

## **The “no foreign investment law” – New Myanmar rule requires \$5 million minimum for foreign investment**

September 1, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar a reluctant Asian Tiger?](#) – DPA, August 31, 2012

...Recent amendments to a proposed foreign investment law in the Lower House included requirements and prohibitions that threaten to scare away many companies from the reforming country, according to economists and some senior government officials.

“I have watched this law become less and less liberal, less and less open, with each draft,” said Sean Turnell, economics professor at Australia’s Macquarie University and a Myanmar specialist. “The new law is fast becoming the ‘No Foreign Investment Law.’”

Among the amendments are a \$5-million (Dh18.3 million) minimum requirement on foreign investments, a 49-per-cent maximum for foreign equity in joint ventures and the outright exclusion of foreigners in several key sectors such as distribution and agriculture...

## Quebec sisters died in Thailand from drinking DEET

September 1, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Quebec sisters died in Thailand from drinking DEET](#) – www.cbc.ca, August 31, 2012

The death earlier this year in Thailand of two sisters from Quebec was caused by drinking a cocktail that contained the insect repellent DEET, an autopsy concluded. Results of the autopsy at a Bangkok hospital have not been publicly released, but they were shown to reporters for CBC's French-language news network...

## Thais have never bowed, Thais have never yielded, History of Thai heroes

September 2, 2012

Categories: Old photos and films



Source: 1941 AP Wire Photo

On the books: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defense, History of Thailand, Thais have never bowed, Thais have never yielded, History of Thai heroes

## Thai Kiss Bus

September 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Art



## **Crooked Bangkok Cops Steal 2 Million THB from Victims**

September 2, 2012

Categories: Thai Police

[Crooked Bangkok Cops Steal 2 Million THB from Victims](#) – pattayadailynews.com, September 1, 2012

Three Bangkok policeman, including a vice squad leader, were arrested for stealing money from residents' bank accounts after threatening them with false arrests. More than 40 people reported being victimized by the crooked cops, who stole more than 2 million THB from residents...

## Yingluck developing the quality of life

September 3, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, September 3, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Miles into the future

On the bucket: Developing the quality of life

On the milestone: First year

In mouse's hand: Patience conquers everything.

Pi Nooring: Striving to the 2nd kilometer.

## Fingers Penetrating Yingluck

September 3, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



03/09/55

From Manager, September 3, 2012

Buildings from left: Defense Ministry, Commerce Ministry and Royal Thai Police Bureau

On the sack: Rice mortgage

On Fingers: Jae Daw

Yingluck says: Oh my! It's piercing up here, too!!!

The caption reads: Now, Daw is everywhere!

## “Why there’s no Apple store in Thailand”

September 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Interesting and [incorrect quote from the show Fareed Zakaria GPS](#), originally aired on July 6 and repeated today: ....*And first of all we know why there’s no Apple store in Thailand, okay, because there isn’t a lot of capital per worker. There isn’t a lot of training per worker and there isn’t a lot of innovation there compared to there is in the U.S. And that has driven incomes way up in the U.S. relative. And that’s why we can afford Apple computers and things like that...*

## **Over 1 million desktop computers and laptops worth USD613 million sold in first half of 2012: GfK Thailand**

September 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Over 1 million desktop computers and laptops worth USD613 million sold in first half of 2012: GfK Thailand](#) – gfkrt.com, September 3, 2012

A total of over 628,000 laptops and 392,000 desktop computers were sold to consumers and businesses across Thailand in the first six months of 2012, taking the combined market worth to approximately USD612.8 million...

## Malaysian Flags to Guide the Way

September 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thai Rath, September 4, 2012

Left: We're on the right track after the Southern insurgents!

Middle: How do you know it's the right way?

Right: They planted the Malaysian flags to guide us.

## **Gay Policy In Thailand: “Don’t Ask, Don’t Care”**

September 4, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Gay Policy In Thailand: “Don’t Ask, Don’t Care”](#) – nyacknewsandviews.com, September 2, 2012

# The Cult of Yingluck

September 4, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: On top: