic.

In fact it will bring more environmental problems to both sides of the river, she said. Lat Ya Road will experience heavy congestion as more motorists use the route...

Extradition of Iranian to Thailand to Be Decided by Court

การส่งตัวพวกอิหร่านมาประเทศไทยจะถูกตัดสินโดยศาล

March 3, 2012

Categories: Security

Malaysia: [Extradition of Iranian to Thailand to Be Decided by Court](#) – malaysiandigest.com, March 2, 2012

Seven Years Ago Today: Thailand's opposition party appoints Abhisit as new leader

วันนี้เมื่อ 7 ปีก่อน : พรรคฝ่ายค้านของประเทศไทยแต่งตั้งอภิสิทธิ์ใน
ฐานะผู้นำใหม่

March 4, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [Thailand's opposition party appoints Abhisit as new leader](#)

Five Years Ago Today: A Searing Indictment of the Coup วันนี้เมื่อ 5 ปีที่แล้ว : ข้อกล่าวหารัฐประหารที่กำลังรงโรยไป

March 5, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Five Years Ago Today: [A Searing Indictment of the Coup](#)

Thaksin: Thai charter change ‘not for my return’

ทักษิณ : รัฐธรรมนูญไทยเปลี่ยนไม่ใช่สำหรับการกลับมาของฉัน

March 5, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin: Thai charter change ‘not for my return’](#) – AFP, March 5, 2012

Ousted Thai premier Thaksin Shinawatra has denied that a move by his political allies to amend the kingdom’s constitution is aimed at clearing the way for his return...

Threats to political freedom intensify with assault on HRD and law professor

การข่มขู่เพื่ออิสรภาพทางการเมืองยิ่งทำให้การจู่โจมพวกนักกฎหมายเลวร้ายยิ่งขึ้น

March 5, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

[Threats to political freedom intensify with assault on HRD and law professor](#) – AHRC, March 5, 2012

...The AHRC would like to reiterate the ALRC's comment that, "While vigorous debate from all points of view enhances democracy and the exercise of human rights, making death threats is outside the purview of vigorous debate." In the context of the recent attack on Professor Worachet, the AHRC would further note that physical assault represents an ominous escalation of the dangers faced by the Khana Nitirat and others promoting critical discussion about the appropriate role and form of Article 112 in present-day Thailand...

Clippy who attacked passenger fired

คลิปคนที่โจมตีผู้โดยสาร

March 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

ตีกัน กระเป๋า กับ ผู้โดยสาร



[Clippy who attacked passenger fired](#) – Bangkok Post, March 5, 2012

Thai festival puts magic back into tattoos เทศกาลไทยนำเวทมนต์กลับมาใส่ในรอยสัก

March 5, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thai festival puts magic back into tattoos](#) – Reuters, March 5, 2012

Shrieks and wails hang in the air as thousands of tattoo devotees pack into a Thai temple for an annual festival they believe renews the protective magic in the elaborate designs on their skin...

Shouting to Warn of a Coup

ตะโกนเตือนรัฐประหาร

March 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 14, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Give a long count and take deep breaths

On the soldier's sign: Consequences of the September 19, 2006 coup

Left balloon: Create the conditions to incite a military coup

On the headband: PAD

On the suit: Former soldier

Right balloon: Shouting to warn of a coup

Cambodian Steam Locomotive Survivors

ผู้รอดชีวิตจากหัวรถจักรไอน้ำที่กัมพูชา

March 6, 2012

Categories: Cambodia, Thai Railroads



Mike, author of [Thailand's Surviving Steam Locomotives](#) writes: *I am about to extend my search into Cambodia, with a view to producing an illustrated guide like my Thailand one. Please find attached [a PDF composite list of all steam locomotives that I can find, which have been reported survivors, over the past 20 years or so.](#)*

I shall be very pleased to receive any corrections, additions & especially photos, that I can use to illustrate this list, as so many of these locos have probably disappeared forever!

My grateful thanks to Rob Dickinson & James Waite, in particular, for their invaluable help in getting to this stage.

I very much look forward to hearing from you if you are able to contribute further.

Seven Years Ago Today: Mahachon on verge of joining Thai Rak Thai

วันนี้เมื่อ 7 ปีก่อน : มหาชนใกล้ที่จะรวมตัวกับไทยรักไทย

March 6, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [Mahachon on verge of joining Thai Rak Thai](#)

Thai-language Headlines of March 5, 2012

March 6, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 5, 2012

- BMA investigated the Fico and confirmed that damage was minimal.
- Exposed – 3 groups that might be terrorists and will keep an eye on all blacklists and watch lists from suspected countries.
- The Democrat Party sued the court to freeze the rehabilitation budget for mobs.
- Hunting the murderer who burn an infant to death by the sea.

Thairath, March 5, 2012

- The Wattana District Office has banned people from entering the fire-ravaged Fico building.
- Poll results show people are afraid that the constitution amendment will made conflict in the country.
- Bangban resident are frightened and hurry to lift up their houses to protect from floods this year.
- PM supported all teenagers to fight against drugs in the D.A.R.E campaign.

Matichon, March 5, 2012

- Poo led negotiations with Japanese investors to invest more than 60 billion baht and show the water management plan to build more confidence.
- 3 car companies will increase the car price for Vios, Jazz and Mazda 2.
- The police are finding the way to seize certificates to carry guns.
- Bangkok residents are frightened that Fico Place burned. BMA will order to inspect high buildings and sprinkles.

Daily News, March 5, 2012

- Earthquake at 3 on the Richter scale, frightens Kanjanaburi provinces, however the provincial governor said it can be handled.
- Pheu Thai Party criticized the Democrat Party for holding back the amendment of the constitution.
- Miss Thailand World candidates were screaming because a white tiger scratched a girl.
- BMA ordered to close down Fico building as a consequence of the fire.

Sex ‘trade’, not ‘traffic’ การค้าทางเพศไม่ใช่การลักลอบค้า

March 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Sex ‘trade’, not ‘traffic’](#) – The Nation, March 6, 2012

...The modern sex worker has work tools apart from makeup and condoms, said Chantawipa, who founded Empower in 1985 to safeguard their rights. They have cell phones and the Internet. Rather than greedy pimps, their support network is centred on a trusted tuk-tuk driver or the local motorcycle-taxi guy who takes them around and protects them...

The Great Wall of Thailand

กำแพงที่ยิ่งใหญ่ของประเทศไทย

March 6, 2012

Categories: Floods

[The Great Wall of Thailand](#) – WSJ, March 5, 2012

...She is acting as if her seven-month government wouldn't survive a second deluge. Last year's flood — the result of extraordinarily high rainfall, combined with major deforestation and too few catchment areas — had staggering economic effects. Economic output contracted by almost as much as it did after the 1997 financial crisis...

Lockheed Martin WindTracer Selected for Thailand International Airport Wind Shear Alerting System

Lockheed Martin WindTracer Selected for Thailand International Airport Wind Shear Alerting System

March 6, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Lockheed Martin WindTracer Selected for Thailand International Airport Wind Shear Alerting System](#) – sacbee.com, March 5, 2012

The Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) will install a Lockheed Martin WindTracer® Doppler lidar system at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport as part of its Integrated Windshear Alerting System. Suvarnabhumi is the sixth busiest airport in Asia, having handled 47.9 million passengers in 2011...

Exclusive – Myanmar to float currency in 2012/13, unify FX rates พม่า-ผูกขาดผู้เดียว อัตราแลกเปลี่ยนลอยตัวในปี 2012/13 ได้รวม อัตราFX เข้าด้วยกัน

March 6, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Exclusive – Myanmar to float currency in 2012/13, unify FX rates](#) – Reuters, March 6, 2012

Myanmar will begin a managed float of its currency in the fiscal year from April and develop an interbank money market, according to central bank documents obtained by Reuters, ending a fixed-rate currency system that has stifled investment and fuelled a black market...

Incredible photos of abandoned Soviet-era building

รูปที่ไม่น่าเชื่อของการละทิ้งตึกในยุคโซเวียต

March 7, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Incredible photos of abandoned Soviet-era building](#) – humanplanet.com

Thai-language Headlines of March 6, 2012

March 7, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 6, 2012

- Arrested – a bad guy that detained Grade 7 girls and forced them to sell themselves.
- A soldier at the south of Thailand got stress and went crazy from drugs, he shot multiple times into a market. 1 died, 7 injured.
- The residents around Fico Building saw 2 men fleeing before the fire.
- Muay showed a pre-natal certificate to the police. But the police didn't question her yet.

Matichon, March 6, 2012

- Poo flies today, she brings the flood protection plan to show and calm Japanese CEOs.
- 3 big car companies didn't agree with tax structure adjustment and claimed that it will help other companies get benefits instead.
- Big O proposed to cancel the submarine project.
- Pol. Lt. Gen. Ma's Election canvasser was shot dead. The police suspect the reason was the Provincial Administrative Organization (PAO) election.

Thairath, March 6, 2012

- A gunman chased and shot the PAO candidate in Kanchanaburi.
- A bad gay deceived school girls to be prostitutes.
- Mark warned Thaksin that do not suggest amending the constitution.
- Poo repeated that dykes for industrial estates will be built.

Daily News, March 6, 2012

- Tharis was replaced by Suchart as Director of DSI.
- Mayor Lek was murdered. Witnesses saw murder team come in 2 cars.
- A fortune teller predicted that a bad situation will happen because Mars has a blood-red color.
- A gay was arrested for deceiving underage girls to sell sex.

Supremely confident Thaksin interview with Bloomberg: no coup, will return to Thailand by the end of the year

March 7, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Yingluck Pushes Change, Thaksin Reconciliation](#) – Bloomberg, March, 2012

Thaksin Shinawatra, deposed as Thai premier in a 2006 coup, said his sister's seven-month-old government will avoid the same fate due to her good ties with the army and expressed hope he'd return from exile this year.

"As long as there is no issue related to the monarchy, as long as there is no issue about internal security, the military will stay in the barracks," Thaksin, whose sister Yingluck Shinawatra became prime minister in August, said in an interview yesterday in Seoul. "My sister works hard for the people, she respects the monarchy very much and she can work with the military without conflict..."

Thai Pesach cancelled over terror fears

ไทยปัสกายกเลิกด้วยความหวาดระแวง

March 7, 2012

Categories: Security

[Thai Pesach cancelled over terror fears](#) – jewishnews.net.au, March 6, 2012

The 10-day Pesach retreat at the luxury JW Marriott Khao Lak Resort and Spa in Thailand has been cancelled over security concerns, according to organiser Lisa Mochkin.

The recently opened five-star resort, situated an hour's drive north of Phuket airport, was to have been the setting for an international retreat catering to families from Australia, America, Israel and Europe.

“The hotel was concerned that having a large Jewish group there at Pesach would make them a target for a terror attack,” said Mochkin...

Thai Interest Rates, Foreign Reserves Too High, Thaksin Says **อัตราดอกเบี้ยไทย เงินสำรองต่างประเทศสูงไป ทักษิณกล่าว**

March 7, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai Interest Rates, Foreign Reserves Too High, Thaksin Says](#) – bloomberg.com, March 7, 2012

Thai K-pop starlet in the making

นักร้องหน้าใหม่สไตล์ไทยเคปอปปอยู่ในระหว่างการสร้าง

March 7, 2012

Categories: Music

[Thai K-pop starlet in the making](#) – The New Paper, March 7, 2012

...The doe-eyed 15-year-old, who is better known by the nickname Sorn, beat 10 other contestants from Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Philippines last December to emerge the winner of inaugural reality TV talent search tvN K-Pop Star Hunt...

Thai-language Headlines of March 7, 2012

March 8, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 7, 2012

- University students cry out that they were molested by teachers because they wear short skirts. They will report to the dean.
- A boat sank, 3 students drowned in Patumthani.
- Residents and the Anti-Global Warming Association will sue at the administration court to stop big flood barriers to protect 11 industrial estates.
- The Democrat Party will sue Pheu Thai Party at the administration court about the approval of the 2 billion baht budget for compensation to all victims of political violence.

Thairath, March 7, 2012

- A boat sank because it was overloaded. 3 girls died.
- A electric gate squeezed the neck of an old woman and killed her.
- The cabinet approved a 2 billion baht budget for compensation to all victims of political violence.
- The owners of old buildings are forced to install sprinklers.
- Hunting a gay couple for the murder of Mr. Solay's brother

Matichon, March 7, 2012

- Yingluck must report the result of the review to the office of ombudsman within 30 days in appointing Nalinee-Nattawuut to the cabinet.
- Poo had sympathy towards the family of Muramoto
- There will be a massive investment to lift up the roads from flooding.
- There was explosion at Krong Penang district, Yala Province which cause 1 death and 1 injury.

Daily News, March 7, 2012

- A boat capsized which caused 5 students to drown in the Chao Phaya River.
- The position of Tharit is secure, Chalerm confirmed.
- A good citizen was burnt while helping victims in a fire.
- An electrical house gate squeezed the neck of an old woman and she died.

Yingluck and Rural People Who Burn

March 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 8, 2012

Left: You can't burn the grass in the field or you'll be put in jail.

Right: You must burn only the country, then you can be a minister. Remember that.

Seven Years Ago Today: First notice of Prachathai.com

วันนี้เมื่อ 7 ปีก่อน : การตกเดือนครั้งแรกแก่เว็บประชาไทย

March 8, 2012

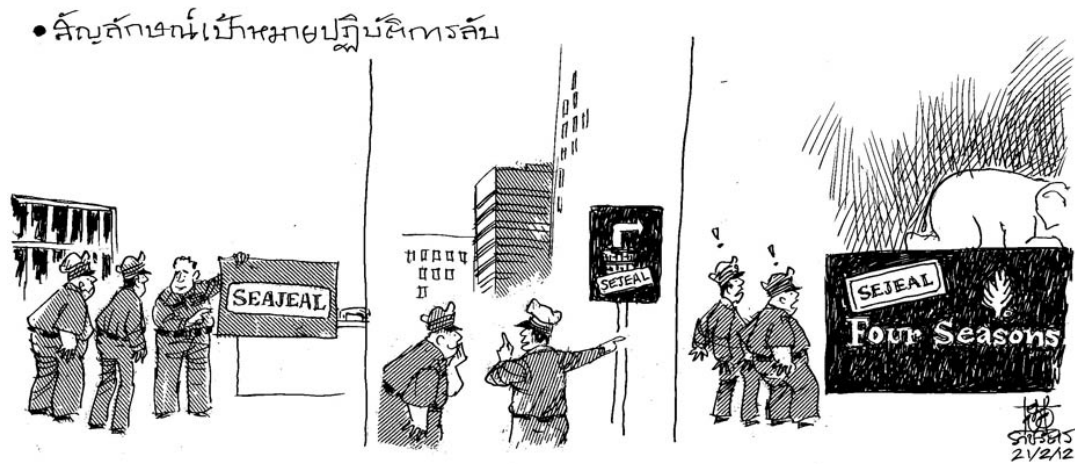
Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [First notice of Prachathai.com](#)

Where do the stickers lead? สติ๊กเกอร์นำไปสู่ที่ไหน

March 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 22, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Symbols for the targets of the secret operation

Weekly News Magazines, March 2, 2012

March 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, March 2, 2012

The cover reads: Gather more other people to hate “Meaw”



From Nation Weekend, March 2, 2012

The cover reads: Lightning Rod declaration.

Japanese hacker arrested in Thailand

แฮคเกอร์คนญี่ปุ่นถูกจับในเมืองไทย

March 8, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Japanese hacker arrested in Thailand](#) – mainichi.jp, March 8, 2012

...Yugen Orimo is suspected of hacking private data of some 350 Japanese people via a popular file-sharing program and publishing the data on a pornography website he operates...

[Japanese Hackers Caught in Chiangmai Posting Nude Celeb Pix On-Line](#) – pattayadailynews.com, March 8, 2012

Abolishing independent agencies smacks of a hidden agenda

March 8, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Abolishing independent agencies smacks of a hidden agenda](#) – The Nation, March 8, 2012

...The call for the abolition of the Constitutional and Administration courts has therefore raised doubts over what the real intent of the whole exercise of rewriting the charter is. In fact, some of the proposals raised by the ruling party and its associates have deepened the suspicion that the move is aimed simply at helping fugitive former premier Thaksin Shinawatra to return to Thailand as a free man. That, unfortunately, will inevitably pit the opponents against the advocates, leading to another round of political confrontation that could mean more street violence.

...In fact, several landmark verdicts by the Administrative Court have underscored the importance of an independent judicial body that can rule on such vital social issues as environmental hazards and deep-rooted social injustices.

Without the judicial support of an administrative court, the little people would have remained under the mercy of a severe bureaucracy and political establishment that could ignore with impunity the plight of the disadvantaged and underprivileged.

The Constitutional Court has likewise proved to be independent and effective, despite the fact that the judges have come under enormous pressure from politicians with vested interests – and who have tried every possible means to wriggle out of their roles plagued by conflicts of interest...

Angkor Wat temple replica to rise on banks of the Ganges

วัดเลียนแบบนครวัดตั้งอยู่ที่ริมแม่น้ำคงคา

March 8, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Angkor Wat temple replica to rise on banks of the Ganges](#) – Guardian, March 7, 2012

... "The Angkor Wat temple in Bihar will be as majestic as the original, and slightly larger – it will be 222ft by 222ft, and its five shikharas will also be 222ft high," said Kishore Kunal, who runs the Mahavir Mandir temple trust in Patna. "And when it's ready in 10 years time, it will be a functioning temple, employing at least a dozen priests..."

[Indian copy of Angkor Wat irritates Cambodia](#) – chinapost.com.tw, March 8, 2012

... Government spokesman Phay Siphon said imitating Cambodia's best-known structure and key tourist draw was a deliberate attempt to undermine its universal value...

Collapsed platform brings abandoned Hopewell back in public eye **ขานขาลาที่ถล่มลงมานำการละทิ้งโฮปเวลกลับสู่สายตาสาธารณชน**

March 8, 2012

Categories: Mass Transit

[Collapsed platform brings abandoned Hopewell back in public eye](#) – The Nation, March 8, 2012

...First, Hopewell (Thailand)'s demand for compensation of Bt12 billion for unfair trade practice after the SRT cancelled the contract, leaving the project partconstructed. The amount claimed is not only to compensate for the partial construction, but also because the government now plans to use the construction to proceed with the Red Line commuter train project.

Second, the SRT in turn is seeking Bt200 billion in compensation from Hopewell in return for business opportunity losses from land development along the 26-kilometre Bang Sue-Rangsit route, as well as benefit-sharing from the project.

Third, there are the SRT's costs in having to pay a surcharge to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) after missing loan repayment as scheduled under the contract. So far, the agency has had to pay a surcharge of Bt33 million.

Finally, the pending ruling will delay Red Line route construction, as Hopewell and the SRT have not been able to reach a compromise...

Three Thais, Malaysian to hang for firearms possession คนไทยสามคนและคนมาเลเซียจะโดนประหารชีวิตข้อหาครอบครองปืนเล็ก

March 8, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Three Thais, Malaysian to hang for firearms possession](#) – themalaysianinsider.com, March 8, 2012

...The High Court here today gave the death penalty to four persons after they were found guilty of possessing six firearms and 336 bullets...

Cambodia's Amazon under threat

อเมซอนของกัมพูชาอยู่ภายใต้การคุกคาม

March 9, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Amazon under threat](#) – asiasentinel.com, March 7, 2012

...Last year, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen approved a 9,000-hectare rubber plantation in the forest despite its status as a protected area. The government says the deal will boost local welfare, but a recent investigation has revealed the extent of illegal logging in the forest to make way for the rubber plantation. “When we see the tools used for cutting logs we must destroy them in this area after we take pictures as evidence,” Vuthy said as the team set about documenting the evidence of the illegal logging during their second investigation...

Thai-language Headlines of March 8, 2012

March 9, 2012

Categories: Thai-language Newspaper Headlines



Komchadluek, March 8, 2012

- University girl students will gather all evidences within 7 days for the management to decide the case. The chancellor vows that if that teacher was wrong, he will fire him.
- A woman fought with a thief who grabbed and ran, he was arrested.
- Arrested – a big drug dealer network in Kaobin prison, luxury boat and a 40 million baht house with 7 million pills seized.
- Severe drought is coming to the west, Kanachaburi in crisis, has drought in 5 districts already.

Thairath, March 8, 2012

- The police seized a yacht from big drug dealer “Bang Paew” and investigates in 4 provinces.
- Pheu Thai criticized that the ombudsman didn’t do his job honestly in the case of Naline-Natawut.
- Arrested – 2 workers who raped and robbed a nursing assistant.
- A brave woman fought against a thief and the resident helped to send him to the police.

Matichon, March 8, 2012

- A lecturer was alleged with sexual harassment, if it's a truth, the dean will surely dismiss him.
- Thaksin said he would return from exile this year, he also said that Yingluck will be safe from a military coup.
- Poo had press conference with PM Noda and reassured the Japanese on flood control measures.
- Investigated – some big hospitals up-country and claim that pharmacists were link to making large orders of Sudo.

Daily News, March 8, 2012

- A money lender was brutally killed in the middle of town with 22 wounds.
- Thaksin wants to go home and said that he was not guilty and believed that Thais will be in harmony.
- Yingluck showed the sweet and sour vision to the Japanese. The Japan external trade organisation is ready to give full support to her.
- A woman victim was brave to fight against a thief.

Asia's Perilous Inequality

ความไม่เสมอภาคที่เต็มไปด้วยอันตรายของเอเชีย

March 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Asia's Perilous Inequality](#) – NYT, March 7, 2012

...Available data, however, show that since the early 1990s, income inequality has risen across the region (with Thailand being the lone exception)...

Three Years Ago Today: Kiss Thailand's tolerance for gays goodbye วันนี้เมื่อ 3 ปีก่อน : จุบทนของประเทศไทยสำหรับเกย์

March 9, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Three Years Ago Today: [Kiss Thailand's tolerance for gays goodbye](#)

Some Japanese Still in the Dark over Thailand's Flood Plan

ชาวญี่ปุ่นบางคนยังมีดมนกับแผนแก้ปัญหาน้ำท่วมประเทศไทย

March 9, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Some Japanese Still in the Dark over Thailand's Flood Plan](#) – WSJ, March 8, 2012

...Not surprisingly, many Japanese executives were keen to hear about Thailand's \$11 billion plan to shore up its flood defenses, which was drafted in part by Ms. Yingluck's brother, former leader Thaksin Shinawatra, who now lives overseas after Thailand's armed forces ousted him from power in 2006.

...For seven minutes, Ms. Yingluck, 44 years old, spoke to the hundred-strong audience without any accompanying translation, leaving many of the attending business leaders wondering quite what she was talking about and awkwardly scanning their hand-outs for clues.

Ms. Yingluck then left the room in silence, smiling and bowing as she went.

...A video of her greeting visiting U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Thailand last year by saying "overcome" instead of "welcome" got heavy play on YouTube, while Ms. Yingluck's political opponents sometimes unfavorably compare her prowess with the language with that of her predecessor, Eton-and-Oxford educated Abhisit Vejjajiva.

Thai Airways A380 Maiden Flight

การบินไทย ปล่อยตัว A380

March 9, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[The big picture: Thai's A380 takes maiden flight](#) – businessstraveller.com, March 6, 2012

...Thai Airways will become the ninth operator of the A380 when it takes delivery of its first superjumbo in the third quarter of this year...

Kony 2012: what's the real story?

โคนี่ 2012 : เรื่องจริงคืออะไร

March 9, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting



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



[Kony 2012: what's the real story?](#) – Guardian, March 8, 2012

[Viral Video Puts Spotlight on Uganda Rebel](#) – WSJ, March 8, 2012

Yingluck's Thai-language speech perplexes Japanese investors คำกล่าวที่เข้าใจยากของยิ่งลักษณ์ที่พูดต่อหน้านักลงทุนญี่ปุ่น

March 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Some Japanese Still in the Dark over Thailand's Flood Plan](#) – WSJ, March 8, 2012

...For seven minutes, Ms. Yingluck, 44 years old, spoke to the hundred-strong audience without any accompanying translation, leaving many of the attending business leaders wondering quite what she was talking about and awkwardly scanning their hand-outs for clues.

Ms. Yingluck then left the room in silence, smiling and bowing as she went.

A representative from a travel company remarked that attendees were appreciative of Ms. Yingluck's attempts to boost their confidence and explain Thailand's new flood-prevention measures. But he also said it was "a bit weird" that her team didn't provide a simultaneous translation...

Monarchies urged, heed global change

แรงกระตุ้นที่เกี่ยวกับกษัตริย์, ระว่างโลกจะเปลี่ยน

March 9, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Monarchies urged, heed global change](#) – Bangkok Post, March 9, 2012

...Political scientist Siripan said it was not true that Thais in rural areas were ignorant and could be easily bought when exercising their voting rights, as widely claimed. Rural people applied their own reasoning when deciding which way to vote, he said.

Chulalongkorn University security analyst Thitinan Pongsudhirak said the Thai polity dictated by the monarchy was entering the phase of “a long goodbye and extended end”.

Atlantic Writer Shocked To Discover Backpacker Drug Use In Southeast Asia

นักเขียนแอตแลนติกช็อคที่เจอผู้ใส่กระเป๋าสะพายหลังใช้ชาในเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้

March 9, 2012

Categories: Drugs

[Atlantic Writer Shocked To Discover Backpacker Drug Use In Southeast Asia](#) – gawker.com, March 9, 2012

...Next you're going to tell me all those semester abroad Americans visiting Amsterdam aren't just there for the Van Gogh Museum. These are some stunning revelations that could only be garnered from a Lonely Planet Guide from 1994 or a half million travel blogs written in the past decade. Backpackers have been getting high in Southeast Asia since your now Republican parents took a summer off from SDS organizing to find themselves...

Dawei Port in Doubt with Bangkok Hub Plan

ท่าดาวายจงบกกับแผนศูนย์รวมของกรุงเทพ

March 9, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Dawei Port in Doubt with Bangkok Hub Plan](#) – The Irrawaddy, March 9, 2012

Shaky plans for a US \$50 billion oil port and industrial complex on Burma's southeast coast at Dawei (Tavoy) are looking even more uncertain after Thailand disclosed that it is re-appraising its strategic trade transport infrastructure to look at domestic ports...

Thai Politico in Hot Water Over Porn Star Party Plans

นักการเมืองไทยในน้ำร้อนบนแผนปาร์ตี้ของดารานั่งโป๊

March 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai Politico in Hot Water Over Porn Star Party Plans](#) – WSJ, March 9, 2012

...“Is it possible that Mr. Newin’s announcement, timed exquisitely to match with the prime minister’s visit to Tokyo, was intended in part to embarrass her and Japanese officials with whom she was going to meet?” the consultancy wrote...

No sprinklers on burned hotel floor

ไม่มีเครื่องฉีดน้ำบนชั้นโรงแรม ที่ไหม้

March 9, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[No sprinklers on burned hotel floor](#) – Bangkok Post, March 9, 2012

The banquet room on the fifth floor of the Grand Park Avenue Hotel, where Thursday night's fatal fire started, had no sprinklers and was probably built in an area planned as a carpark, Deputy Bangkok Governor Thirachon Manomaipibul said on Friday...

Media group inconclusive over Kanok's surprise visit by reds กลุ่มสื่อไม่มีผลสรุปแน่ชัดเกี่ยวกับที่เสื้อแดงมาเยี่ยมกนกแล้วทำให้ แปลกใจ

March 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Media group inconclusive over Kanok's surprise visit by reds](#) – The Nation, March 9, 2012

The Thai Broadcast Journalists Association yesterday said it would need further information before concluding whether a television host was threatened by the red shirts when they “called on” him at his workplace last Friday night...

“How Anyone Can Get Anything Past TSA Scanners” ทุกคนได้ทุกอย่างผ่านเครื่องสแกน ทีเอสเอ ได้อย่างไร

March 9, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[\\$1B of TSA Nude Body Scanners Made Worthless By Blog — How Anyone Can Get Anything Past The Scanners](#) – tsaoutofourpants.wordpress.com , March 6, 2012

This video is here to demonstrate that the TSA’s insistence that the nude body scanner program is effective and necessary is nothing but a fraud, just like their claims that the program is safe (radiation what?) and non-invasive (nude pictures who?). The scanners are now effectively worthless, as anyone can beat them with virtually no effort...

[TSA body-scanner guy says TSA is “strongly cautioning” reporters not to write about him](#) – BoingBoing, March 8, 2012

[TSA ‘Warning’ Media About Reporting On Body Scanner Failures?](#) – slashdot, March, 2012

Thai-language Headlines of March 9, 2012

March 10, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March , 2012

- General Yuthasak vows that the plan to handle Southern terrorists has failed. They were careless which caused 5 soldiers to die .
- University students submitted documents to expose a teacher who gave grades depending on how beautiful students are. Now the chancellor appointed a committee to investigate.
- Twins who punched Mr. Vorajed will be in jailed for 3 months.
- The Supreme Court judged bus 207's driver, supervisor, owner, and the Department of Land Transport to pay 10 million baht to family of an ABAC student who fell from the bus and died.

Thairath, March 8, 2012

- A flash flood grew rapidly and washed away a car which caused a whole family, 4 people, to die .
- The twins who punched Mr. Vorajed were judged to be in jailed for 6 months, but they confessed and got pardon to be jailed for 3 months.
- There were many people who quickly registered to request rehabilitation money for protest victims.
- There was a trap in south of Thailand. 4 soldiers died, 1 injured.

Matichon, March 8, 2012

- The elder twin was judged to be in jailed for 10 months, and 3 months for the younger. This is because the elder one was carrying a gun.
- The first day for registration for rehabilitation money at Ratchvithi house was crowded. The government will appoint more places for people .
- Japanese investors are satisfied about the water management plan. They will invest more in Thailand.
- The chancellor is investigating a teacher who gave scores depend on students' beauty. Some students didn't dare to report about this sexual harassment.

Daily New, March 8, 2012

- Mercure hotel had a fire. Many guests escaped from the building chaotically. 1 foreigner guest died.
- A flash flood grabbed a car which caused 4 people to die.
- ABAC student life is costs 9.85 million baht because the defendants were careless.
- Poo is in the chart of world influential women.

Nattawut Speaks

ณัฐวุฒิพูด

March 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 13, 2012

Left panel: Left man: Tu, where exactly did you get the coup news from? Tu : Dubai

Middle panel: Left man: Aow... Why did you say it was the “United” before? Tu: What’s wrong with that?

Right panel: Tu: I meant the United Arab Emirates, of which Dubai is one of its “states.”

Govt raps WSJ criticism of PM's Thai-language speech

รัฐบาลตำหนิ WSJ ที่วิจารณ์คำกล่าวภาษาไทยของยิ่งลักษณ์

March 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Govt raps WSJ criticism of PM's Thai-language speech](#) – The Nation, March 10, 2012

...Thanī also questioned the reporter's motive in writing the article. "I sincerely hope this is not the direction to be taken by a respected newspaper such as yours," he concluded.

Suranand offered a similar explanation to reporters at Government House yesterday. He said written translations of Yingluck's speech in Japanese and English were made available to participants at a function at the Japan Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday.

"It was agreed with the event organisers. The Japanese side spoke in Japanese and the prime minister in Thai. If the agreement called for her to speak in English, she would have done so. There are no reasons to think that the prime minister cannot speak English. The complete translations were available in print," Suranand said...

Earlier: [Yingluck's Thai-language speech perplexes Japanese investors](#)

Who Divides Thailand?

ใครแบ่งประเทศไทย

March 10, 2012

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics

[Who Divides Thailand?](#) – foreignpolicyjournal.com, March 10, 2012

Almost two years after ordering a massacre of his own citizens, former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva remains the leader of the Democrat Party. General Prayuth Chan-ocha, whose troops carried out the killings, is still the Commander in Chief of the Thai army, while many of the officers who assisted in the crackdown's planning and execution were rewarded with promotions. Even the retired General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, who staged a military coup in 2006 against a government elected three times, is now a member of parliament; improbably, he was given the chairmanship of a parliamentary committee on "national reconciliation"...

Breathing space for Thailand?

พื้นที่หายใจของประเทศไทย

March 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Breathing space for Thailand?](#) – AsiaTimes, March 10, 2012

American owner of Pattaya Newspaper caught-up in 7 Million Baht extortion case

เจ้าของหนังสือพิมพ์พัทยาที่เป็นคนอเมริกันถูกจับข้อหาเรียกเงิน 7 ล้านบาท

March 10, 2012

Categories: Pattaya

[American owner of Pattaya Newspaper caught-up in 7 Million Baht extortion case](#) – pattayaone.net, March 10, 2012

Pattaya Police have arrested the American Owner of an English Language Newspaper who is accused of attempting to extort 7 Million Baht from the Australian owner of a Beauty Clinic, to avoid publication of a potentially damaging story for his business...

[BLACKMAIL – PATTAYA PUBLISHER ARRESTED](#) – andrew-drummond.com, March 10, 2012

Pattaya Time Editor exposed by the Flying Sporrans' arrested for extortion...

Indian cops in Thailand to extradite Dawood's aide **ตำรวจอินเดียในประเทศไทยจะส่งผู้ช่วยดาวิดในฐานะผู้ร้ายข้ามแดน**

March 10, 2012
Categories: India

[Indian cops in Thailand to extradite Dawood's aide](#) – india.com, March 10, 2012

...Mumbai police have been camping in Thailand since the last two days, to seek extradition of Dawood's aide Muzakkir Mudassar Hussain Sayyed alias Munna Zingada, who has been behind bars in Bangkok in a firing case in 2001, in which, rival gang leader Chhota Rajan was injured and latter's right hand man Rohit Verma was killed...

Neung Phak – Thai acid-rock hauntings, Javanese dance floor dangdut, and Cambodian instrumental dramas

หนึ่งฝึก : วงไทยร็อคสมัยก่อน ต้นแบบเกาะชวาคนตรีสไตล์ละคร
กัมพูชา

March 10, 2012

Categories: Music



[Neung Phak – Thai acid-rock hauntings, Javanese dance floor dangdut, and Cambodian instrumental dramas](#)

[Official website](#)

Thai-Muslim widows, spurned lovers flee to Malaysia หม้ายไทยมุสลิมปฏิเสธการหลบหนีไปมาเลเซีย

March 10, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thai-Muslim widows, spurned lovers flee to Malaysia](#) – New Straits Times, March 10, 2012

...Sungai Golok assemblyman Che Arong Che Aly said an estimated 5,000 Thai-Muslim widows and former girlfriends of Thai troops had fled from their villages in Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani, all Muslim-majority provinces in southern Thailand.

He said most families refused to accept their daughters back as it was taboo for Muslims to marry Thai soldiers who were Buddhists...

Seven Years Ago Today: Surprises in the cabinet?

วันนี้เมื่อ 7 ปีก่อน : ทำให้คณะรัฐมนตรีประหลาดใจ

March 11, 2012

Categories: Today in History

A tale of two newspapers: [Surprises in the cabinet?](#)

American arrested over Bt7m extortion claim

คนอเมริกันถูกจับข้อหาเรียไถเงิน 7 ล้านบาท

March 11, 2012

Categories: Crime

[American arrested over Bt7m extortion claim](#) – The Nation, March 11, 2012

[Cover-Up – Thailand and the Disappearing News Stories](#) – andrew-drummond.com, March 11, 2012

Their Quality is Lower Than a Navel

คุณภาพต่ำกว่าสะดือ

March 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 16, 2012

The cartoon reads: Their quality is lower than a navel.

(Left to right) Sirichok Sopa: He uses double entendres.

Thepthai Senpong: He uses obscene stories to slander.

Chavanond Intarakomalyasut: He disrespects women.

On the Ipad: Democrat TV

Left mouse: Don't use dirty tricks.

Right mouse: Below-the-navel MPs.

8th Anniversary of the Disappearance of Somchai Neelapaichit

ครบรอบ 8 ปีที่สมชาย นีละไพจิตร หายไป

March 12, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

8th Anniversary of the Disappearance of Somchai Neelapaichit

From [Facthai](#): ...a series of three extracts from the newly-released English translation of a book by his wife, Angkhana, first published in Thai to mark the same date in 2008. The book, Reading between the lines recalls her husband's efforts for justice during his own life, and her family's struggle to uncover the truth and hold the perpetrators to account after his disappearance.

From [wikinews.org](#): Thai civil rights lawyer Somchai Neelapaichit presumed dead

From [blog.nationmultimedia.com](#): ...He was last seen being forced into a car in the Ramkamhaeng area of Bangkok on March 12, 2004. Just days before, the human rights lawyer and Chairman of the Muslim Lawyers Association had filed a complaint accusing the police of torture in the conflict-torn Southern provinces...

[New Mandala](#): ...“The crime of enforced disappearance is unlike any other,” said Sheila Varadon, international legal adviser with International Committee of Jurists (ICJ) in the Asia-Pacific. “Deprivation of liberty is done with the direct or indirect involvement of the state... The state may have authorised it, or they may have acquiesced to it. Perhaps the most definitive element of enforced disappearance is the concealment of the fate and the whereabouts of the victim. There is a deliberate act on the state or by persons to remove that person outside of the legal process... (Thus) ‘disappearing’ the person, physically and legally.” ...On 12 January 2006, then Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra made a public statement acknowledging the death of Somchai Neelapaichit. Angkhana Neelapaijit has reason to believe his body was burned and disposed of in the Mae Klong River. His body has never been recovered.

Taxi Meter Rates Set to Increase in Mid-April

อัตราแท็กซี่มิเตอร์จะขึ้นกลางเดือนเมษายน

March 12, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Taxi Meter Rates Set to Increase in Mid-April](#) – TAN, March 12, 2012

Transsexual Thai air hostesses: Gimmick or equality?

แอร์โฮสเตสไทยแปลงเพศเป็นกิมมิกหรือความเสมอภาค

March 12, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Transsexual Thai air hostesses: Gimmick or equality?](#) – AFP, March 12, 2012

...Fledgling Thailand-based carrier PC Air has hired four transgender cabin crew in a highly publicised recruitment drive that has divided opinion over whether the move is in the spirit of equality or exploitation...

Immigration Police Get Tough on Alien Beggars and Pickpockets at Weekend Market

March 12, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Immigration Police Get Tough on Alien Beggars and Pickpockets at Weekend Market](#) – thailandoutlook.tv.

March 12, 2012

The Immigration Police have launched a crackdown on immigrant beggars and pickpockets who prey on distracted shoppers at a famous weekend open-air market. Thirteen suspects have been arrested, blacklisted and to be expatriated back to their home countries...

Slum Children Facing Dire Plight/Bangkok now second costliest city

March 12, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Children in Bangkok Slums Facing Dire Plight](#) – thejakartaglobe.com, March 12, 2012

Plaa is a three-year-old from Klong Toey, the poorest area of Bangkok. Her mother, who has a list of drug-related offences, uses the child as a drug mule to avoid detection by the police.

Then there is Noi, who comes from a family of addicts. The four-year-old plays with plastic bags lying around. She imitates her mother by holding a bag to her nose and inhaling. It is a habit for her glue-sniffing mother...

[Bangkok now second costliest city in the region](#) – Bangkok Post, March 12, 2012

...In Southeast Asia, Singapore topped the chart, followed by Bangkok, Jakarta (70th position on the complete list), Kuala Lumpur (74th), Bandar Seri Begawan (93rd), Hanoi (110th), Ho Chi Minh (113th), Phnom Penh (114th) and Manila (120th)...

Thai Comics History and Industry

March 12, 2012

Categories: Art

[Thai Comics History and Industry](#) – comicbookbin.com, March 11, 2012

...Thailand also has what I would call a more macho visual culture. It's not always about cute and sweet and the symbolization of cartoon and comics icons into almost pure hieroglyphics close to their written language, like China and Japan. Instead the literal illustration is taken re-purposed through culture, but its visual depiction is raw and not as distilled...

Analysis: What ails Cambodia's mental health system?

March 12, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Analysis: What ails Cambodia's mental health system?](#) – IRIN, March 12, 2012

...But it is not only the genocide – which killed at least two million people, or one-third of the population then – that haunts survivors, but also the violence that preceded it, said Chhim Sotheara, a psychiatrist and head of one of the main local NGOs working in mental health, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO).

“We have all been touched by trauma. Our psychological courage has been broken,” he said, in a rough translation of the local Khmer concept known as “baksabat”...

Who is behind the Blue Sky Channel?

March 12, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Political skirmishes take to the airwaves](#) – Bangkok Post, March 12, 2012

...It was the Sai Lor Fah talkshow that landed the Democrats in trouble recently when the commentators discussed Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra's Feb 8 visit to the Four Seasons Hotel.

Many members of the public and media commentators believed the content was inappropriate and unconstructive. Ms Yingluck has filed a defamation complaint against the Democrat trio...

Thai-language Headlines of March 12, 2012

March 13, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 12, 2012

- Expose the network of drugs-weapons all over Thailand and also link to the southern of Thailand chaos.
- 20 members of the Mong group were hunting 4 Royal Forest Department staff who burned down forests.
- The director of Angthong Hospital committed suicide, the police suspect he was stressed from work.

Thairath, March 12, 2012

- Train crashed with a 10-wheeled truck, a driver died, 40 injured.
- Heavy rains caused many cars to crash on Rama 2. Many people died and injured.
- Mr. Ruengkrai submitted the document to investigate 10 senators that were neglectful .
- Aim to seize properties and money from drug dealers in Narathiwat.

Matichon, March 12, 2012

- Mr. Ruengkrai aims to discharge 10 senators, he's preparing evidences about their neglect to submit to Office of the election commission of Thailand.
- Commander-in-chief in Narathiwat aims to seize and arrest more shop owners in the southern frontier of Thailand-Malaysia. They are all support the southern terrorists.
- The Ministry of Transportation proposed to decrease taxi charge and resisted an increase .
- Poo discussed with the national water and flood policy committee today about 246 projects in the 24.8 billion baht budget.

Daily News, March 12, 2012

- An illegal clinic, which provided face revitalization and injections to stimulate white skin, was raided.
- Mr. Bou-Kal claimed that he was paid unfairly so he will establish a boxing camp which will be a competitor with Por Par-Mok.
- The breaking system of coach failed which caused 7 deaths and 73 injuries.
- There was a claim that more than ten thousands of people will consent to issuing amnesty for Mr. Thaksin.

Five Years Ago Today: Thailand's draconian lese-majeste law

March 13, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Analysis: [Thailand's draconian lese-majeste law](#)

Is this husband too cruel?

March 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 21, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Is this husband too cruel?

Somchai Homlaor: It's like a husband and wife fight. On his suit: Somchai — TRCT

On the soldier's helmet: CRES

On the sign: Ratchaprasong

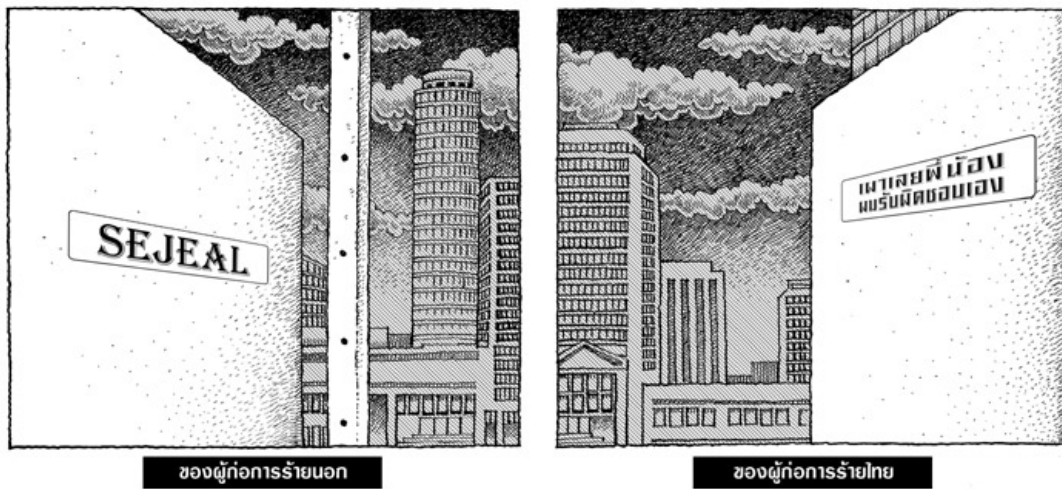
Papers under the sign: Justice — Demanding democracy

Papers under the dead man: Was only demanding that Mark dissolve parliament

Foreign and Thai Terrorists

March 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, February 22, 2012

Left: From foreign terrorists.

Right: From Thai terrorists. Sticker: Burn them down, brothers. I am responsible for whatever happens.

Gen. Sonthi's Constitution

March 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 13, 2012

Left: Oh my daughter who is soft and warm like cotton balls, I won't allow anyone to make your skin look dull.

Left caption: When his daughter was just born

Right: I invite you to rape my daughter in the name of reconciliation!

On the shirt: The 2007 constitution

Right caption: Five years later

India Orders Bayer to License a Patented Drug

March 13, 2012

Categories: Drugs

[India Orders Bayer to License a Patented Drug](#) – NYT, March 12, 2012

...Though multilateral agreements on patents allow compulsory licenses for drugs for public health reasons, only a handful of countries, including Brazil and Thailand, have issued such licenses, said Jamie Love, director of Knowledge Ecology International, a Washington group involved with patents and human rights. Most were for AIDS drugs, an area where drug companies have been pressed not to enforce patents. ...India is only the second country, after Thailand, to grant a compulsory license to a cancer drug, Mr. Love said...

Rice pests multiply post-floods

March 14, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rice pests multiply post-floods](#) – IRIN, March 12, 2012

...”BPH is attacking the rice bowl of the country for the eighth time in a row,” said Kukiatt Soitong, from the Thai government’s Rice Department, based in the Agriculture Ministry, adding that “150,000 hectares have already been seriously damaged in the central plains, in the basin of Chao Phraya river ”...

Thai-language Headlines of March 13, 2012

March 14, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 13, 2012

- Yuthasak and Prayuth will adjust the plan to fight the drugs and weapons trader gangsters. They will be implemented on 14 March.
- Buakao revealed that he couldn't get along with his manager. He felt slighted by his manager's words and he couldn't stand it anymore.
- To end chaos about charter amendment in Thailand, Poo vows that Thaksin will not be returning.
- A music teacher was hot-tempered and broke through a check point, then he crashed into a municipality staff member and killed them.

Thairath, March 13, 2012

- Joint Chief of Staff is confused about harmonizing , and Poo confirmed that Thaksin won't return yet.
- A music teacher broke through a check point and crashed into a municipal police officer, killing him.
- A district director reported to the police that the hotel management team let the hotel burn.
- Prajeenburi residents closed the road to resist building a power plant.

Matichon, March 13, 2012

- PM Poo commented in contrast to Mr. Chaream that Mr. Maew will not come back to Thailand within this year. Mr. Oak criticized a person who smashed Voice TV's car.
- Mr. Bou-Kal revealed the reason for disappearing for 10 days was that he was feeling neglected and wanted to have freedom.
- A German photographer gave a statement to the court in the case related to the Red Shirts .
- PM Yingluck convinced American investors to invest in Thailand and the cabinet approved 2.4 billion baht for the water management plan.

Daily News, March 13, 2012

- Foreigners possess more than 100 million rai of land in Thailand—which is around one third by having a nominee to avoid laws and regulations of Thailand.
- Mr. Bou-Kal declared that he will split with his boxing camp because he has been under pressure for a long time.
- PM Poo confirmed that Mr. Maew will not come back to Thailand.
- Afraid that the cost of living will increase as a consequence of the high cost of transportation.

Five Years Ago Today: Suan Lum and Siam Tribute

March 14, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Five Years Ago Today: [Suan Lum and Siam Tribute](#)

Hotel rates rise globally, but Thai island prices tumble

March 14, 2012

Categories: Tourism

[Hotel rates rise globally, but Thai island prices tumble](#) – SMH, March 13, 2012

...The key Thai holiday destinations of Koh Samui and Phuket fell 15 per cent and 8 per cent...

Two Years Ago Today: 20 million Red Shirt protesters? Doing a ‘Weng’

March 14, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Source: *Khao Sod*, March 14, 2010)

Two Years Ago Today: [20 million Red Shirt protesters? – Doing a ‘Weng’](#)

Coffee Made Chalerm Drunk

March 14, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons



From Konchadluek, March 1, 2012

Left: Ar Ko! A cup of coffee, please.

Middle: Ar Ko says: I can't sell coffee to children like you anymore. The child says: Aw, why not?

Right: I watched the parliamentary debate yesterday, and they said drinking coffee makes people drunk.



From Manager, March 1, 2012

Label: Warning: Drinking alcohol can cause insanity and impolite behavior.

Caption: He said he could read and understand the law, but he can't read this label.



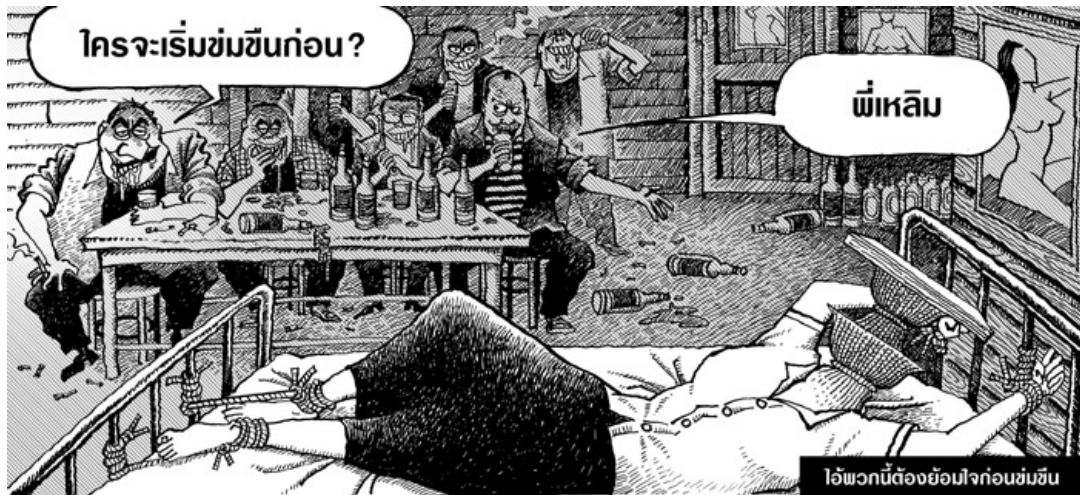
From Thairath, February 28, 2012

Left: How can you let that car go? The driver was clearly drunk.

Middle: Fat policeman: He insisted that he hadn't been drinking.

Thin policeman: If he didn't drink, then why was the car swerving so badly?

Right: He said he'd been drinking coffee in parliament.



From Manager, February 27, 2012

Chalerm: Who'll rape first?

Man sitting on the right: Phi Lerm.

Caption: These people must drink to arouse themselves before raping.

If you want to earn 1 million baht, what is the best way?

March 14, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



The title reads: If you want to earn 1 million baht, what is the best way?

Left: Wait to inherit it

Middle: Become a singer

Right: Study at Wall Street

At the bottom: The survey results* confirm that people who study English at Wall Street receive a 20% higher salary and can save 1 million baht in a couple of years. If you want 1 million baht savings, then contact us today.

* Survey: The Effects of English Proficiency on Salary, October-November 2010, by Jobstreet.com

More [Wall Street English School Advertising Campaigns](#)

Attack on Voice TV Car

March 14, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



From Khaosod, March 13, 2012

Another troll – The windshield of Voice TV's car was broken with an iron object by Mr. Kaweechai Choekpatanakasemsook (inset). A police investigation found him to be the same person who attacked a female red shirt by pulling her hair in April 2009.

Thailand on watch list as ‘enemy of the internet’

March 14, 2012

Categories: Censorship

[Bahrain and Belarus named ‘enemies of the internet’](#) – BBC, March 13, 2012

...The body says 2011 was the “deadliest year” yet for so-called “netizens”.

It says at least 199 arrests of internet campaigners were recorded over the year – a 31% increase on 2010.

It adds that China, followed by Vietnam and Iran currently hold the largest number of netizens in jail...

Thai-language Headlines of March 14, 2012

March 15, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 14, 2012

- 3 days to D-day to cut the drugs-weapon cycle in the south of Thailand.
- A permanent secretary of the Social Development and Human Security Ministry was transferred due to a billion baht problem.
- A pickup truck hunted motorbikes from a pub, killed the frenetically. 3 died.
- The Court of Appeals judged the Kasem monk to be jailed.

Daily New, March 12, 2012

- Kambhu na Ayutthaya was transferred immediately from permanent secretary of the Social Development and Human Security Ministry to the Prime Minister's Office.
- The Court of Appeals judged Kasem monk to be jailed for 2 years.
- Thailand is a country at risk for terrorist activities.
- A police station was burnt down mysteriously.

Thairath, March 12, 2012

- Three youngsters were shot dead on the road in Ayuthaya Province.
- Panita was transferred suddenly from permanent secretary of the Social Development and Human Security Ministry to the Prime Minister's Office.
- Kasem monk was judged to be jailed for 2 years.
- A woman food seller at a blue flag restaurant was killed.

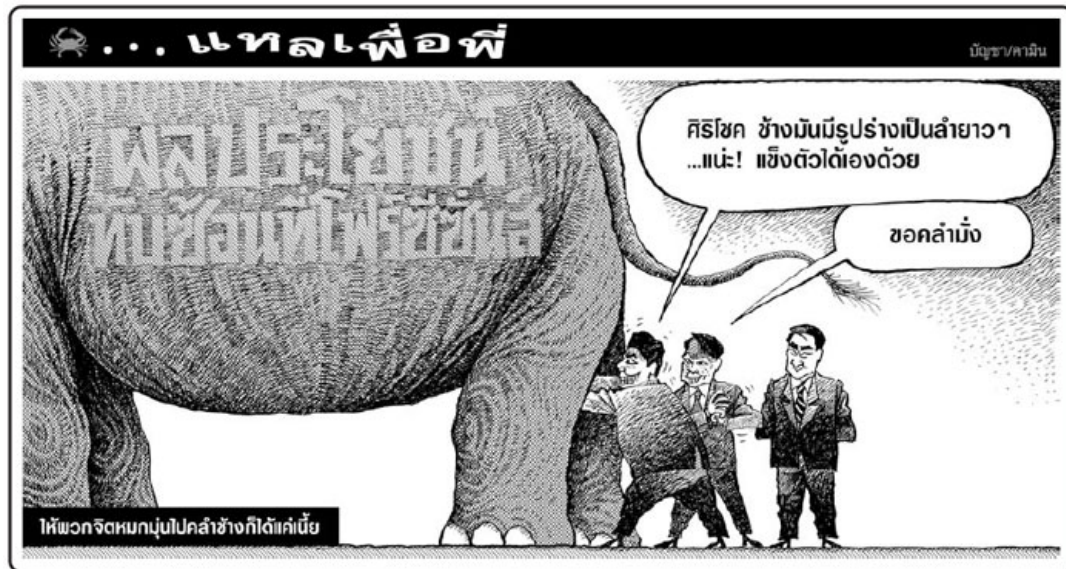
Matichon, March 12, 2012

- Vichian replaced Panita for the position of permanent secretary of the Social Development and Human Security Ministry.
- A well-known monk on YouTube was jailed for 2 years.
- A head hunter got a commission from laborers which are supposed to be sent to Israel. Pradermchai orders the mess be cleaned up.
- People in a pick up car shot at a motorbike gang, 3 dead in Ayuthaya.

Reaching into an Elephant's Butt

March 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, February 23, 2012

Left man: Sirichoke, an elephant is in the shape of a long bar and can be hard too.

Sirichoke: May I touch it?

Elephant: Conflicts of interest at the Four Seasons

Caption: Let those who are preoccupied touch an elephant.

Coup Around the Corner

March 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 22, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Stickers are used to point out targets of terrorism.

First row stickers, from left to right: Use *salim* to do your work. — Oppose the government — Encourage the military to stage a coup — Autonomous organizations

Second row stickers, from left to right: Attack *Wor 5* — Attack the senators — Oppose the constitutional amendment — Accuse — Distort the news

Third row: Attack

Trash bin: Oppose the constitutional amendment

Trash bag: Discredit

Dog: Distort

On Chalerm's sign: Constitutional amendment in accordance with public opinion

Weekly News Magazines, March 9, 2012

March 15, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, March 9, 2012

The headline reads: Rurals' Songkran Festival



From Matichon Weekly, March 9, 2012

The headline reads: Behind the fists

Red Shirts' Feast

March 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 15, 2012

The Red Shirt says: Eat a lot, son. The new constitution is really delicious.

The caption reads: Even though food is expensive, these people aren't worried.

Mass Monks

March 15, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs



From Naew Na, March 12, 2012

Offerings to Buddha ... Buddhists gather to make merit by offering dry food to 12,600 monks at the Kaset-Ratchayothin intersection for offerings to Buddha and celebrate Buddha Jayanti or the 2,600th anniversary of Buddha's enlightenment. This event is part of a project to offer food to 1 million monks in all temples in all 77 provinces nationwide with the aim of spiritual rejuvenation and making great merit for the country. This dry food will be taken to monks in 286 temples in the four southernmost provinces.

How the foreign press covers the Prachuap Kiri Khan killings

March 15, 2012

Categories: Crime

[British man murdered in Thailand 'for £40'](#) – Telegraph, March 15, 2012

Lido Theatre to be razed for new retail area

March 15, 2012

Categories: Buildings

[Lido Theatre to be razed for new retail area](#) – Bangkok Post, March 15, 2012

Chulalongkorn University will spend 1.8 billion baht to develop a new shopping mall on the plot that now houses Lido Theatre in Siam Square in 2014 after spending the same amount to construct Siam Square One nearby.

...”In our master plan, we want to gradually undertake a facelift for all of Siam Square but we cannot do so at once as the existing tenants will face difficulties,” he said...

Tear of Mother Earth by Mahoro

March 15, 2012

Categories: Art



[Tear of Mother Earth by Mahoro](#)

Neat illustrations...

On the forum: Details of the Flood Prevention Budget

March 15, 2012

Categories: Floods

On the forum: [Details of the Flood Prevention Budget](#)

Thai-language Headlines of March 15, 2012

March 16, 2012

Categories: Thai-language Newspaper Headlines



Komchadluek, March 15, 2012

- Seized – 400 rais of rubber plantation which was the southern terrorists' residence.
- Arrested – resort gang that murdered a foreign guest and his Thai wife to rob them.
- Exposed – Mr. Disthat has 2 ID cards.
- Arrested – 2 girls that stole infants from hospitals.

Thairath, March 15, 2012

- People were surprised that a old kind beggar gave a one million baht donation to a temple.
- Democrats praised Panita as a good person who was cheated.
- Football gambler was shot dead in his car.
- Southern terrorists shot to attack a teacher's house located near Mr. Wannor's place

Matichon, March 15, 2012

- The Office of Election Commission of Thailand's resolution is that Mr. Disthat was wrong because of the double ID card.
- Mr. Padermchai ordered canceling the flights for 6000 laborers.
- The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security wear black today to oppose Panita's transfer.
- Gasoline price increases effect speed boats – they stop transportation.

Daily News, March 15, 2012

- A wife was being vindictive to her foreign husband by tying up her 3-year-old son's neck until she died, then she committed suicide.
- Mr. Plod confirmed that there will be no flood this year.
- 100 buildings panic that the fire suppression system is bad.
- Mr. Prawat was angry about Panita's sudden transfer and he insulted Mr. Santi.

Paying Respects to Hun Sen's Thing

March 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



Form Manager, March 16, 2012

Hun Sen says: I don't understand why they don't go to Angkor Wat or Angkor Thom, but come to pay their respects to this thing of mine whenever they come instead. Spray a lot so when they come, it will smell good. The caption reads: Hun Sen is preparing to welcome Pheu Thai MPs.

Closing Down Roads In Protest

March 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 16, 2012

Left: We closed down the road to protest against the slump in farm prices which has caused trouble for farmers.

Middle: We closed down the road to protest against power plants that produce pollution which has caused trouble for villagers.

Right: We closed down the road to protest those protesters who closed down the road which has caused trouble for commuters.

Ugandans react with anger to Kony video

March 16, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Ugandans react with anger to Kony video](#) – aljazeera.com, March 14, 2012

...The audience was at first puzzled to see the narrative lead by an American man – Jason Russell – and his young son.

Towards the end of the film, the mood turned more to anger at what many people saw as a foreign, inaccurate account that belittled and commercialised their suffering, as the film promotes Kony bracelets and other fundraising merchandise, with the aim of making Kony infamous.

One woman I spoke to made the comparison of selling Osama Bin Laden paraphernalia post 9/11 – likely to be highly offensive to many Americans, however well intentioned the campaign behind it...

Aborting the Constitution Amendment

March 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, February 25, 2012

The cartoon reads: Don't let them abort it.

On the bed: The people's 2012 constitution

Shirt of the man behind Yingluck: *Salim* His sign reads: The group that appeases dictators

Sign of the man holding a knife: Autonomous organizations from the coup

On death: Order the people killed

Sign of the man in the front: Appointed senators

Left mouse: Oppose the coup

Thailand pet-owners on high alert for dog-nappers

March 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand pet-owners on high alert for dog-nappers](#) – BBC, March 16, 2012

...But stopping what Capt Teerakiet calls a “billion-baht industry” is close to impossible under existing Thai law. It is illegal to steal domestic pets but not to round up stray dogs and pack them into cages. Animal cruelty is not banned, so a law is only actually broken when an attempt is made to smuggle the dogs out of Thailand.

“On the scale of one to 10, I would say it’s a minus-one as far as the government’s concern for animal welfare goes,” said Roger Lohanen from the Thai Animal Guardians Association...

India: Call details of Bangkok bombers led cops to Israel Embassy attacker

March 16, 2012

Categories: Security

[Express Exclusive: Call details of Bangkok bombers led cops to Israel Embassy attacker](#) – indianexpress.com, March 16, 2012

Why Kenyan Bus Passengers Have Started Yelling at Their Drivers

March 16, 2012

Categories: Buses

[From the Daily Stat at HBR](#): Inexpensive messages urging Kenyan minibus passengers to heckle and criticize their drivers for being reckless caused a 60% reduction in insurance claims involving injury or death, say James Habyarimana and William Jack of Georgetown University. Stickers carrying messages such as “Don’t just sit there as he drives dangerously! Stand up. Speak up. Now!” and showing graphic illustrations of severed feet and legs were placed inside the buses. Drivers were given incentives to leave the stickers in place.

Source: [Heckle and Chide: Results of a randomized road safety intervention in Kenya](#)

Pheu Thai members head to Cambodia to meet Thaksin

March 16, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Pheu Thai members head to Cambodia to meet Thaksin](#) – Bangkok Post, March 16, 2012

...Thaksin was spotted by reporters at Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort in Siem Reap. He was accompanied by former Thai Rak Thai executive Yongyuth Tiypairat, red shirt leader Suporn Attawong and National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation Department chief Damrong Pidech.

Noppadon Pattama, Thaksin's legal adviser, said it was normal for Pheu Thai members to make a trip to see Thaksin when he arrived in a neighbouring country for a visit...

[Thaksin in Laos for Songkran](#) – The Nation, March 15, 2012

..."Thaksin has conveyed his message that anyone who misses and wants to see him can meet him in Laos," Pheu Thai MP Somkid Balthaisong said yesterday...

Myanmar drafts new foreign investment rules

March 16, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Exclusive: Myanmar drafts new foreign investment rules](#) – Reuters, March 16, 2012

Foreigners will no longer need a local partner to set up businesses in Myanmar and may be granted a five-year tax holiday from the start of commercial operations, according to the draft of a new investment law obtained by Reuters.

The long-awaited new investment regulations, along with plans to float its currency, the kyat, from April mark the boldest economic reforms since resource-rich Myanmar emerged from decades of dictatorship last year, its economy decimated by chronic mismanagement and trade-crippling sanctions...

Thai-language Headlines of March 16, 2012

March 17, 2012

Categories: Thai-language Newspaper Headlines



Komchadluek, March 16, 2012

- Hunting a taxi that grabs gold worth 13 million baht because a passenger forgot.
- Panita begged Poo to call off her transfer from Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.
- Laos and Myanmar coordinated together to intercept the production sources of drugs.
- 300,000 cold medicine pills are missing from the hospital in Kalasin province. They were drug production.

Matichon, March 16, 2012

- Panita cried and claimed that they investigate the wrong person.
- Thaksin will celebrate Songkran in Laos and left from Cambodia already.
- Mr. Padermchai is clearing the head hunter issue with the Jews' ambassador.
- Poo worries that everything is more expensive. She will urgently call a meeting with the Ministry of Commerce.

Thairath, March 16, 2012

- A millionairess is so kind that she let her daughter get married with a Honda guy and won't take any dowry from him and will give a big sum of money as well.
- Panita cried in the press conference and wanted to sue Mr. Santi that investigated the wrong person.
- TVs snatched at Uncle Iam.
- A wealthy Chinese man from Ubon Ratchathani forgot his gold valued at 12 million baht.

Daily News, March 16, 2012

- A wealthy Chinese forgot 540 baht weight of gold in a taxi.
- Panita cries in her press conference and aims to sue Mr. Santi.
- A 17-year-old girl found a horrible image of a headless ghost.
- Benzine 91-95 price was increased again by 1 baht.

Six Years Ago Today: Hippo eats dwarf

March 17, 2012

Categories: Today in History

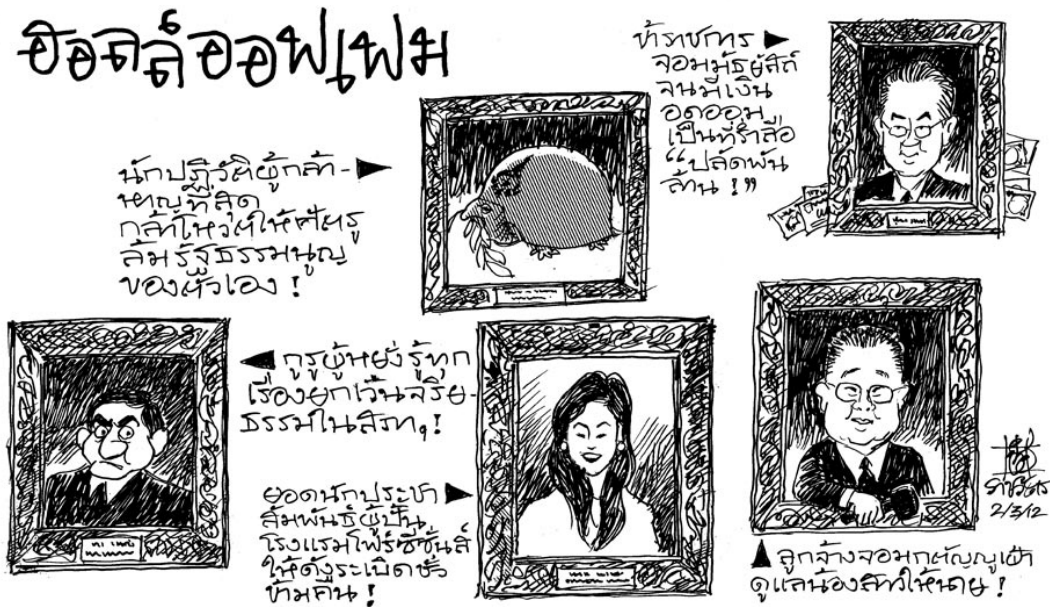


Six Years Ago Today: [Hippo eats dwarf](#)

Distinguished Portraits

March 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 4, 2012

The cartoon reads: Hall of Fame

Upper left: The bravest revolutionary, brave enough to vote for his enemies to overthrow his constitution!

Upper right: The civil servant who is known as the "billion-baht permanent secretary" since he is so economical that he has saved up a huge sum!

Lower left: The guru who knows everything except parliamentary ethics!

Lower middle: The great PR who makes the Four Seasons Hotel well known overnight!

Lower right: The grateful employee who looks after the boss' sister!

Ten Years Ago Today: House Filled with Trash

March 17, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Ten Years Ago Today: [House Filled with Trash](#)

Five Years Ago Today: Sondhi presents new perspective – USA backs southern insurgents

March 17, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Five Years Ago Today: [Sondhi presents new perspective – USA backs southern insurgents](#)

Buying behavior survey for the smart phone's "Facebooklism"

March 18, 2012
Categories: Polls

ABAC Poll, March 15, 2012

The first thing that Facebook users do after login is check to see if a friend or anyone comments or click 'Like' on any updated post or pictures. After that, they will go to the homepage to see any updates from their friends. For any interesting post or pictures, they will post comments or click 'Like' on it. About adding friends, they will accept friends immediately if they know them. If they don't know them, they will add only people who are interesting looking.

The result from survey about "Facebooklism" behavior use Facebook through computer and smartphone in the same ratio as below;

Table 1 shows the percentage of a device used to access Facebook. (can answer more than one).

Order.Equipment used by Facebook.Percentage.

1	Computer (PC).	70.9.
2	Mobile phone	65.9.
3	Laptop or notebook.	43.3.
4	Tablet.	09.06.

Table 2 shows the percentage of how many mobile phones they use.

Order.The number of mobile phone.Percentage.

1	One phone.	74.2.
2	Two phones	21.9.
3	More than two phones.	09.03.
	Total	100.0.

Table 3 shows the percentage of the sample in a specific type of cell phone use. (can answer more than 1)

Order.Types of mobile phone use. Percentage.

1	Smart phones like iPhone, Black Berry, Samsung Galaxy.	62.7
2	Mobile phones with color screens. It is not a smartphone.	37.3
3	2 sim mobile phone.	7.7
4	Mobile phone screen is white and black.	5.8

Table 4 shows the percentage of the price of mobile phone they use.

Order.mobile phone price. Percentage.

1	Not more than 5000 baht	24.2
2	5,000 baht to 10,000 baht	38.5
3	Over 10,000 baht to 15,000 baht	21.2
4	Over 15,000 baht to 20,000 baht	9.6
5	20,000 baht or more.	6.5
	Total	100.0.

* Note that the average cell phone price 9272 baht

Table 5 shows the percentage of plans to buy a cell phone in the next three months.

Order. The plan to buy a cell phone in the next 3 months. Percentage.

1	Have a plan	31.2.
2	No plan.	68.8.
	Total	100.0.

Table 6 shows the percentage of type of phone they plan to buy. (can answer more than one)

Order. Types of mobile phone use. Percentage.

1	Smart phones like iPhone, Black Berry, Samsung Galaxy.	97.5.
2	2 sim mobile phone.	03.01.
3	Mobile phones with color screens, but not a smartphone.	03.01.

Table 7 shows the percentage of the amount they plan to spend for a smart phone (for people who plans to buy a cell phone).

Order. The amount provided for a smart phone. Percentage.

1	Not more than 5000 baht	8.6
2	5,000 baht to 10,000 baht	30.9
3	Over 10,000 baht to 15,000 baht	14.8
4	15,000 or more.	45.7
	Total	100.0.

Sri Lanka's Killing Fields

March 18, 2012

Categories: Nothing to do with Thailand, but Interesting

[Sri Lanka's Killing Fields: War Crimes Unpunished](#)

Hey, Watch Out!

March 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 19, 2012

The caption reads: Horrible news for two prime ministers

Left, former PM Abhisit is told: Bad news, the Red Shirts are coming!!!

Right, PM Yingluck is told: Bad news, the vest is coming!!!

She read her script incorrectly again

March 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 19, 2012

Left: Khun Thaksin will not come back.

Right: Khun Thaksin will certainly come back.

The caption reads: She read her script incorrectly again.

Malaysia's Genting bets big on Miami waterfront casino

March 19, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Genting bets big on Miami waterfront casino](#) – ft.com, March 18, 2012

...The object of their revulsion was Genting Berhad, the Malaysian gambling company that last year swooped up \$500m of prime Miami waterfront real estate and announced plans to build what some described as the world's largest casino...

Cops may visit Thailand to quiz Bangkok ‘bomber’

March 19, 2012

Categories: Security

[Cops may visit Thailand to quiz Bangkok ‘bomber’](#) – hindustantimes.com, March 18, 2012

A Delhi Police team will visit Thailand and Malaysia later this month to carry forward investigation into the attack on an Israel embassy vehicle on February 13. Sources said the police want to interrogate Sedaghatzadeh Masoud — an Iranian national who was in touch with Houshang Afshar Irani, whom the police have identified as one of the bombers.

“Masoud was arrested from Kuala Lumpur airport on February 15. Investigation has revealed that he was in constant touch with Irani who had left Delhi immediately after the blast. We have now sought permission from the agency concerned to allow us to interrogate him. Our team will go there once we get the permission,” a senior police officer said...

Trivia Question on Thailand

March 19, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

SEE AMAZING TRIVIA FACTS

What country elected a TV celebrity chef as its prime minister and then ousted him for hosting his cooking shows while in office?

25	WEDNESDAY
	JANUARY
	2012

Thailand, in 2008. The late Samak Sundaravej, whose signature dish was pork leg stewed in Coca-Cola, was found guilty of conflict of interest and ordered to resign by Thailand's constitutional court after nine months in office.

KNU's 'Papillon' Freed Again

March 19, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[KNU's 'Papillon' Freed Again](#) – The Irrawaddy, March 19, 2012

Karen underground activist Mahn Nyein Maung is released from Insein Prison less than two weeks after being given a life sentence...

Thai-language Headlines of March 19, 2012

March 20, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 19, 2012

- Bangkokian are panicked that a road subsided by 2 meters because the water washed it out.
- The Ministry of Commerce will fight with expensive prices. They will force the small restaurants by the road to charge only 30 baht.
- Thirayuth suggested the solution for Thaksin is not to use the masses to bring him home. He should come back here and fight the case instead.
- A check point at Sakolnakorn seized 700,000 drugs which were being transported to the south of Thailand.

Thairath, March 19, 2012

- Thirayuth decided that there will be a coup for sure. The amnesty will cut down The Council for Nation Security's case.
- A dishwasher murdered a Chinese cook and grabbed 100,000 baht and ran away.
- Chaiyo and Ratchanok got the best Thai Country Singer Mahanakorn Award.
- The immigration department reorganized and recruited more then 1322 positions.

Daily News, March 19, 2012

- Tropical storms hit an amusement park and swept away houses, 3 children were injured.
- All cars' owners panicked that there was a sinkhole that caused traffic to be paralyzed.
- A C7 teacher shot his "heart opponent."
- The owner of a pork ball business was shot dead and his wife becomes a suspect in his mysterious death.

Matichon, March 19, 2012

- Leading academic Thirayuth Boonmi's analysis of Thai politics is strongly biased against former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra and stopped short of mentioning the root causes of problems plaguing the country.
- Mr. Arak, the minister of energy, proposed the way to save energy costs by not wearing suits—and then to adjust the temperature of air conditioning appropriately.
- Mr. Chaleo died and his company plans for a successor.
- For the past 3 years to head hunter was investigated to be charged. Sending investigators to talk to Thai labor there.

Red Shirt Leaders Silenced by Money

March 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 9, 2012

The caption reads: Red Shirt leaders really don't agree with Thaksin, but they can't say so.

Red Shirt leader Thida and another person (probably Weng Tojirakarn): Uah uah... Ar ar... Uah uah... Ar ar... Uah

On the newspaper: Thaksin speaks of constitutional amendment to sections related to the monarchy and defense laws and says they won't be changed.

Gen. Sonthi On His Knees Over Coup Questions

March 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 20, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Who should start forgiving and forgetting the past?

Sanan asks: Who's behind September 19, 2006 coup?

Gen. Sonthi: I won't tell until the day I die.

On his shirt: Gen. Sonthi.

On his sign: Reconciliation.

Left to right

On the robe of the hooded figure: Order to suppress the people.

On the sign: Benefiting from the coup through a plan for secret trickery and camouflage.

Nam Yimyaem, AEC chairperson says: The AEC was set up by the NSC to take care of Thaksin.

A senator's sign: Appointed senators waiting to get rid of Thaksin.

On the sign being held by two persons: Independent entities are the outcome of the NSC and are aimed at dissolving the Pheu Thai Party.

On the judge's sign: Judicial activism

On the mouse's sign: Injustice is here.

On the man to the right of the mouse: He's ashamed.

Two-hour queues: Bangkok's 'futuristic' airport not coping with tourists

March 20, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Two-hour queues: Bangkok's 'futuristic' airport not coping with tourists](#) – theage.com.au, March 20, 2012

...The immigration bureau has in the past blamed long queues on a staffing shortage. An official at Suvarnabhumi's immigration division, however, said it had more to do with lack of space.

"There's construction going on which is limiting the space we have available for security checks," he said, declining to be identified.

But travellers grumble at the frequent site of empty immigration kiosks and lines for foreigner nationals stretching far longer than those of Thais. Others say kiosks designed to hold two officers are often manned by one...

Myanmar plans to set kyat at 820 per dollar – sources

March 20, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar plans to set kyat at 820 per dollar – sources](#) – Reuters, March 20, 2012

...The change would be a shock for government institutions and state-owned enterprises that have been using the official exchange rate of 6.4, the central bank has said. But broader economic waves are unlikely since an exchange rate around 800 is widely in use...

Thai-language Headlines of March 20, 2012

March 21, 2012

Categories: Thai-language Newspaper Headlines



Komchadluek, March 20, 2012

- A man was angry that his wife knew that he raped his step-daughter and she wanted to brake up, he threw chilli at his wife and her mother and then killed them all.
- 6 committees are investigating the former permanent secretary of Social Development and Human Security. Panita is going to sue Mr. Santi.
- Grocery stores will help Thailand. Mr. Boonsong proposed the government to build many grocery stores all over in Thailand to get rid of the middle man using 1.5 billion baht.
- MBA claimed the reason of Rama IV road subsided was the destroy of tunnel and the missing sand for 50 cubic meters.

Thairath, March 20, 2012

- A big tunnel caused the subsidence of Rama IV Road, but it won't effect high buildings nearby.
- Thaksin criticized Teerayuth for choosing sides.
- Khun Dang will organize Miss Thailand Universe 2555 with Channel 5.
- A crazy man was angry, murdered his wife and her mother, then committed suicide to escape his guilt.

Matichon, March 20, 2012

- The Supreme Court will judge Mr. Boonjong Wongtrairat about whether he will receive a red card to deprive him of his political rights.
- There will be 10,000 grocery shops in Thailand selling cheap products.
- A Thai orchestra will perform for Japanese businessmen in Tokyo.
- BMA claimed that the old tunnel to drain water collapsed, so it caused Rama IV Road to subside.

Daily News, March 20, 2012

- Human trading gangs cut Cambodian 7-year-old's tongues or arms and forced them to be beggars.
- Pheu Thai all attacked Teerayuth and dared him to fight in a field.
- A man murdered his wife and stepmother because he was angry that they chased him away when they caught him raping his step daughter.
- A big lot of cold medicines are missing. The police investigated a pharmacists' house.

Reconciliation Substances

March 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 21, 2012

Left: The government is warning the public that bleach contained in food can be dangerous to consumers' health.

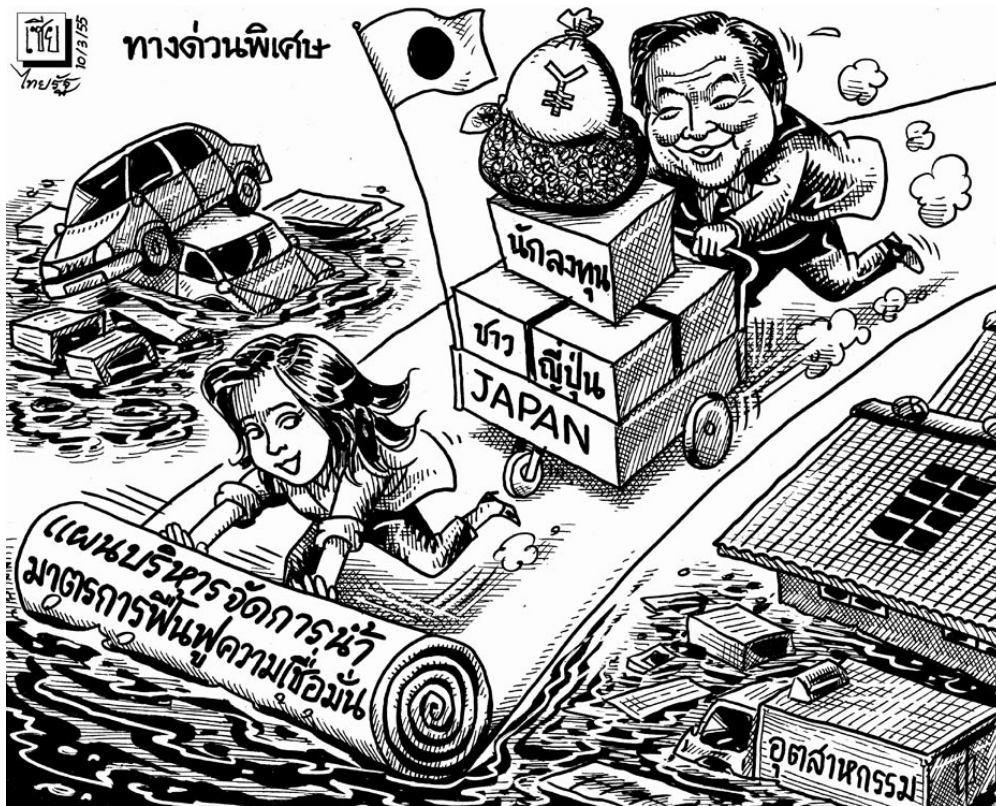
Middle: It will be called by another name for the convenience of consumers. Man: What's it being changed to?

Right: It'll now be called “reconciliation substances.”

Yingluck Restores Japanese Investor Confidence

March 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 9, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Special expressways

On the voxes: Japanese investors

On the carpet: Water management plan — Confidence restoration strategies

On the truck: Industry

Yingluck Happy with Theerayuth Comments

March 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 21, 2012

Second man : He's good at criticizing. Will you run against us in an election?

Yingluck: I'm so pleased. He praised me. Said I'm beautiful and photogenic.

Jatuporn: He's an academic who's behind the times!

Box: The only person in the party who appreciates Theerayuth's comments



From Manager, March 21, 2012

Hey! Yingluck's traveling abroad again. We'd better get ready to cover our heads.

Govt must block plans for red-shirt ‘welcome’ for Thaksin

March 21, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Govt must block plans for red-shirt ‘welcome’ for Thaksin](#) – The Nation, March 21, 2012

[Thaksin denies he will return for Songkran](#) – Bangkok Post, March 21, 2012

Loxley and North Korea links

March 21, 2012

Categories: Business

[Loxley and the Thai way of doing things](#) – telecomasia.net, March 19, 2012

...But looking at the big picture, Loxley is not about technical excellence or best practices. It is about lobbying; about knowing the right people; about doing deals in closed circles.

...The sad thing was that because of the proper and elite image of Loxley in Thailand, the news blackout was almost absolute within the country. Editors did not wish to make an enemy of Loxley as their owners, the Lamsum family, have a banking, food, commercial and advertising empire that is no less omnipresent than that of True and CP owned by the Chearavanont family. Only the Lumsums prefer to keep themselves to themselves unlike the publicity hungry Chearavanonts.

No publication would risk losing their advertising income by pointing out that they were part of North Korea's nuclear program. No politician would dare to lose party funding by taking them on – the Lumsums were the fifth largest official donor to the Democrat party. The Chearavanonts, meanwhile, topped the 2011 list...

Thai potters work to keep ancient tradition alive

March 21, 2012

Categories: Art

[Thai potters work to keep ancient tradition alive](#) – Reuters, March 21, 2012

...Their village of Nong Sanoe, part of Nakhon Ratchasima and some 260 km (155 miles) northeast of the Thai capital of Bangkok, is centre to a thriving pottery industry that maintains the traditions of centuries — and the beneficiary of a program established by ousted prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

The One Tambon One Product (OTOP) scheme, which began in 2001, promotes local handicrafts at grassroots level and co-operates with villagers to help promote and sell their goods at national and international levels.

It has proved a boon for Nong Sanoe, a village in the rice-growing province of Nakhon Ratchasima.

Five years ago there were only a handful of shops in Nong Sanoe village. Today, over two hundred families in the village make their living from clay, many of them people who worked as farm laborers or factory workers before starting their own businesses...

Thai-language Headlines of March 21, 2012

March 22, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 21, 2012

- Video clip about a hawk was attacking a puppy – The police are investigating the area where the video was taken and will control more about animal trading in Jatujak.
- Mr. Boonjong survived from the case and Bhumjaithai is relieved.
- Cold medicine effect – Dismissal of 2 directors and 3 pharmacists.
- 2 thieves sneaked in an army camp in Phitsanulok, they wanted to get some bullets and bombs for sale, but an explosion occurred and they both died.

Thairath, March 21, 2012

- A broken-hearted woman committed suicide by jumping from a condominium in Sathorn after she saw another woman in her man's bed.
- The Supreme Court cancelled a red card for Mr. Boonjong so he can continue being a MP.
- Channel 5 welcomes Miss Thailand World 2555.
- The Ministry of Public Health fired 2 hospital directors and 3 pharmacists.

Matichon, March 21, 2012

- The court cancelled the case against Mr. Boonjong and claimed something was wrong with the witnesses.
- Honda clarified about the rumors that they will move their production base.
- The Chief of the Provincial Administrative Organization in Kanchanaburi was sentenced to be jailed for 1 month for case of buying right for election.
- 2 hospital directors and 3 pharmacists were discharged because of cold medicines.

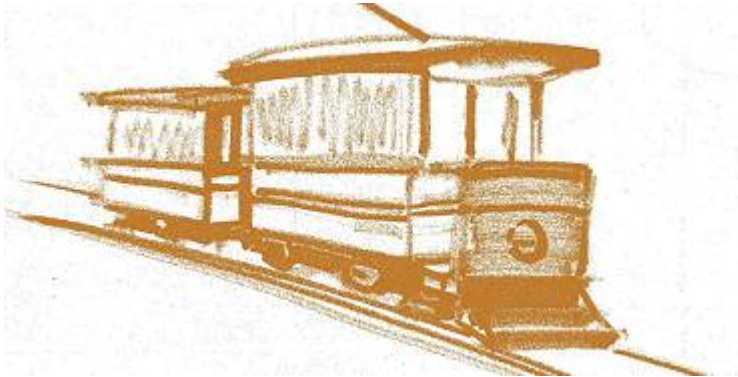
Daily News, March 21, 2012

- MP Mr. Boonjong smiled after the Supreme Court's election cases division dismissed a case to disqualify him, ruling there was insufficient evidence to support the allegation of vote buying.
- Two hospital directors from hospitals in the North and Northeast have been transferred as the result of cold pill smuggling.
- The mobile cabinet meeting has approved a budget of 84.06 billion baht for financing 117 development projects.
- After examination, officers confirmed that neither the tap-water mains nor the subway tunnel had any leaks under Rama IV Road.

Eight Years Ago: Bangkok Tram Accounts from Famous Writers

March 22, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Eight Years Ago: [Bangkok Tram Accounts from Famous Writers](#)

The Bombing Routes From America's Secret War In Cambodia

March 22, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[We Can Now See The Bombing Routes From America's Secret War In Cambodia](#) – businessinsider.com,
March 21, 2012

Via Joshua Keating at Foreign Policy comes an amazing new study of the bombing runs done by the United States over Cambodia during the Vietnam War...

Gold Sukh fraudsters planned to swindle people in Thailand

March 22, 2012

Categories: Scams

[Gold Sukh fraudsters planned to swindle people in Thailand](#) – indiatimes.com, March 22, 2012

...The primary investigation has revealed that one of the directors, Manvendra Singh had got a company 'Gold Sukh Thai Private Limited' cleared from department of business development and was planning to dupe investors in Thailand and Bangkok"...

Thai-language Headlines of March 22, 2012

March 23, 2012

Categories: Thai newspaper headlines



Komchadluek, March 22, 2012

- VDO clip about a BTS security who punched a foreign passenger who brought balloons into BTS whs broadcast on Youtube.
- The Office of the Election Commission discharged Mr. Srisuk as senator because he didn't vote in an election.
- The Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation ordered to check illegal trading. A surprise was a hawk valued at a million baht.
- Arrested! 4 policemen in charge of a drugs case – they embezzled 300,000 drug pills.

Thairath, March 22, 2012

- At a national reconciliation , Mr. Sanan asked who was behind the 2006 coup, but Sonthi refused to give any information.
- Arrested! 4 policemen who are in charge of drug cases. They embezzled 30 million baht worth of yaba and ya ice.
- A girl was made unconscious by chloroform and carried to a van. They prepared to send these girls to sell in Malaysia.
- An offender was killed after giving testimony to the court.

Matichon, March 22, 2012

- Maj. Gen. Sanan chased Big Bung to answer 3 questions that linked Papa Prem to the coup of 19 September 2006.
- There's a mysterious call to Mr. Padermchai to threat him about the head hunter commission.
- Discharged! Two more pharmacists in Chaing Mai and policemen were arrested in a drugs case.
- Poo will be a special guest at the grand opening of the Honda factory on 31 March 2012.

Daily News, March 22, 2012

- Policemen have been dismissed for allegedly possessing more than 350,000 methamphetamine pills and five kilograms of crystal meth, or ice.
- The cause of the sinkhole at Rama IV Road is because the area did not have reinforced concrete .
- An offender was killed after testifying at a court in a case of revenge.
- The Office of the Election Commission dismissed Senator Mr. Srisook because he did not cast his vote at other elections in the past.

Public Works and PM Yingluck

March 23, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

It reads: The Metropolitan Waterworks Authority is improving the water tunnels to reduce waste water and increase water pressure for the people.

Weekly News Magazines, March 16, 2012

March 23, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, March 9, 2012

The headline reads: Beautiful can handle “Brother is not coming back – There is no brother”



From Matichon Weekly, March 9, 2012

The headline reads: Black Gold – Yo Khao Prasumeru

Drunken, Beaten, Waiing

March 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 6, 2012

Left: I tried to help by getting drunk, but I couldn't cover up the news.

Middle: I tried to help by getting hurt, but I couldn't cover up the news.

Right: They should have tried my method. Then maybe they could have covered up that news.

The caption reads: Many groups have come out to help cover up news about the *Wor 5* at the Four Seasons.

Analysis: The Political Calm and the Weakness of the Establishment

March 23, 2012

Categories: Analysis



(Source: Daily News)

From Daily News, February 12, 2012

The caption reads: Being delighted — Privy Council President and statesman General Prem Tinsulanonda speaks with Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra cordially at the the “Rak Muang Thai Doen Na Prathet Thai” at Government House.

At the beginning of 2012, the Pheu Thai had experienced a rocky four months. Paralyzed by flooding, stymied on military reform, and experiencing yawning cracks between the Red Shirt leadership and the government, it seemed as though another period of strife might be likely if the government showed signs of weakening and had to act fast... but what a difference a couple of months makes.

In January, the government regrouped and once again began to display the teflon quality Thaksin always had of salvaging situations where he was at a seeming disadvantage. Events started flowing strongly in the government's favor.

The pieces started to fall into place:

- * The government signaled its intentions by attempting a rapprochement with Prem (who has long been vilified as the [Red Shirt's and Thaksin's arch enemy](#)).

- * There were confident moves from the government to contain garrulous Reds and align Red Shirt goals again with the government. Overall both the government and red shirt message became clear and untied—amend the constitution. (Notwithstanding some comments from factions like Kon Rak Udon and Chalerm about bringing Thaksin back.)

- * Day by day the expectation has been growing that the government has staying power and that Yingluck is growing more popular—confounding normal Thai political trends that governments become less popular over time. This is despite inflationary pressures on daily staples that impact grassroots people and tend to doom

other governments. Continued government popularity means that winning the Bangkok governorship is a possibility.

* This political landscape means the 111 Thai Rak Thai executives, who will soon be free of their political ban, will be firmly in Thaksin's camp instead of moving to join or form new political blocks. Pheu Thai seem to be, like Thai Rak Thai once was, the only political game in town.

* There is an almost universal disdain for the Democrat Party which is seen as a spent force and unable to compete. Even comparing the popular vote totals from the last election (which were closer than the final MPs count reflected), the key is the overwhelming popularity of Thaksin in the growing population centers of the Northeast. It is increasing looking like, going forward, there is little political opposition to Thaksin momentum.

* The PAD has vowed to return to the streets once constitutional amendments are put forth to absolve Thaksin, but this equation is different now that the government can call on the Red Shirt movement.

In 2008 a Thaksin-controlled government also made a headlong move to amend the constitution. At that time the Red Shirts did not exist as a organized street force so it was the PAD on the ground vs the People Power Party-led government. The present government is in a much stronger position and can call on a highly organized force of Red Shirts who—despite being forcibly removed from their Bangkok redoubt in 2010 and pilloried with a multitude of charges—have been able to have their revenge by getting turns at positions in the cabinet. This time around there is no way an anti-Thaksin group would be allowed to march to the airport unopposed on the ground.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: An exhibit showing a Red Guard wielding a slingshot. His shirt reads: Peasant

From a Pheu Thai Party exhibition lauding the Red Shirts for resisting the military in 2010: [“7 Days, 7 Pains of the People”](#)

Many analysts were transfixed by the widely read article [Thailand's Thaksin prepares for war](#). However, in light of recent political events, the revelations of the article do not seem intended to smear Thaksin, but to warn off the establishment from acting against the government during this time (whether the insular Thai-language world realized English-speaking insiders would pick these rumors and report them in English is another story).

It is likely the establishment realizes that there is no way to face off against both a sitting government and an organized Red Shirt rally on the streets of Bangkok. Even when the Democrats were holding the reins of power, the Red Shirts were able to deploy with relative impunity for a long period of time—and showed the state in near disarray as it fumbled to react.

The present calm could also indicate that real opposition to the government's moves on the constitution will wait until after "Thaksin's revolutionary season" of March to May when it is not as easy to field thousands of country people on the streets of Bangkok.

Comments from Thaksin these days are less confrontational and more focused on policy details. As the government's position become stronger, the more the media turns to Thaksin as de facto government head for salient comments on future government policy.

Thaksin's return has been on the table for years now. However, his political role is the sticking point. From recent comments, it seems Thaksin is willing to embrace a "shadow premier" presence behind the government and outside the country for the time being. If Thaksin can accept this reality, it would mean he essentially has everything he desires—the reins of power to enact the reforms as he pleases and thwart the mitigating interference of other non-political institutions.

The problem is the psychology of the Thai "big man." This dictates that Thaksin must go too far and overplay his hand. Thus Thaksin dominance might again begin to create an atmosphere where the media is silenced on political issues and where a business' stock market performance depends on which business leaders are seen playing golf with the prime minister.



From Manager, March 8, 2012

Left: The King must take an oath in parliament to uphold the constitution!

Right: Before you scold the twins, ask yourself whether you would like to punch the face of someone who says something like this.

The establishment is clinging to the lese majeste issue as we predicted previously. It will continue to be pushed as the one issue the establishment (particularly the military) can openly harangue the government on. The government, and the upper echelons of the Red Shirts, have little need to push the issue further as it has always been a bargaining chip to be played if the establishment blocks efforts to bring Thaksin home. Even those with real aspirations for reform on this issue can rest assured that .

Other levers the government has is public reconciliation committees and reports that will lay blame at "high levels." These must be seen in the context they are offered—as threats and warnings. The warning is that truth-telling and laying blame is open confrontation and the worst thing that can happen. Thus, if amnesty or absolution is not put forth, the threat of open blaming will occur.

Thai reconciliation is defined by both sides as "forgive and forget." The only issue that remains is if Thaksin can return and head his party. In the same way everyone walked away from the events of Black May and no

one was culpable for the Tak Bai incident, the optimal solution will seem patently unfair to non-Thais—forgive and forget. Restore peace to the village without anyone being culpable.



(Source: NBT screen grab)

Above: April 25, 2010: Then Prime Minister Abhisit (middle), Commander-in Chief Anupong (right) and an interviewer [during a televised discussion](#). The interview was noted for the uncomfortable posture of the C-in-C as both the Democrats and military positioned themselves not to be blamed for the outcome of the Red Shirt protest.

There was a time, during the height of the Red Shirt protests in 2010, that it seemed that the old paradigm of Thai politics would return—political forces battering each other and resulting in a resurgence of the military into civil and political life, applying physical force against politics “for the good of the nation.”

However, since 2010 it has become clearer that the non-elected centers of power that acted as self-styled counterbalances against the corrupt political class have become moribund. In the absence of popular support—or the popular illusion of public support—there is little space for non-elected powers to flex their muscles (except on lese majeste issues as noted above).

Viewing the Red Shirt siege of events of 2010 from this perspective, the initially hesitant reaction of the military, state bureaucracy, police, and Privy Council becomes more apparent. All spent weeks jousting with the government to ensure they were not blamed for any reaction to the protests. The roles each took in the final dispersal were only allowed by the promise and delivery of epic budget allocations from the government.

The weakness of non-elected centers of Thai power also reflects a generational change. Thai circumspection about many issues has been eliminated by the ubiquity of media that allows frank comments (the internet, SMS messages) and open sharing of taboo ideas. The younger generation is distant from the conventional Thai mindset that the military and monarchy are necessary to offset greedy elected politicians.

There is also the rise of expectations that political parties must make promises and achieve, rather than just being “good administrators.” All the old truisms of Thai political life are slipping away. The old balance of power between the elected political world and the multiple spheres of the non-elected world appears to be tipping in favor of the elected.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: This billboard suddenly appeared on February 27, 2008. It reads: Welcome home, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. From Bangkokians.

At the highest levels, there is increasing resignation that the present elected government cannot be tempered and that a one-party state is evolving. Another sea-change is the feeling from some of the most strident anti-Thaksin foes that a one-party government might be desirable to confront the military on issues where they steadfastly refuse to follow plans by the civilian government. Across the political spectrum, the military is widely seen to be purposely agitating the situation in the Thai deep south over budgetary issues. All this under the cover of their prerogative to act independently, “for the nation,” outside of political direction.

Despite the talk of coups, the military has little space to act with overt force as it once did. Coups only happen after a long public period of warnings and inducements for a government to step down—supported by a wide range of organizations and power centers—thus there is little groundwork already laid for a military move.

Meanwhile, in the most traditional circles, there is still the belief that the government “can’t really do anything” to bring Thaksin back. For all their rabid fear of Thaksin, the traditionalists can easily dismiss the red villages phenomenon and feel confident that, while the process for constitutional amendment is underway, it can be stalled indefinitely by procedural and legal moves.

None of this is to contend it will be an easy road ahead. There will be many attempts to stop Thaksin and extreme statements on all sides to create political leverage. It may be that a government overreach in taming the media or the extreme enrichment of prominent political families could once again create a popular backlash. Late-night “political intimidation bombings” might be staged as so often happens in times of political stress. External economic shocks might also slow government momentum.

However, with the lackluster performance of both the political opposition as well as other centers of power in recent years, there is some resignation that Thaksin’s “Thailand Corp.” might once again start stepping on the toes of the elite as it drives its reforms to make the nation a regional leader.

Notwithstanding the flooding that slowed the drive for constitutional amendments, the message of the 2011 election for Thaksin is valid once again—that he can have everything back—his money and position as PM—on his own terms.

Beaches, Temples and Sex—Will Burmese Tourism Follow the Thai Model?

March 23, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma, Tourism

[Beaches, Temples and Sex—Will Burmese Tourism Follow the Thai Model?](#) – The Irrawaddy, March 23, 2012

...“The lessons to learn are pretty straightforward,” said Andrea Valentin of NGO Tourism Transparency. “If Burma wants to have more prostitutes than monks in the country, then they should follow Thailand’s tourism development approach. Hopefully, Burma will want to avoid Cambodia’s 30,000 children involved in sex tourism, some of who are as young as five. In 2009, Terre des Hommes estimated that more than 70,000 children across Asia are being used by sex tourists, mainly in Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. In Cambodia, a sex tourist can rent two 8-year-old children for three days and pay not more than \$30. Most of these children are born into poverty”...

Iranian diplomats visit Bangkok bombing suspects

March 23, 2012

Categories: Security

[Iranian diplomats visit Bangkok bombing suspects](#) – apdforum.com, March 23, 2012

Thai floods derail Hadron-colliding antimatter boffinry

March 23, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Thai floods derail Hadron-colliding antimatter boffinry](#) – theregister.co.uk, March 23, 2012

...”But we’re crying out for storage, and the floods in Thailand didn’t help. It’s compromising our experiment,” he explained. “We have seven petabytes of storage and it’s not enough.”

The CERN experiment’s hardware emits a raw flow of 50 million petabytes a year. The majority of that data is discarded, reducing the wedge to 15PB, and then split between computers on the International Science Grid...

Thailand welcomes Google Street View with open arms, a rarity in Asia

March 23, 2012

Categories: Maps

[Thailand welcomes Google Street View with open arms, a rarity in Asia](#) – Reuters, March 23, 2012

Google rolled out [360-degree images](#) of the streets of Bangkok, the resort island of Phuket and the northern city of Chiang Mai...

In Japan, for example, Google was required to reshoot its street level photos in 12 cities in 2009 after complaints the 360-degree camera, set atop a vehicle plying Japan's narrow streets, was photographing the insides of people's homes.

And in South Korea its Seoul offices were raided in 2010 after police discovered that the Street View vehicle was not just taking photos but also capturing data over Wi-Fi networks.

In India, Google's plans to capture street-level images of Bangalore were blocked by Indian police in 2011. Google says it is in discussions with the Indian government "on ways to move forward..."

Earlier: [Google Street View car taking photos in Huay Kwang market area](#)

Also: [Google's Street View Debuts in Thailand](#)

Sotheby's trying to resolve 1,000-year-old relic dispute with Government of Cambodia

March 24, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Sotheby's trying to resolve 1,000-year-old relic dispute with Government of Cambodia](#) – artdaily.com,
March 23, 2012

Thai boxing sessions for Ipswich homeless people

March 24, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thai boxing sessions for Ipswich homeless people](#) – BBC, March 22, 2012

Homeless people in Ipswich are being given free Thai Boxing lessons.

Suffolk Police and Genesis Housing are paying for six months' worth of classes for people who stay at a hostel in Cavendish Lodge...

Hey Thai police, stop searching me!

March 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Thai Police

[Hey Thai police, stop searching me!](#) – whatismatt.com, March 19, 2012

As my girlfriend and I stepped off the bus at Eakamai in Bangkok after a great weekend on Koh Samet, two snarling cops pulled us off to the side and barked at us to show our passports. We were then promptly marched to a little marquee to have our pockets and bags thoroughly searched...

Book a Flight to Myanmar Before this Pastoral Destination is Spoiled by a Flood of Tourists

March 24, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



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



[Book A Flight To Myanmar Before This Pastoral Destination Is Spoiled By A Flood Of Tourists](#) –
businessinsider.com, March 22, 2012

Aurora art show depicts sex workers in Thailand

March 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Aurora art show depicts sex workers in Thailand](#) – suntimes.com, March 22, 2012

...“It’s so overwhelming,” said Allen, who put together the exhibit “girl. factorial.” that will show on Friday and Saturday at his gallery in downtown Aurora.

Allen and Hook have both traveled to Thailand and visited areas where prostitution encourages tourism — square blocks filled with bars where girls wear numbers, and are hired to go on dates for \$10...

Four Years Ago Today: “Revising the Constitution for political advantage is inappropriate and unjust”

March 24, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Four Years Ago Today: [“Revising the Constitution for political advantage is inappropriate and unjust”](#)

Canadian prime minister says free trade pact with Thailand to be negotiated

March 24, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Canadian prime minister says free trade pact with Thailand to be negotiated](#) – AP, March 24, 2012

[Harper takes aim at human smuggling with cash and equipment for Thai police](#) – AP, March 24, 2012

Thailand: An Underdog With Massive Returns

March 24, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Thailand: An Underdog With Massive Returns](#) – thestreet.com, March 23, 2012

...First there were the “Red Shirts” protests and riots in 2010 that brought the country to a standstill and turned the streets of Bangkok into a battleground; then there were the catastrophic monsoon floods late last year. But with the political situation improving, if not completely resolved, and positive reports on the country’s progress with regards to the flood, the emerging market appears to be a prime candidate for investment opportunities...

Bangkok's insect food: protein-rich cricket cookies, bamboo-worm pizzas

March 25, 2012

Categories: Food and Drink

[Bangkok's insect food: protein-rich cricket cookies, bamboo-worm pizzas](#) – IANS, March 25, 2012

...Insect food — that is what it is popularly called in the Thai capital— is a delicacy among the locals as well as the tourists. And your visit to the land of smiles is not over, it is said, till you savour the snacks...

Australian sex-slave charity head quits amid row

March 25, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Australian sex-slave charity head quits amid row](#) – The Age, March 26, 2012

...In a new claim, the Grey Man's former head of investigations in Thailand said the charity's website had exaggerated the success of its operations, including changing the ages of victims.

"Sean told me younger girls are most interesting for donors," said the Thailand-born man, who asked that his name not be published because of his undercover work.

...Responding by email to questions from The Age sent before he stepped down, Mr McBride said he never changed reports "except to make them more readable and media-orientated"...

Cambodia Trainspotter

March 26, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

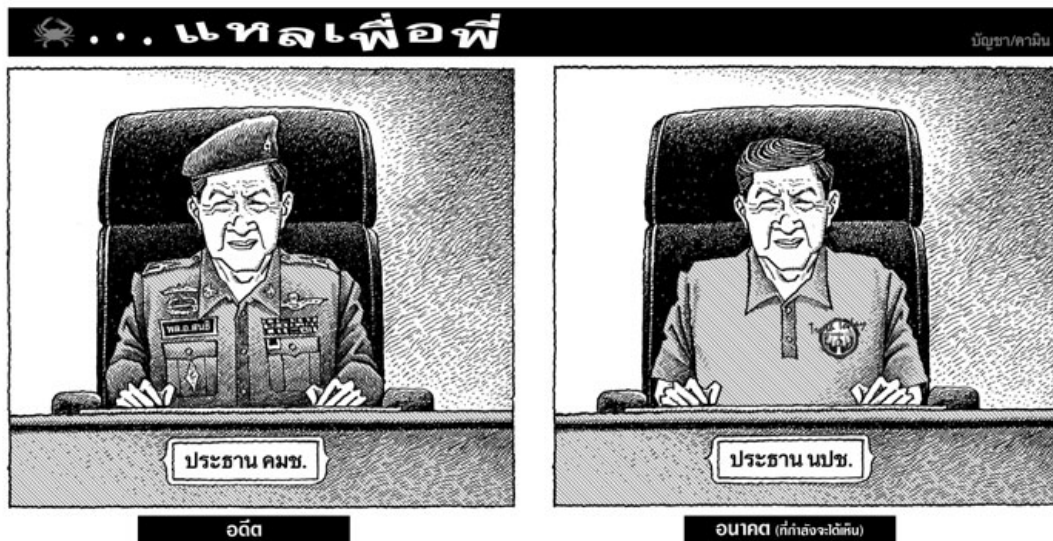
[Cambodia Trainspotter](#)

Monitoring the rehabilitation of the railways in Cambodia

Coup leader Gen. Sonthi now a Red Shirt?

March 26, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, March 26, 2012

Left, the caption reads: Past

Left: The president of CNS

Right, the caption reads: Future (we will see)

Right: The president of UDD

Gen. Sonthi Blew His Brains Out

March 26, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, March 26, 2012

The man says: Big Bung from the past was ashamed of his present behavior too much, so he committed suicide.

The sign reads: General (Ret.) Sonthi Boonyaratglin, the president of CNS

The Khmer Rouge Tribunal is Falling Apart: Is it Still Worth the Trouble?

March 26, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[The Khmer Rouge Tribunal is Falling Apart: Is it Still Worth the Trouble?](#) – theatlantic.com, March 25, 2012

[Journalist seeking truth about Khmer Rouge ‘fears for his life’](#) – guardian.co.uk, March 25, 2012

Award-winning film-maker Thet Sambath says he has been followed, harassed and chased during his research...

[Priest who exposed K.Rouge horrors slams atrocities trial](#) – AFP, March 25, 2012

...”The UN backed the Khmer Rouge for 14 years for geo-political reasons during the Cold War. I don’t see why the UN would now give itself the right to judge those it supported,” he said in an interview with AFP. In what is considered an embarrassing chapter in UN history, the Khmer Rouge was allowed to retain its seat in the General Assembly even after the regime was ousted by Vietnamese troops in 1979 and its blood-stained revolution was exposed to the world...

The Rarest Thai Wildlife

March 27, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[40 Rarest remaining Thai wildlife](#) – The Nation, March, 2012

It's time to fight to take back the country

March 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 11, 2012

The cartoon title reads: It's time to fight to take back the country.

On the cannon: The 2012 constitutional amendment

By the cannonballs: Democracy

On the wall on the left: The independent entities that are a consequence of the September 19, 2006 that keep hunting Pheu Thai politicians.

On the wall on the right: The 2007 constitution embodies the dictatorial powers of the NSC

Signs being held on the wall: Destroy the government – Fans of dictators

The mouse says: Oppose coups

Banker Staveley leverages links to Arab royals

March 27, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Banker Staveley leverages links to Arab royals](#) – Reuters, March 27, 2012

British dealmaker Amanda Staveley, restaurateur turned go-to broker for the Abu Dhabi royal family, has made millions in a region where women rarely play high-profile roles...

Staveley also worked on Sheikh Mansour's acquisition of Manchester City football club, albeit for the seller, Thaksin Shinawatra, the former prime minister of Thailand, who lives in self-imposed exile in Dubai...

The Coup is Retracted

March 28, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 28, 2012

Left: The first coup announcement: because the government cheated and was corrupt, committed lese majesty, and broke the principle of the Rule of Law Principle. Please stay tuned.

Right: The second coup announcement: We wish to forget the first coup announcement. Stop resurrecting the guilt from the past to create reconciliation. We apologize for this inconvenience.

The letters around the people indicate they are laughing.

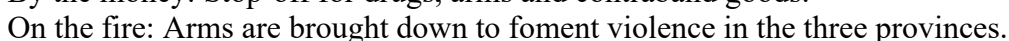
Eight Years Ago: Prasumen Fort and Santichaiprakarn Park

March 28, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Prasumen Fort and Santichaiprakarn Park](#)

Categories: Analysis, Drugs, The Thai Deep South



Does the Nitirat Group deserve to be punched?

March 28, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 8, 2012

Left: The King must take an oath in parliament to uphold the constitution!

Right: Before you scold the twins, ask yourself whether you would like to punch the face of someone who says something like this.



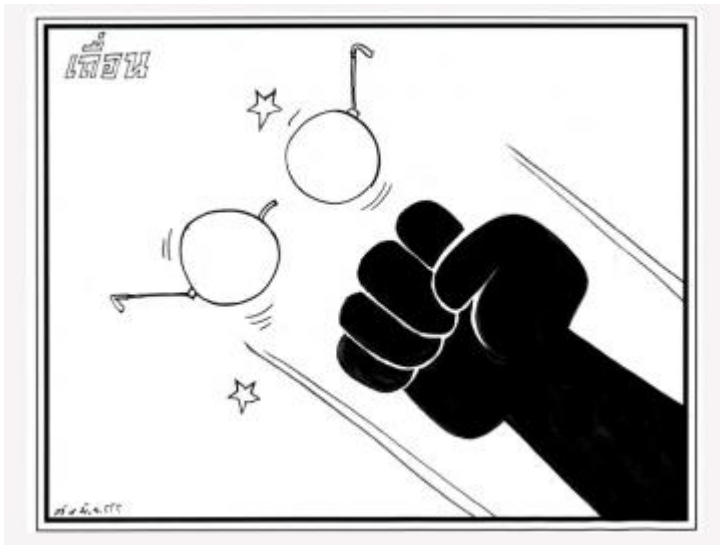
From Thairath, March 4, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Victim of 2012

On the arm: October 6, 1976 model

Sign under Worajate's arm: Nitirat

On the other sign: Media present news that fosters bias and irrational hatred.



From Khao Sod, March 3, 2012
Savage

Shin Corporation Added to Dow Jones Emerging Markets Select Dividend Index

March 28, 2012

Categories: Business

[Shin Corporation Public Company Limited of Thailand Added to Dow Jones Emerging Markets Select Dividend Index](#) – marketwatch.com, March 27, 2012

Greeting Thaksin

March 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, March 29, 2012

The man says to Thaksin: Finally we can make them shake hand with you for reconciliation... we were really tired.

On the shirt: Thai people

The caption reads: Reconciliation will be a success soon.

The Milling Ghosts

March 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Komchadluek, March 29, 2012

Left: They protest because the government doesn't care about local employment.

Middle: Who does the government employ then?

Right: The government employs milling ghosts.

Weekly News Magazine, March 23, 2012

March 29, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekend, March 23, 2012

The cover reads: One of the richest men, Mr. Chaliow, who was the founder of Red Bull, with 100 billion baht, lived his life extremely quietly.



From Nation Weekly, March 23, 2012

The cover reads: Beyond the godfather of channel 7, there is a godmother, Mrs. Dang



From Siamrath, March 23, 2012

The cover reads: There is a risk of the coup.

Five Years Ago: Swiss man jailed for 10 years for defacing Thai king's image

March 29, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Five Years Ago: [Swiss man jailed for 10 years for defacing Thai king's image](#)

Thais Beg Foreign Capitalists Who Own The Nation

March 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 14, 2012

Cartoon title reads: The country's owners become tenants.

On the chair: Foreign capitalists

On the map: One-third of land in Thailand belongs to foreigners.

The begging man says: Thais must beg to stay.

Left mouse: The power of multinational money

Right mouse: Does selling one's own land equal betraying the country?

Advocates: Thai police ignore 15 killings of lesbian ‘tomboys’

March 29, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Advocates: Thai police ignore 15 killings of lesbian ‘tomboys’](#) – windycitymediagroup.com, March 27, 2012 ...”The killing and rapes of lesbians and toms represents a callous disregard for humanity. The failure of the Thai government to prevent or properly investigate these killings are not only appalling, they are evidence of poor governance and blatant violation of international human rights law,” said Grace Poore, Program Coordinator for Asia and Pacific Islands, IGLHRC...

Eight Years Ago: Thaksin's War on Drugs Led to the Ya-ba Craze?

March 29, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Thaksin's War on Drugs Led to the Ya-ba Craze?](#)

Climate panel forecasts ‘unprecedented’ weather disasters; lists Bangkok

March 29, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Climate panel forecasts ‘unprecedented’ weather disasters; lists Shanghai, Bangkok, Miami](#) – AP, March 28, 2012

Cambodia: ‘Avatar’ Activists Raid Sawmill

March 29, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[‘Avatar’ Activists Raid Sawmill](#) – rfa.org, March 28, 2012

[Villagers take sawmill to task](#) – phnompenhpost.com, March 29, 2012

Thailand government bans MMA

March 29, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thailand government bans MMA](#) – fightersonlymag.com, March 29, 2012

“... there are those in the fledgling Thai MMA industry who think that the government may have been pressured or swayed by the Muay Thai industry. Muay Thai is huge business in Thailand. It fills arenas all over the country, generates a lot of tourist traffic, airs on television a lot and provides employment for a large swathe of young men who would be otherwise unengaged.”

Urine-soaked eggs a spring taste treat in China city

March 29, 2012

Categories: China

[Urine-soaked eggs a spring taste treat in China city](#) – Reuters, March 29, 2012

...The scent of these eggs being cooked in pots of urine is unmistakable as people pass the many street vendors in Dongyang who sell it, claiming it has remarkable health properties.

“If you eat this, you will not get heat stroke. These eggs cooked in urine are fragrant,” said Ge Yaohua, 51, who owns one of the more popular “virgin boy eggs” stalls...

Lonely at Songkran

March 30, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, March 30, 2012

The old woman says: This coming Songkran, our son won't come home to see us, grandpa?

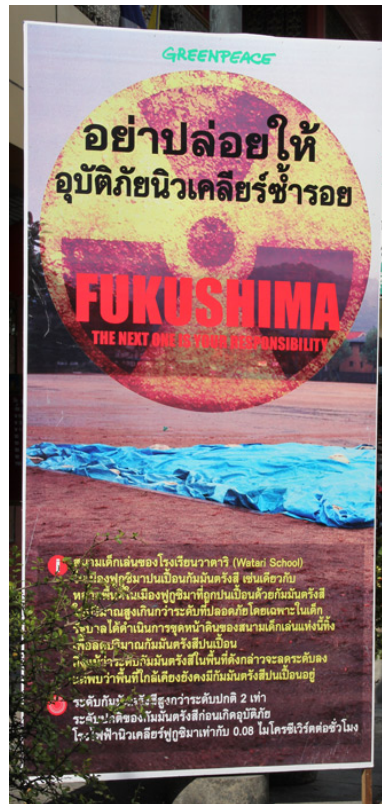
The old man says: He said he will prostrate himself to worship his father in Cambodia.

The caption reads: This year Songkran the old fathers and mothers will be lonely.

Thai People: The Next Fukushima is Your Responsibility

March 30, 2012

Categories: Energy, Signs and Billboards



The sign reads: Greenpeace – Don't let nuclear accidents keep happening. Fukushima – The Next One is Your Responsibility

The playground of Watari School and many areas in Fukushima are contaminated with radioactivity that exceeds the safety level, especially for children. The government has dug up the topsoil of this playground to reduce the amount of radioactive contamination. Although the level of radioactivity here is lower now, areas close by are still found to be contaminated.

The radioactive level is twice the normal level of the Fukushima nuclear power plants before the disaster, the normal level being 0.08 micro Sievert per hour.

Thailand's Answer to the Drive-In Theater

March 30, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Answer to the Drive-In Theater](#) – theatlanticcities.com, March 29, 2012

...Scheeren described the project rather poetically as “A screen, nestled somewhere between the rocks. And the audience...floating...hovering above the sea, somewhere in the middle of this incredible space of the lagoon, focused on the moving images across the water: a sense of temporality, randomness, almost like driftwood. Or maybe something more architectural: modular pieces, loosely assembled, like a group of little islands that congregate to form an auditorium...”

Thailand: Don't Block Accountability for Political Violence

March 30, 2012

Categories: Human Rights

[Thailand: Don't Block Accountability for Political Violence](#) – hrw.org, March 30, 2012

...In the name of “reconciliation” there were no independent investigations into the crackdowns on students and pro-democracy protesters in 1973 and 1976, which led to the deaths of over 100 people. The complete findings of a government inquiry into the bloody 1992 repression of protesters calling for an end to military rule have never been released. In each of these cases, in the name of “reconciliation,” amnesty was given to those responsible for the violence...

“Chinese Goddess of Compassion” accused of iPod theft at Pattaya attraction

March 30, 2012

Categories: Pattaya

[“Chinese Goddess of Compassion” accused of iPod theft at Pattaya attraction](#) – pattayaone.net, March 24, 2012

Daring double game in Thailand

March 31, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Daring double game in Thailand](#) – atimes.com, March 30, 2012

...One source familiar with Thaksin's recent thinking claims he has grown "tired" of reconciliation efforts and is prepared to use "force" to push his agenda. The well-placed source believes that recent swings between reconciliation and confrontation are often reflective of the former premier's mood swings...

This is largely what 2B indicated last week: [The Political Calm and the Weakness of the Establishment](#)

Thailand Grand Prix being considered for 2014 or 2015

March 31, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thailand Grand Prix being considered for 2014 or 2015](#) – autoweek.com, March 30, 2012

Hat Yai Lee Gardens Plaza Hotel explosion

March 31, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Deadly Hat Yai fire ‘sabotage’](#) – Bangkok Post, March 31, 2012

[Hat Yai hotel fire kills 5](#) – Bangkok Post, March 31, 2012

[Hat Yai hotel fire kills 3](#) – Bangkok Post, March 31, 2012

Via [Veena T](#): Hat Yai Mayor quoted by @Rawangpai Channel, the incident at Lee Garden Hotel is not a bomb but an explosion of gas pipeline.

[At least two killed in Hat Yai hotel fire](#) – The Nation, March 31, 2012

[Bomb rocks Hat Yai hotel, over 200 people trapped](#) – The Nation, March 31, 2012

Reconcile

April 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, April 1, 2012

The cartoon title: Reconcile

Top left: Take turns to insult people in the south of Thailand by saying that they are too stupid to reconcile the country.

Top middle: Is it better that you reconcile the three provinces in the south of Thailand first?

Top right: Reconcile within political parties, they still couldn't do it.

Bottom left: This person is the only one person who if he stays still can reconcile the country.

Bottom middle: Within red shirt groups, they don't think to reconcile.

Bottom right: Reconciling happens according to the majority of partisans, then this leads to other groups following them.

Democrat says govt blocks party meeting tape from going on air

April 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Democrat says govt blocks party meeting tape from going on air on Modernine](#) – The Nation, April 1, 2012

Trade took back seat on Harper's Thailand trip

April 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Trade took back seat on Harper's Thailand trip](#) – Globe and Mail, March 30, 2012

...The two countries have a lot to offer to one another. Canada has energy technology, especially of the clean-tech variety, which Thailand covets. Thailand is a manufacturing and export powerhouse that is moving up the value chain (auto making has emerged as big industry).

But the signal given by Mr. Harper's team last week was that Canada doesn't much care about ramping up trade and investment between the two countries. This is a pity. Traditionally, leaders of government are seen as any Western country's chief ambassador and salesman. Mr. Harper could do with a few less photo ops and a few more "sell Canada" sessions. The man does, after all, stress his pro-market, pro-business stance.

Corpses for Thaksin

April 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 2, 2012

The bloodied bodies read: Return smartly

The caption reads: You can do it

The Shooting at the Twenty Club

April 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 15, 2012

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

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

The Context of This Year's Hat Yai Bombings

April 2, 2012

Categories: Analysis, The Thai Deep South

[Thai Bomb Attacks Mark Increased Threat](#) – WSJ, April 2, 2012

...The blasts on Saturday singled out weekend shoppers and vacationers in bustling commercial centers, a move that security analysts said shows Thailand's southern militants are modifying their attacks by seeking higher-profile targets and turning a low-intensity campaign into a much more dangerous conflict...

7 Years Ago in April, 2005 [Blasts hit airport & hotel](#)

6 Years Ago on September 17, 2006 [Hat Yai blasts](#)

5 Years Ago in May, 2007 [Bombs in Hat Yai](#)

4 Years Ago: [Songkhla rocked by coordinated bomb attacks](#)

Lido and Scala cinemas might be demolished

April 2, 2012

Categories: Buildings, Film and TV

[Is it curtains for city's iconic cinemas?](#) – Bangkok Post, April 2, 2012

...Siam Theatre, Lido and Scala were built in 1967, 1968 and 1970 respectively by Pisit Tansacha, founder of the Apex theatre chain. Siam Theatre, however, was burned down on May 19, 2010, at the height of the red-shirt crisis.

The cinemas are situated in Siam Square, one of the most valuable pieces of real estate in Thailand. The area is owned by Chulalongkorn University.

But according to Dr Permyot Kosolbhand, vice-president of Chulalongkorn's Property Management Office, there is no plan to demolish the Lido and the Scala...

Thai woman feels more comfortable as U.S. citizen

April 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai woman feels more comfortable as U.S. citizen](#) – Enid News and Eagle, April 1, 2012

...In Thailand, there are no equal-opportunity laws, and gender discrimination is rampant. Pon feels much more comfortable here.

“I’m very excited to be a citizen,” she said...

The fascinating Ample Rich Tax Case in Thailand comes to an end

April 3, 2012

Categories: The Thaksin Years

[The fascinating Ample Rich Tax Case in Thailand comes to an end](#) – sherrings.com, April 2012

...But instead of transferring the shares in Shin Corp from Ample Rich to Temasek Holdings directly, the shares in Shin Corp were firstly transferred from Ample Rich to individuals in Thailand and then from the individuals in Thailand to Temasek Holdings on the Thai Stock Exchange, as follows:

Ample Rich sold 329.2 million shares in Shin Corp to individuals in Thailand at a price of Bt 1 per share.

On the following business day, the individuals in Thailand sold the 329.2 million shares in Shin Corp to Temasek Holdings on the Thailand Stock Exchange at a price of Bt 49.25 per share.

From these transactions, the individuals in Thailand earned capital gains income in the order of Bt 15.8 billion, but did not file any tax returns or pay any tax on the capital gains income...

Foreigners should note (as the above summary of events illustrates), the Ample Rich Tax Case was decided by political agenda, rather than on the basis of the Thai tax law, and we in Thailand don't have (and will probably never have) the Supreme Court's decision re this tax matter...

“Be Bloody and Resolute” – The Banned Thai Film

April 3, 2012

Categories: Film and TV



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



[Shakespeare must be banned](#) – The Nation, April 3, 2012

[“Shakespeare Must Die” Official Website](#)

From the statement from the filmmakers:

...As every English-speaking middle school children know, ‘Macbeth’ is the supreme study of megalomania, the tale of a warlord with limitless ambition who, prompted by the prophecies of witches and egged on by his fiendish wife, kills his king to crown himself. A reign of terror ensues, as the paranoid tyrant must keep on killing to preserve his power.

It seems strange that the cultural ministry would ban Shakespeare, in the form of a film that the ministry itself had funded. It’s as if we’re actually living under a real live Macbeth. There are cinematic versions of Macbeth from all over the world—India, Japan, Taiwan, you name it. This is the first Thai Shakespearean film and, for reasons of national security, it is deemed too dangerous for Thai people to see!

And [more on this page](#) as the director prepares the film to send to the Thai censors:

...Thailand is in the worst mood in my living memory; the very dust in the air is filled with rage, hate, grief and helplessness. The inevitable questions from the censors, and others, will be: Are you not afraid that this film will contribute to the existing divisiveness? Are you biased against the red shirts? Aren’t you scared that the red shirts will kill you? Is the film an attack on the Shinawatra family? Is this film an attack on the royal family? (Given the current plague of lese majeste cases, let me confirm right here that every syllable in that scene is straight from Shakespeare; it’s a discussion of the Divine Right of Kings, ie they’re only divine if they behave, and it’s essentially about rulers and leaders of men, not only kings.) Is this film dredging up old and new wounds unnecessarily? Why does Khunying Mekhdeth (Lady Macbeth) call on evil spirits to possess her while praying before a Buddha statue? Etc....

Weekly News Magazine, March 30, 2012

April 4, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, March 30, 2012

The cover reads: Reconciliation approach by Poo's bewildering style



From Nation Weekend, March 30, 2012

The cover reads: Do you forget him yet, Colonel Romklao Ruvatum?



From Siamrath, March 30, 2012

The cover reads: Secret (benefit), delude, conceal

How Facebook Won Burma's Election

April 4, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[How Facebook Won Burma's Election](#) – The Irrawaddy, April 4, 2012

...Digital photographs were downloaded directly from polling stations around the country or from the NLD headquarters in Rangoon and spread instantly on Facebook. International journalists who ran back to their hotel rooms or to Internet cafes to file their stories discovered that they were already an hour too late...

Opening of the 200th Boots Store in Thailand

April 5, 2012

Categories: Business

[Opening of the 200th Boots Store in Thailand](#) – marketwatch.com, April 3, 2012

In Bed with Thaksin

April 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 5, 2012

Bavornsak: I refuse your offer. I want my virginity back.

Thaksin: Aow! When you didn't protest?

The caption reads: Mr. Bavornsak, is it not too late that you protest?

Thaksin Thrilled

April 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 5, 2012

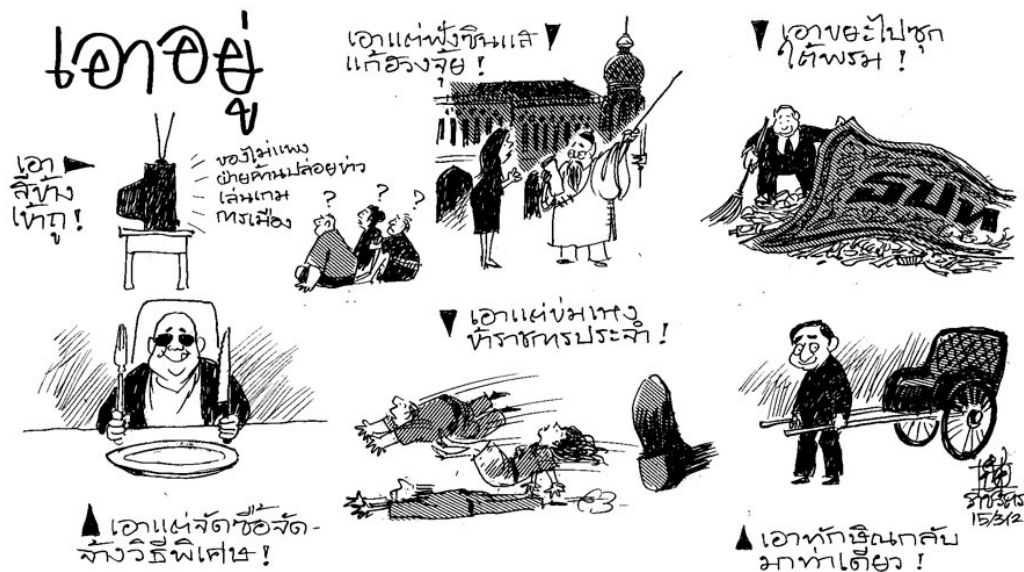
Thaksin's lawyer Nopphadol says: Don't worry, boss. I brought a snack box to give to the graven image already.

On the newspaper: Pa Prem believes that the graven image will punish the person who betrays Thailand. The caption reads: It's inefficient.

Under Control

April 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, March 17, 2012

The cartoon title: Under control

Upper left: is using its own flank to rub something! On the TV: Nothing's expensive. The opposition just says it is in order to play political games.

Upper middle: keeps listening to *sin sae* and correcting Government House's *feng shui*!

Upper right: hides garbage under a rug! The rug reads: Bank of Thailand

Lower left: keeps using special methods for government procurement!

Lower middle: keep oppressing regular officials!

Lower right: keeps planning to bring Thaksin back!

Cambodia's Hun Sen Proves A Feisty Asean Chair

April 5, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Hun Sen Proves A Feisty Asean Chair](#) – WSJ, April 4, 2012

...Deriding his critics as “crazy analysts” and “stupid philosophers,” Mr. Hun Sen jarred awake an international press corps of about 200 reporters that had steeled themselves for sunny talk of regional harmony and bland pronouncements on such Asean perennials as customs cooperation...

More Details of Thaksin's Alleged Meetings With Deep South Separatists

April 6, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Explosive escalation of Thai insurgency](#) – atimes.com, April 6, 2012

... "Thaksin has reportedly visited Malaysia several times this year to hold meetings with both Prime Minister Najib Razak and former premier Mahathir Muhammad. According to several well-placed sources, these meetings have resulted in older-generation separatists from various factions resident in Malaysia being strong-armed by Malaysian Special Branch police into attending meetings both with representatives of SBPAC chief Thawee and finally with Thaksin himself to discuss ways of addressing the grievances of Thailand's Malay Muslim community..."

Siam Reap Ready for 40,000 Red Shirts

April 6, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Siem Reap to see red](#) – phnompenhpost.com, April 6, 2012

... *“We estimate 40,000 of Thailand’s red shirts will be here to celebrate their New Year with their former Prime Minister...”*

US names first Myanmar ambassador in 22 years

April 7, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[US names first Myanmar ambassador in 22 years](#) – FT, April 6, 2012

The Obama administration has nominated Derek Mitchell, the state department's special envoy to Myanmar, as the first US ambassador to Myanmar since 1990. The move, to be publicly announced in coming days, highlights Washington's rapid moves to upgrade diplomatic ties with the reformist government of President Thein Sein...

Danok could be next terror target in Thailand, Utusan reports

April 7, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Danok could be next terror target in Thailand, Utusan reports](#) – themalaysianinsider.com, April 7, 2012

...“Based on information and investigations, the terrorist group is working to attract international attention by making economic and foreign tourist areas a target,” the source was quoted as saying.

“Based on investigations, Danok, which is in the Sadao district, has a high possibility of becoming a target of a bomb attack...”

How will Thaksin get back?

April 8, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, March 23, 2012

The caption reads: Fighting over a passenger

Kwanchai : You can go faster by motorcycle. Riding through Udon , it'll take only a moment to get to Bangkok. On Kwanchai's vest: Kwanchai 69

Sign above the bus: Bangkok

On the bus: Reconciliation Commission

The man at left: Bus driver

Thailand: Dark side of tour hot spot

April 8, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Thailand: Dark side of tour hot spot](#) – nzherald.co.nz, April 8, 2012

...In Southeast Asia, daily hospital costs exceed \$900 and the cost of medical evacuations from the United States range from \$95,000 to \$125,000.

“Treatment and repatriation can run into the hundreds of thousands,” he said...

Malaysian Newspaper Reports on the Thaksin-Separatists Peace Talks

April 8, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South



[Thailand's Thaksin went to meet separatists – The peace talks fail](#) – Kwanghua Jit Pao, April 4, 2012
Read in [Google Translate](#)

Gen. Sonthi is Completely Naked

April 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 9, 2012

Sign on the table: The President of Reconciliation Committee

Gen. Sonthi thinks: Succeeded in taking off the uniform of a revolutionist already... I will go anywhere unashamedly from now on.

The caption reads: Bung should be ashamed much more than before.

Latest on the Secret Thai Prison

April 9, 2012

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Special report: Rendition ordeal that raises new questions about secret trials](#) – guardian.co.uk, April 8, 2012

...But when the aircraft stopped off at Bangkok, the pair were detained and taken to a US-run detention facility.

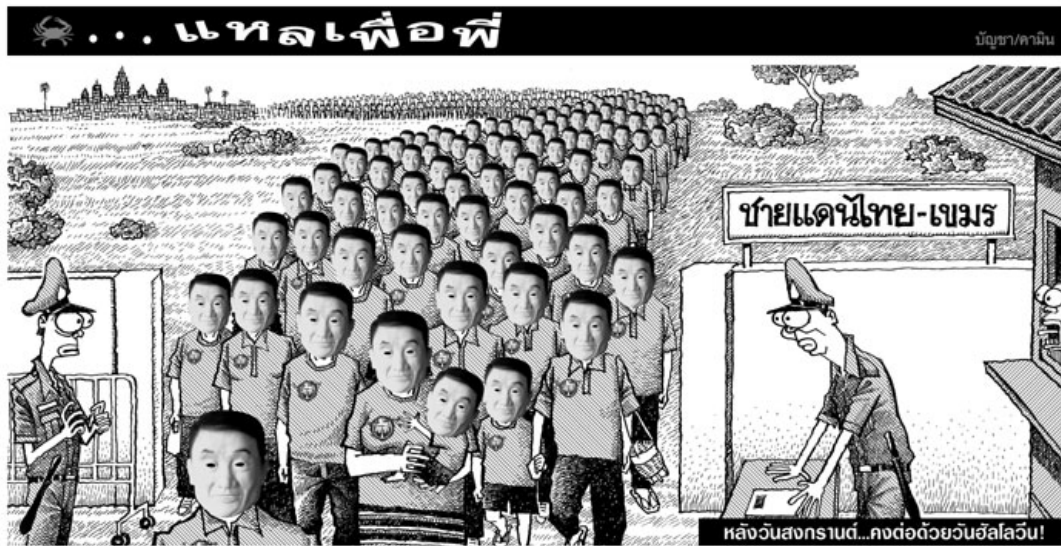
It was known that the CIA had been operating a secret prison in Thailand since 9/11, but its precise location was unknown. Bouchar and Belhaj arrived there within minutes of being detained, suggesting that it was located within the perimeter of Don Muang international airport. They were immediately separated...

[Earlier details of the Thai CIA prison](#)

Army of Thaksins Return to Thailand

April 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 10, 2012

On sign: Border of Thai-Cambodia

The caption reads: After Songkran, they will use these for Halloween.

False Cries Against Thaksin

April 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 10, 2012

The title reads: In the past “shout in cinemas”

In the present “shout in the middle of city”

A man on the left: Reconciliation is for Thaksin’s amnesty!

Man on the middle (Democrat Suthep): The constitution amendment is to help Thaksin!

The hooded man says: Thaksin talked to the southern terrorists secretly.

On the robe: Order to subdue people.

From the gutter: Demolish the royal institution.

The mouse on the left says: His habit hasn’t changed

The other mouse says: Satan magic

Yingluck government became the first to endorse Twitter's new 'censorship tools'

April 10, 2012

Categories: Censorship

[Thailand: Internet Freedom Threats and Violations](#) – globalvoicesonline.org, April 9, 2012

...The continued onslaught of internet freedom in Thailand is very much tied to the overall tension with regards to the debate over the possible reform of Article 112 of the Penal Code, known widely as the “lese majeste clause” which prohibits defamation of the royal family. The Yingluck government has made clear it will not seek its amendment and has since stepped up its crack down on netizens, claiming its duty to enforce the law. Yet given the opaqueness of the law and the lack of transparency in computer crime related cases, the government is effectively breeding fear...

Burmese Are Wary of Tourism's Dark Side

April 10, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burmese Are Wary of Tourism's Dark Side](#) – IHT, April 10, 2012

...But with much of the tourism infrastructure owned by notorious henchmen and ex-generals from the old military dictatorship, how can a tourist travel in the former Burma without enriching the very people who kept the country in the dark for so many decades?

And how can Myanmar, as it grows its tourism sector, avoid following Thailand and Cambodia into sex tourism?...

I Saved Suu Kyi at Depayin Massacre: Ex-Spy Chief

April 10, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[I Saved Suu Kyi at Depayin Massacre: Ex-Spy Chief](#) – The Irrawaddy, April 10, 2012

...Despite the lack of an official death toll for the Depayin Massacre, Burmese dissidents claim around 70 people perished in the attack. The slaughter took place in Kyee village, on the outskirts of Depayin Township in Sagaing Division, central Burma...

Hotter Because of Thaksin

April 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, April 11, 2012

Left: The Meteorological Department warns that Thailand will be even hotter more than before.

Middle: Does MET make this forecast due to the Ei Nino effect?

Right: This year the MET forecasts this from the effect from the act of parliament to reconcile and return assets for of 46 billion baht to Thaksin.

Threats Against Thaksin

April 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 11, 2012

The Red Shirt leader says: Mr. Thaksin might be assassinated during the pouring water Songkran festival in Cambodia.

Other people around are thinking: "Really?," "Oh, good," "Hope that it will be true."

The caption reads: Who said there's no good news from the Red Shirt group?

Weekly News Magazine, April 6, 2012

April 11, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, April 6, 2012

The cover reads: Tawe Sodsong – Eating Malay Tom Yum – but nothing to do with negotiations.



From Matichon Weekly, April 6, 2012

The cover reads: The master of wisecracks. The mask of Meaw.



From Siamrath Weekly, April 6, 2012

The cover read: The war of 3G – True Move H is a political victim.

Seven Years Ago Today: Spaghetti strap girls warned of disease risk

April 11, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [Spaghetti strap girls warned of disease risk](#)

Fighting at Kok Wua Intersection

April 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 11, 2012

The caption reads: You know it well, but you pretend that you don't know it.

The Democrat Party banner reads: Mourn lost people and don't let anyone to do this again.

Date: April-May 2010

The skull says: I really want to know that don't you really know who did this.

The street sign reads: Kok Wua Intersection

Songkhla: Strikers claim shots fired

April 11, 2012

Categories: Labor

[Songkhla: Strikers claim shots fired](#) – phnompenhpost.com, April 10,2012

...Sok Sorng said “many police” had threatened workers with guns as more than 1,000 workers, including some from Myanmar and Thailand, rallied against management locking them out of the factory, which is believed to be a supplier of retail giant Walmart, a day after they went on strike over wages...

Fugitive son of former Zambia president hires Thaksin Lobbyist Robert Amsterdam

April 11, 2012

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

[Henry seeks to halt interpol alert](#) – postzambia.com, April 10, 2012

...Henry has been placed on the International Police (Interpol) red notice list as a wanted person.

Henry, currently domiciled in South Africa, has hired Amsterdam of Amsterdam & Peroff LLP to halt the Interpol alert.

“These unspecified allegations against Henry Banda are politically driven and without foundation. It is clearly not a genuine investigation,” stated Amsterdam, who also represents former president Banda, in a claim to counter Zambia’s pursuit for Henry...

Kim Il Sung's Feats Praised by Foreigners

April 11, 2012

Categories: North Korea

[Kim Il Sung's Feats Praised by Foreigners](#) – kcna.co.jp, April 10, 2012

...Songchit Pullarp, chairman of the Organization for the Study of the Juche Idea of Thailand, said the President is a prominent leader not only of the Korean people but of the world people.

“Studying for nearly 20 years the books on socialism and communism authored by famous thinkers and theoreticians, I was convinced that the Juche idea founded by the President is, indeed, the great idea most correctly reflecting the view of the popular masses,” he said. “I became to know better about the validity and vitality of the Juche idea by witnessing great successes the DPRK registered in the socialist construction.”

Seven Years Ago: Selling Off British Embassy Property in Bangkok

April 12, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Above: Undated postcard showing the Queen Victoria Memorial

Seven Years Ago: [Selling Off British Embassy Property in Bangkok](#)

Seven Years Ago Today: Sorayuth and the Support of Thaksin

April 12, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [Sorayuth and the Support of Thaksin](#)

Chavalit and the Dominatrix

April 12, 2012

Categories: Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, April 4, 2012

Left: Don't stop, don't stop. The more rude, the more feeling a sense of thrill. Seeeds...

Middle: Flog more heavily. Don't stop. Seeeds...

Right: I can't flog you anymore. I think you should go to see a psychiatrist.

Earlier: [Chavalit Runs Away](#)

Earlier: [Chavalit Runs Away \(Again\)](#)

Earlier: [Gen. Chavalit to lead "People's Army"](#)

Milling Ghosts Entering Parliament

April 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 12, 2012

On the sign in front of parliament: Gristmill

The water monitor says: Feel pity for those ghosts that have to work everyday—even Songkran day.

The house speaker says: Walk fast.

Eight Years Ago: How Hard Did Thailand Fight in WWII?

April 12, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [How Hard Did Thailand Fight in WWII?](#)

Cambodia Takes Aim at the Dominant Dollar

April 12, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia Takes Aim at the Dominant Dollar](#) – wsj.com, April 11, 2012

Four Years Ago: Retaking Bangkok from the Red Shirts Street by Street

April 12, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Source: NBT)

Four Years Ago: [Retaking Bangkok from the Red Shirts Street by Street](#)

No fairytale ending in land of smiles

April 12, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[No fairytale ending in land of smiles](#) – nst.com.my, April 11, 2012

...In fact, he's more of a raging bull right now, feeling not without reason that he's been cheated out of his rightful job, for which he was overwhelmingly elected. But his opponents know that his return means the end of democracy. His Mussolini-like bullying may bring benefits to the masses, but at the end of the day, even they will no longer have any say in whether he ever leaves office...

Phatthana Seafood factory in Songkhla: Strings attached to offer made to Cambodian workers

April 12, 2012

Categories: Labor

[Strings attached to Thai firm's offer](#) – phnompenhpost.com, April 12, 2012

Cambodia migrant workers seeking to leave allegedly exploitative conditions at the Phatthana Seafood factory in southern Thailand said yesterday that they were still being forced to pay to get their passports back.

The factory, which exports fish to buyers across the world including Walmart, has come under fire from its migrant employees, who have said they were tricked on pay conditions, while rights groups allege the workers are victims of human trafficking...

Yesterday: [Strikers claim shots fired](#)

KFC Thailand apologizes for improper quake posting

April 12, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[KFC Thailand apologizes for improper quake posting](#) – AP, April 12, 2012

...As people were being urged to evacuate from beach areas, the company posted this message: “Let’s hurry home and follow the earthquake news. And don’t forget to order your favorite KFC menu...”

Thai Policewomen Perform Safety Dance

April 12, 2012

Categories: Songkran



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



[Thai Policewomen Perform Safety Dance](#) – WSJ, April 12, 2012

Everyone is Thaksin at Songkran

April 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 6, 2012

The cartoon title reads: If you cannot get over Thaksin... then some people will be sorrowful and some will be joyful.

On the hooded figure: Objection to Thaksin's amnesty – Gave an order to suppress people.

On the Thaksin figures: Wanna go home & Love Thaksin

Small Thaksin at bottom left: Give back justice.

Other small Thaksin: Bring the one who kill people to be punished.

Heaven or Hell on Earth? Songkran After Midnight

April 13, 2012

Categories: Songkran



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/276Aqb5Uz38>



Laos Government orders radio show off the air

April 13, 2012

Categories: Laos

[Laos Government orders radio show off the air](#) – ifex.org, April 12, 2012

...The “Talk of the News”, or “Wao Khao” in Lao language, was considered as an achievement in broadening access to information and stimulating citizen feedback and discussion on a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues impacting the country and everyday life...

Critics Question Wisdom of Cambodian Govt Allowing Red Shirt Gathering in Siem Reap

April 13, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Critics Question Wisdom of Thai Red Shirt Gathering in Siem Reap](#) – VOA, April 12, 2012

... *“It’s good that both countries have a good relationship,” said Lao Monghay, an independent analyst. “But we have to think whether or not we are putting our nose into the affairs of other countries.”*

“If a Cambodian group banned from returning to Cambodia in Thailand, what would we think?” he said. “It would be a jumbled relationship...”

Comparing China's Bo Xilai and Thaksin

April 13, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Lost In Transit From Bangkok To Beijing](#) – Forbes, April 13, 2012

...Both were egotistic, media-savvy populists who used violence to 'strike hard' at influential people and then claimed the credit for drops in crime or extortion. Both played to domestic audiences with nationalist slogans while furiously courting foreign investors...

Malaysia: Security bill threatens basic liberties

April 16, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

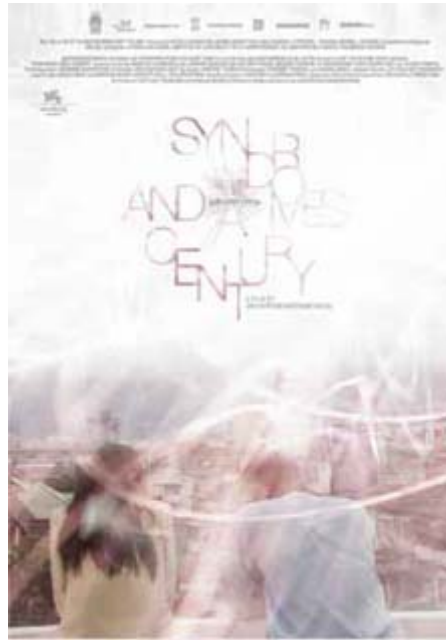
[Security bill threatens basic liberties](#) – ifex.org, April 11, 2012

...Provisions of the Security Offences Bill will facilitate violations of fundamental human rights, Human Rights Watch said. Permitting detention for 28 days without being brought before a judge violates international standards for prompt judicial review. The bill also allows delays of 48 hours before the suspect has access to a lawyer, which encourages abusive interrogations. And the bill defines “political activity” too narrowly, leaving room for arrests for other forms of peaceful political activity...

Five Years Ago: Another Major Banned Thai Film

April 16, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Five Years Ago: Another Major Banned Thai Film – Syndromes and a Century

[Free Thai Cinema Movement Petition](#) and [Black screen speaks volumes about Thai censorship](#)

Excited About Angkor Wat and Thaksin

April 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 16, 2012

Left: The caption reads: People who have wisdom get it from visiting Cambodia.

The man says: Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom are the greatest... They are really the one of the seven wonders of the world.

Right: People who are simple minded, get...

The man says: Thaksin's eggs and Hun Sen's eggs are the greatest... They are really the one of the seven wonders of the world.

Abhist's Songkran Cry

April 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Songkran



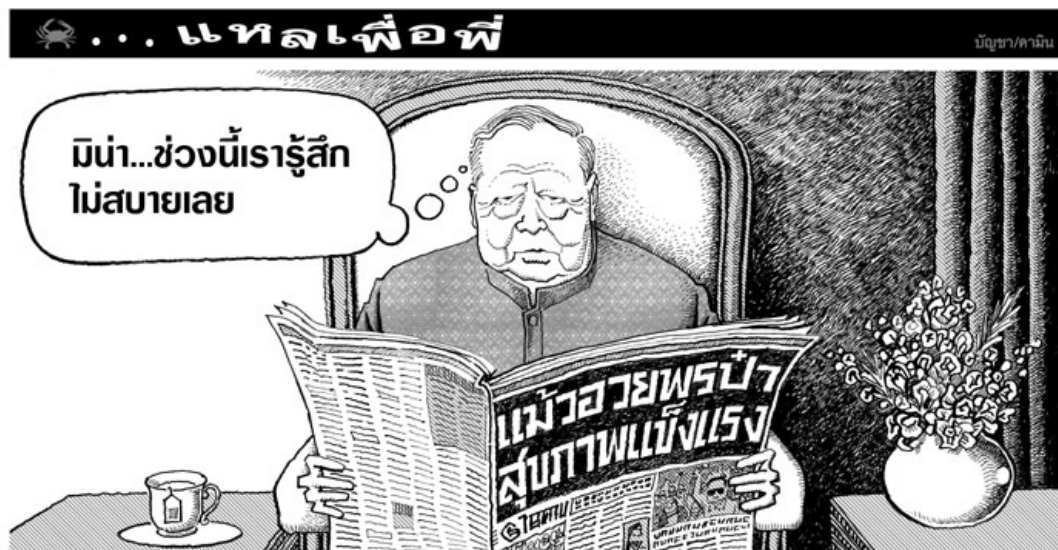
From Khaosod, April 12, 2012

Abhisit yells: Reconcile!

Prem Feeling Sick

April 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 17, 2012

On the newspaper: Meaw wished well to Pa Prem to have good health.

Gen. Prem is thinking: No wonder...I feel sick at this moment.

Vehicles Used to Overthrow the Nation

April 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 4, 2012

The caption reads: The different vehicles that they ride to stage a coup.

Left: Gen. Sonthi says: The coup group Council of National Security tore up the constitution of 2540 to draft a new constitution.

Right: Thaksin says: The coup group Red Buffalo tore up the constitution of 2550 to draft the new constitution.

Overhyped Elections in Myanmar?

April 17, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Overhyped Elections in Myanmar?](#) – globalvoicesonline.org, April 17, 2012

Thaksin Rally Raises Interference Questions

April 17, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin Rally Raises Interference Questions](#) – rfa.org, April 16, 2012

...Chheang Vannarith, executive director of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, said the arrival of Thaksin and the Red Shirts in Cambodia demonstrated better relations between the two countries and their people.

“Not only Cambodia, but other countries, such as Laos, Burma and Malaysia—all of these four countries surrounding Thailand have opened their doors to welcome him,” he said.

“When he was in power, Thaksin had shown good cooperation with Thailand’s neighboring countries...”

Thailand's Buddhists Take Up Arms Against Insurgency

April 17, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Thailand's Buddhists Take Up Arms Against Insurgency](#) – Newsweek, April 16, 2012

A few hours' drive from the white-sand beaches of Phuket—one of the world's top tourist destinations—a deadly insurgency is terrorizing Thailand's south. The separatist movement, made up of mostly ethnic-Malay Muslims, roils the region with daily threats of sectarian violence and has prompted many Buddhist villagers, and even some monks, to take up arms in self-defense...

Thai student's money-making effort at center of Supreme Court copyright case

April 17, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai student's money-making effort at center of Supreme Court copyright case](#) – WP, April 18, 2012

...While at USC, Kirtsaeng arranged for family and friends living abroad to purchase textbooks and ship them to him. He resold the copies on eBay. Eight textbooks sold by Kirtsaeng were published by Wiley's Asian subsidiary. The company sued the student in federal court in New York...

Porn in the House

April 18, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Manager, April 18, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Take off your clothes before the charter amendment.

On the screen: Censor

Sign on the table: President of the National Assembly

Speaker of the House Somsak Kiatsuranont says: Amend... charter... ta.ta.take... off clothes.

Ditch and canal dredging is being conducted by the BMA

April 18, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



The sign reads: We apologize for the inconvenience. Ditch and canal dredging to prevent flooding is being conducted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration.

Gallup Poll: Thailand Among Lowest in “Suffering” Worldwide

April 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[More Than One in 10 “Suffering” Worldwide](#) – [gallup.com](#), April 13, 2012

Thailand's Drug War: This is not a war on Thais

April 18, 2012

Categories: Drugs

[This is not a war on Thais](#) – Bangkok Post, April 18, 2012

...The killing of Sopha sounds very much like the actions of an undisciplined, out-of-control police force. It could also sound quite a bit like what both Thaksin and Mr Chalerm said they wanted. In order to terrify and neutralise drug dealers, they claim, it may be necessary to also have some regrettable “collateral damage”...

Going green in Thailand? Only if you can afford it

April 18, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Going green in Thailand? Only if you can afford it](#) – CNET, April 17, 2012

...Toyota Thailand currently offers three hybrids models—the Camry, Prius C and the Prius, in their various trim levels. The starting prices? A cool 1,199,000 baht (US\$38,866) for the Prius, 1,399,000 baht (US\$45,349) for the Prius C and 1,649,000 baht (US\$53,452) for a Camry hybrid. Did you notice that the compact Prius C costs more than the regular, full-sized Prius?

Let's now have a look at the starting prices for these same cars in the US. The Prius starts at a MSRP of US\$24,000, Prius C at US\$18,950 and the Camry Hybrid at US\$25,900...

Delhi Police to question Bangkok blast suspects

April 18, 2012

Categories: Security

[Delhi Police to question Bangkok blast suspects](#) – indianexpress.com, April 18, 2012

...“The two men who are in the custody of the Bangkok police are also part of the same module which carried out the blast in Delhi. Apart from Masoud, we will also sent letter rogatories to Thai authorities to grant us access to interrogate Saied and Khazei,” said a police officer...

Thai government denies death threats to Thaksin

April 18, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thai government denies death threats to Thaksin](#) – phnompenhpost.com, April 18, 2012

...Jarupan Kuldiloke, the spokeswoman of Thaksin's Pheu Thai party, said by email yesterday that Sukampol Suwannathat had been misquoted and that "red-shirt" leader Nattawut Saikua had also denied any threats had been made.

"It is a local red shirts leader in Chiangmai said this news. But nobody else have heard about the assassination ," the email said...

Yesterday: [Death threat to Thaksin remains: Defence Minister](#)

...Defence Minister General Sukampol Suwannathat re-confirmed yesterday that fugitive former premier Thaksin Shinawatra is being targeted for assassination...

Eight Years Ago: Another Thaksin Goal – Eliminating Open Piracy

April 19, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: Another Thaksin Goal – [Eliminating Open Piracy](#)

Recent moves to actually change Thailand's anti-piracy laws should come as no surprise—this was one issue former Thaksin-controlled governments also pursued.

Yingluck Dressing Up in China's National Costume

April 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 19, 2012

The newspaper headline: Poo dressed up in Chinese national costume to visit Beijing.

The man says: Invite the Thai prime minister to visit our country right away.

The caption reads: Dress up in this country's national costume and visit them.... we want to see.

Angry Birds chic swarms Cambodia

April 19, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Angry Birds chic swarms Cambodia](#) – globalpost.com, April 12, 2012

...It seemed like every tenth guy or girl was adorned in Angry Birds fashion. Even in this dirt-road farming village, where I'd traveled to interview a human trafficking victim, a local vendor had stitched a felt, yellow Angry Bird to her cutesy blouses to up their selling price...

Behind Bars

April 19, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Get drunk – Drive drunk – Be jailed

Deaths Stand in the Way of Reconciliation

April 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, April 19, 2012

The title reads: Wish us have aesthetic conversation

On the chairs from left to right: Pheu Thai, UDD, hero's relative, Democrat, Army, CAPO

The sign held by the mouse: Reconciliation

Last Year: Topless Songkran Dancers

April 19, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Last Year: [Topless Songkran Dancers](#)

Thai police use public humiliation to stamp out groping during Songkran

April 19, 2012

Categories: Songkran

[Thai police use public humiliation to stamp out groping during Songkran](#) – whatismatt.com, April 14, 2012
...Anyone caught having a quick feel on Khao San Road this year was ordered to stand on a table, head hung low in shame, wearing a sign that said something like, “I like touching women’s breasts...”

If you do these things, you will be destined to die

April 19, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Fast, Speeding, Overtaking a car, Cutting in front of others — You will unwittingly be destined to die.

Thai firm says Xayaburi Dam in Laos has begun

April 19, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Thai firm says Xayaburi project has begun](#) – phnompenhpost.com, April 19, 2012

...The controversial Xayaburi hydro-electric dam project in northern Laos may have already begun, despite countries, including Cambodia, requesting further studies to assess possible negative effects on Lower Mekong communities...

Putting the Devil Out of Business

April 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 20, 2012

Left: We have to reconcile for the country to go on.

Middle: Amnesty for every case, cancel all guilt!

Right: They are powerful and now I am unemployed.

Weekly News Magazines, April 13, 2012

April 20, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



Matichon Weekend, April 13, 2012



Nation Weekly, April 13, 2012

The cover reads: Sending Her Royal Highness Princess to the heaven.

Soccer or sex? Thai teens ponder puzzling choice

April 20, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Soccer or sex? Thai teens ponder puzzling choice](#) – NBC News, April 19, 2012

...So there was widespread incredulity when the preferred answer was eventually revealed by Dr. Samphan Phanphrut, head of the national exam board that drew up the tests. It was option A —“Call friends to go play football.” Regardless of whether they were male or female, Thai youth were supposed to deal with sexual urges by playing soccer.

For many Thais, the key lesson learned from the saga had nothing to do with soccer. Rather, it was that Thai officials have a total lack of understanding about the lives of teenagers and the importance of sensible sex education...

Cambodian artists respond to the filling in Boeung Kak Lake and evicting thousands in Phnom Penh

April 20, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian Artists Respond to Phnom Penh's Rapid Urbanization](#) – voanews.com, April 19, 2012

...Another artist, Khvay Samnang, has worked extensively in producing art works to express his views on the vanishing lakes in Phnom Penh's city centre. He has recently exhibited a series of photographs of himself standing in the middle of the now-gone Boeung Kak lake and pouring earth over his body as the shot was being taken...

Thai Auto Production Breaks 50 Year Record

April 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Auto Production Breaks 50 Year Record in March](#) – thailandoutlook.tv, April 20, 2012

...The Automotive Industry Association of the Federation of Thai Industries has reported that in March 2012, auto sales exceeded 110,000 units, an increase of 21.47 percent from the month before or 19.3 percent from the same period of last year.

Meanwhile, more than 190,000 units were produced in the same month, breaking the 50 year record since Thailand started producing its own cars in 1961...

10 Years Ago: Bangkok Anniversaries

April 21, 2012

Categories: Today in History

10 Years Ago: [Bangkok Anniversaries](#)

Banraktonmai: The Art of Training Plants

April 21, 2012

Categories: Culture and Society

[Banraktonmai: The Art of Training Plants](#) – thailandoutlook.tv, April 13, 2012

Have you seen this person? Contenders for the world's weirdest photofits

April 21, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Have you seen this person? Contenders for the world's weirdest photofits](#) – mirror.co.uk, April 20, 2012

Police are hand-in-glove with the jet ski mafia in Phuket and Pattaya

April 21, 2012

Categories: Crime, Pattaya

[‘Jet ski at your own peril in Phuket and Pattaya’](#) – bangaloremirror.com, April, 2012

...But the Eden of their dreams has a dark underbelly which reveals itself on the beaches of Phuket and Pattaya — a local mafia-run jet ski scam which has ripped off scores of foreign tourists. The racketeers’ modus operandi is simple: they rent out jet skis, which have some damage in a not-so-discernible place, to vacationers at attractive rates. Then, when the joyride is over, they pounce on the unsuspecting tourists for having caused the ‘damage’ and extort huge amounts from them, quite often at knifepoint.

Raul Shanth, a youngster from Bangalore who went to Thailand on a five-day trip recently along with his family, fell prey to the racket. His warning to fellow-Bangaloreans: Be ultra-cautious or, better still, desist from hiring a jet ski at the beaches of Phuket and Pattaya...

Thai Existentialist Hitman Film ‘Headshot’ Proves The Genre Still Has A Pulse

April 21, 2012

Categories: Film and TV



[Thai Existentialist Hitman Film ‘Headshot’ Proves The Genre Still Has A Pulse](#) – indiewire.com, April 20, 2012

...While “Headshot,” the latest film from Thai genre auteur Pen-Ek Ratanaruang (the excellent “Last Life in the Universe”), is by no means original, it’s how the story is told that makes it special. Also, it’s just a great piece of stylish, badass neo-noir cinema...

Man critically ill in Bangkok flat after hospital kicks him out

April 21, 2012

Categories: Health

[Man critically ill in Bangkok flat after hospital kicks him out](#) – belfasttelegraph.co.uk, April 20, 2012

...“Unfortunately my daddy didn’t get travel insurance so the bills were mounting ludicrously. They were charging for tablets, soap and even water...”

Two Years Ago: Red Protests – April 16-30, 2010

April 22, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: *Daily News*, April 15, 2010)

Two Years Ago: [Red Protests – April 16-30, 2010](#)

Seven Years Ago Today: Thaksin Rolls Back Human Rights Progress

April 22, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago Today: [Letter From Bangkok: Thai leader's promise on rights unfulfilled](#)

Let It Be

April 22, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 22, 2012

The cartoon title reads: “Let it be – please translate however you like”

Top left: Who believed that rumor about Phuket will fall into the sea... Let it be!

Top middle: Who will volunteer to be drunk and then drive... Let it be!

Top right: Who are threatened and harmed, but prosecutors will dismiss the case... Let it be!

Lower left: Who gave the 100 full marks to Poo's management... Let it be!

Lower middle: Who will sing royal anthem of Hun Sen... Let it be!

Lower right: Who will amend the charter to change the judgement of the court... **Can't let it be!!**

Thaksin lobbies to forgive and forget the deaths and political events of recent years

April 22, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Victims' relatives asked to forgive](#) – Bangkok Post, April 22, 2012

... "Even though I am a friend of Thaksin, I and many other friends who fought together are of the opinion Thaksin was not right to have told them to forgive those who ordered the killing of their relatives. There must be people held responsible and punished. They can't go unpunished after killing the people," the source said...

Thai Zoo Prepares to Release Rare Birds into Wild

April 22, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thai Zoo Prepares to Release Rare Birds into Wild](#) – NTD, April 21, 2012

A Thai zoo on Thursday (April 19) transported eight Eastern Sarus Cranes into pens in a non-hunting zone in Buriram province, a step before they are fully released into the wild.

The relocation aims to restore the population of the species, which disappeared for nearly 50 years from the wild in Thailand, due to agricultural degradation and hunting...

Chavalit to the Rescue

April 23, 2012

Categories: Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, March 24, 2012

The title reads: It's so hot, may I push through? Cold sweet Jiwan is coming!

At left Gen. Sonthi is carrying a sign that reads: Reconciliation Commissioner President

The hooded figure at right: Ban reconciliation

The mouse's sign: Can't lose

Sign at Songkran Police Checkpoints

April 23, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Songkran



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Happy Songkran Day

Drive safely

Don't drink then drive

Don't drive fast

If you drive, you must have a driving license.

Wear seat belt

Wear helmet

Be sure about your that you car's equipment is complete and perfect.

With goodwill from the Metropolitan Police Station at Suthisarn

Muang Thai Insurance Company supports this campaign to reduce car accidents

Thaksin ate famous Bak Kut Teh in Singapore

April 23, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



Photo: SoShiok.com

(Photo: soshiok.com)

[Thaksin ate famous Bak Kut Teh on Thursday](#) – malaysia-chronicle.com, April 22, 2012

...The ousted premier seemed to satisfy his craving for the peppery pork rib soup at the famous eatery's original Rangoon Road branch whenever he is in Singapore.

He was seen tucking into his morning meal there again on April 19. He was accompanied by a few people including his youngest daughter...

The Crusader: Canadian lawyer Robert Amsterdam

April 23, 2012

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

[The Crusader: Canadian lawyer involved in world's highest profile human rights cases](#) – ukzambians.co.uk, April 22, 2012

...For starters, Amsterdam, 54, is a Canadian, with a talent for landing in political hot spots, such as the Red Shirt compound in Bangkok last spring, where he attempted to negotiate an end to the deadly conflict between anti-government protestors and the Thai military.

He's probably the only graduate of an Ontario law school who employs a former British Special Air Services commando as a bodyguard...

Amsterdam was contacted by Shinawatra last spring and arrangements were made to have the lawyer go to Thailand to help negotiate an end to the standoff.

"What happened was, the government didn't want to talk," he says bluntly. "The government's preference, quite frankly, is to mow people down in the streets..."

Aung San Suu Kyi: Picking the wrong battle

April 23, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Picking the wrong battle](#) – foreignpolicy.com, April 20, 2012

...Perhaps the dispute can be resolved with some sort of trade-off. Otherwise the cost of further escalation and eventual deadlock will almost certainly prove high both for pro-reform officials and the opposition. By participating in the election Aung San Suu Kyi chose to play by the regime's rules; now she needs to pick her battles rather than wasting valuable energy in a fight over symbolism. There's an old Burmese proverb: "If you choose to live like a bug inside a chili pepper, you can't really complain if you start feeling hot."

Tsunami Scare Sees Gaps, Thousands Miss Warnings

April 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Tsunami Scare Sees Gaps, Thousands Miss Warnings](#) – Bloomberg News, April 23, 2012

...A surge in people seeking information online brought down official websites in Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.

“An overwhelming number of people tried to access our website to check for information, causing the website to crash for some time,” Thailand’s Kaosuwan said. “We will increase the capacity...”

Thailand deploys US\$4.4 mil CCTV system

April 24, 2012

Categories: Security

[Thailand deploys US\\$4.4 mil CCTV system](#) – futuregov.asia, April 23, 2012

...By middle of April, Hat Yai Municipality had already installed 400 surveillance cameras under with a total budget of THB120 million (US\$3.9 million). The local administration is planning to install 100 extra units under the budget of next fiscal year, which is expected to start in February next year...

The Wealth of Thai Villages: Economists Create New Framework for Examining Developing Economies

April 24, 2012

Categories: Economy

[The Wealth of Thai Villages: Economists Create New Framework for Examining Developing Economies](#) – marketwatch.com, April 24, 2012

...”We believe that a village typically has its own importance as an economy,” notes Townsend. “It’s more than just a random cluster of households. Each village is a geo-political entity with its own formal and informal institutions. This study proposes viewing villages as nations in an economic sense in order get a richer understanding of the dynamics at play. We look at production and trade as well as the macro financials, and we examine their interaction...”

Thailand's young nuns challenge convention

April 24, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thailand's young nuns challenge convention](#) – Reuters, April 24, 2012

...the ordination of “mae ji” or “nuns” is less common, and the idea that women should not play an active role in monastic life still prevails among more conservative Thais.

Fully ordained Buddhist nuns are not legally recognized, as they are in Myanmar and Sri Lanka – one sign of the inequality women still face in certain fields in Thailand...

Seven Years Ago: Details – The Giant Swing

April 25, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Seven Years Ago: [Details – The Giant Swing](#)

Use Sylvania Light Bulbs or Get Flooded!

April 25, 2012

Categories: Floods, Signs and Billboards



The sign reads: We can stop this disaster. Using Sylvania light bulbs can reduce global warming by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere, which is a major cause of polar-ice melting. Our destiny is in our hands.

Thaksin Confuses His Buffaloes

April 25, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, April 25, 2012

Thaksin is holding a cape that reads: Aristocrat

Left: Ram... ram now!

Right: Worship... worship now!

The caption reads: Do like this and the buffalo will be confused.

Seven Years Ago: Krue Se and Tak Bai reports ‘censored?’

April 25, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [Krue Se and Tak Bai reports ‘censored?’](#)

Seven Years Ago: Thaksin's Cabinet

April 25, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [Thaksin's Cabinet](#)

Nine Years Ago: Making fun of Paragon dooms the Insider column in the Bangkok Post

April 25, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Nine Years Ago: [What happened to the Insider column in the Bangkok Post?](#)

Waterboarding of CIA prisoners in Thailand: How the CIA destroyed tapes of “ugly visuals”

April 25, 2012

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Jose Rodriguez, Ex-CIA Officer, Defends Destroying Waterboarding Videos In ‘Hard Measures’ Book](#) – huffingtonpost.com, April 24, 2012

...The tapes, filmed in a secret CIA prison in Thailand, showed the waterboarding of terrorists Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Nashiri.

Especially after the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal, Rodriguez writes, if the CIA’s videos were to leak out, officers worldwide would be in danger...

All earlier articles on the “Cat’s Eye” The Secret Thai Prison:

[2011-2012](#)

[2003-2010](#)

Skimtacular: All-in-One ATM Skimmer

April 25, 2012

Categories: Scams



[Skimtacular: All-in-One ATM Skimmer](#) – BoingBoing, April 24, 2012

Weekly News Magazine, April 20, 2012

April 26, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



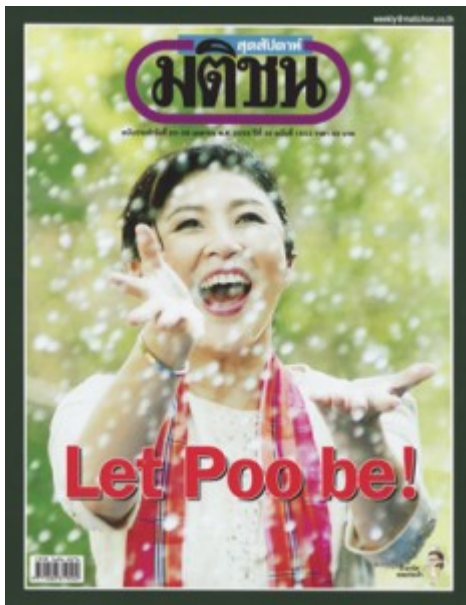
From Nation Weekly, April 20, 2012

The cover reads: Let it be. I do not care.



From Siamrath, April 20, 2012

The cover reads: M.R. Kukrit Pramoj would be 101 years old if still alive



From Matichon Weekend, April 20, 2012
The cover reads: Let Poo be!

“Stop Buying Any Shrimp Labeled ‘from Thailand’”

April 26, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Thailand's Shrimp Farms Threaten Rare 'Fishing Cats'](#) – ABCNews, Apr 24, 2012

...The farms threaten fishing cats in two ways, Cutter said. The first is that the cats are losing their natural habitat to metastasizing shrimp farms, and are sometimes driven to kill chickens belonging to local villagers. Then those villagers turn around and kill the cats.

...The solution, Cutter said, may rest right here in the United States. Many of the shipments from shrimp farms are bound for Iowa, New York, California, all over the country, and one way to help save the fishing cats, Cutter said, is to not buy any packages of frozen shrimp labeled “from Thailand.”

Two Years Ago Today: Rumors About Thaksin's Health

April 26, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Two Years Ago Today: Rumors About Thaksin's Health

[Thaksin's Health](#) and [Thaksin is Alive](#)

Moribund Elite Card rises like a phoenix

April 26, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Moribund Elite Card rises like a phoenix](#) – Bangkok Post, April 26, 2012

...Political intervention is pressuring the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), the TPC's sole owner, to reverse its plan to shut down the loss-ridden card operation, a brainchild of fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

Chartthaipattana party chief adviser Banharn Silpa-archa, currently banned from politics, met Thaksin recently in Dubai. Chumpol Silpa-archa, Mr Banharn's brother, is the Tourism and Sports minister. Shortly after Mr Banharn's return, the ministry ordered the TAT to dust off the business plan for the Elite Card...

Earlier: [About the Elite Card program](#)

Earlier: [Elite Card Abandoned](#)

Songkran Cartoons

April 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Songkran



From Post Today, April 13, 2012

Political figures throw water on Songkran.

The caption reads: Throw water to keep good relationships. Aim to reconcile together.

On Thaksin's parachute: I'm fine.



From Interest Business 2012, April 16, 2012

The text reads: Be careful! Magic from Miss Songkran, Kimitatevee.

On the sand bags: Populism

Words next to the wall: Reconciliation

On the red bar with people behind it: Pheu Thai Party

People are carrying signs that read: Go forward, Fight and follow Poo, Just good acting

On PM Yingluck's sign: Can handle, ka

Yingluck and Education Billboard

April 27, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The billboard reads: Improve basic Thailand education

Graduate Mathayom 6 within 8 months by

- Equivalence Education Level
- Group Discussion Education
- Online education or VDO education

Contact

The Office of Non-formal and Informal Education (ONIE) in each province/district/and sub-district near your place.

Professor Dr. Suchart Tadatumrongvej

Minister of Education

How to Explain the Prem Meeting to the Red Shirts

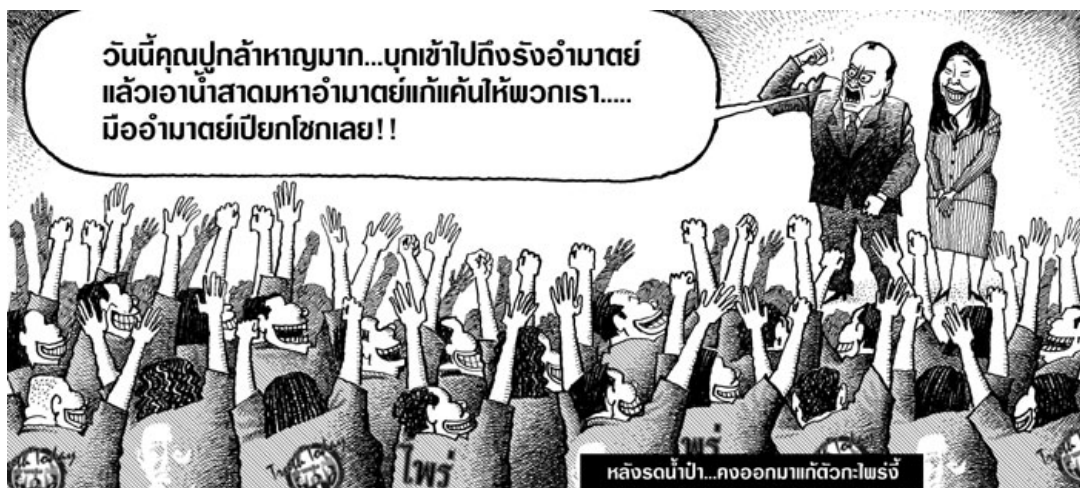
April 27, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Matichon, April 27, 2012

The caption reads: Reconciliation – Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra, prime minister, is greeting General Prem Tinsulanond, President of the Privy Council of Thailand, along with Mr. Yongyuth Wichaidit, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Mr. Kittirat NaRanong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and General Yuthisak Sasiprapa, Deputy Prime Minister, to pour water on his hands and ask for blessings on Songkran Day at his house on 26 April 2012.



From Manager, April 27, 2012

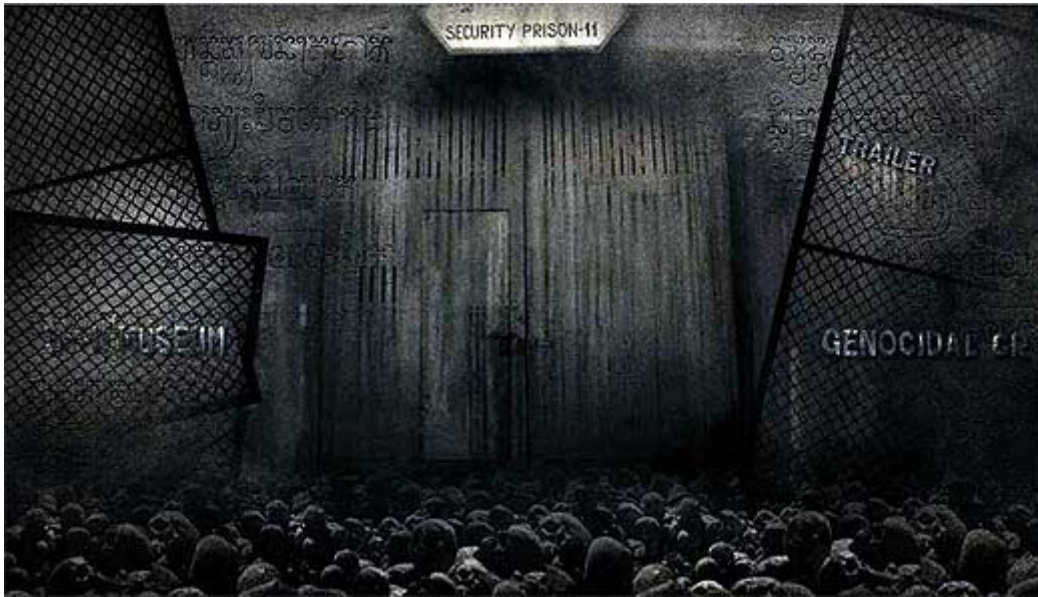
Nattawut says: Today Ms. Poo is so brave... She attacked the councilor's hiding place and threw water on the greatest councilor for our revenge.... The councilor's hands are all wet!!

The caption reads: After pouring water as a blessing for Prem... they might appear to make an excuse with the lowest class people like this.

Six Years Ago: Ghost Game Controversy

April 27, 2012

Categories: Today in History



Six years Ago: [Ghost Game Controversy](#)

Thailand 32 in ‘Change Readiness Index’

April 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[‘Change Readiness Index’ Provides New Insight into Countries’ Ability to Respond to Change](#) – KPMG, April, 2012

[Download the report](#)

[Malaysia’s change management ahead of curve, report shows](#) – themalaysianinsider.com, April 27, 2012
...The Change Readiness Index, developed by KPMG International and UK based Overseas Development Institute, put Malaysia ahead of countries like Thailand (32), China (13), Indonesia (30) and Vietnam (49)...

Eight Years Ago: The Akha Activist

April 28, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [The Akha Activist](#)

Klong Pohyom, Siam

April 28, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Old postcard, Klong Pohyom, Siam

Bangkok Temperature Hottest in 30 Years

April 28, 2012

Categories: Weather

[Here comes the Sun \(and it's hot\)](#) – Bangkok Post, April 28, 2012

It was the hottest April 27 in 30 years in Bangkok, 39.4C (102-plus Fahrenheit) at Don Muang, with the sun at its highest point of the year and the hot season with weeks to go...

Tear gas used as 25,000 rally for Malaysia reforms

April 28, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Tear gas used as 25,000 rally for Malaysia reforms](#) – AP, April 28, 2012

...Organizers declared the event a success and asked people to head home. But just as some were walking away, a small group appeared to suddenly breach the police barriers, prompting authorities to fire tear gas and water laced with stinging chemicals at portions of the crowd.

Demonstrators fled into streets and stores nearby, but witnesses said baton-armed police backed by trucks continued firing tear gas at some of them for at least half an hour before much of the crowd was dispersed. Authorities were seen detaining at least 20 people.

Federal police spokesman Rasdi Ramli estimated there were about 25,000 demonstrators, but many witnesses and some Malaysian news organizations said there were far more. Independent news website Malaysiakini said there was 100,000, while The Sun newspaper estimated 80,000...

Thai Smile – Thailand’s Newest Low Cost Airline Launched

April 28, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[Thai Smile – Thailand’s Newest Low Cost Airline Launched](#) – TNA, April 28, 2012

“Thai Smile Air” is a new budget airline created by Thai Airways International, was launched on Friday, ahead of its inaugural flight on July 7, Thai News agency reported.

Initially dubbed Thai Wings, the new low-cost airline is aimed at serving the low-to-medium-cost air passenger market that falls between budget carrier customers and full service airline flyers...

Troubled Waters Entice Thailand's Charlarmchai Mahagitsiri

April 29, 2012

Categories: Business

[Troubled Waters Entice Thailand's Charlarmchai Mahagitsiri](#) – forbes.com, April 25, 2012

...A counterargument holds that family-run conglomerates are bad for minority investors because they don't always share the benefits equally with the controlling family. This criticism has been leveled at the Mahagitsiris. In 2005 shares in Thainox were suspended after it announced a \$470 million capital-raising plan for a steel plant just two months after its IPO. Investors also queried an expensive land purchase from an unlisted family firm. Chalermchai and his two sisters subsequently stepped down from the board. TTA's shareholder revolt pitted CEO Chandchutha Chandratat against a group of investors who demanded seats on the board. Chandratat fought back in public against so-called corporate raiders and played secret recordings of their meetings. The chairman of the Securities & Exchange Commission, who had sided with the rebels, was later forced to resign after protests by his own staff...

Popular in Thailand at This Time

April 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, April 29, 2012

The cartoon title reads: On top in Thailand at this time.

Upper left: The shopping mall that sells the most expensive mobile phones!

Upper middle: The most favored export food among neighboring countries!

Upper right: The most favored medicine that hospitals stock up on!

On the bottle: Cough relief — with pseudoephedrine

Lower left: The slum that made the news with the most scandals!

Lower middle: The highest-rated soap opera!

Lower right: The most disgraceful rape-fest performed by the largest crowd!

More Songkran Cartoons 2012

April 30, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons, Songkran



From Khaosod, April 13, 2012

Juicy Songkran Day 2555

People from left to right: Suthep Thaugsuban, Abhisit, Boonyanat, Yingluck with Red Shirts wearing Thaksin masks



From Matichon, April 13, 2012

The tiny kid is carrying a sign that reads: Just a sand pagoda

Purple flag on the sand castle: Democrat Party

Flag at the top of the pagoda: Reconciliation

Red flag: Pheu Thai Party

People from top to bottom and left to right:

Thaksin, Yongyuth Wichaidit , ?

Suthep Thaugsuban, Nattawut Saikua, Abhisit Vejjajiva, Yingluck Shinawatra, Sanan Kachornprasart

Fooling the Buffaloes

April 30, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, April 25, 2012

The cartoon headline reads: Using the dead to hurt the living – Getting the Red Dhirts to break from Pheu Thai

On the hooded figure: Ordering people killed

On the headband: UDD

On Jatuporn's shirt: Pheu Thai

Left mouse: The party is good at persuading

Right mouse: Punish those who ordered the killings



From Manager, April 30, 2012

Nattawut: Some buffaloes have learned we created the story of elites to cheat them from the start!

Jatuporn: Right, they've started looking at us strangely!

Tida: What else can we use to cheat them with?
The caption reads: Crisis among buffalo keepers

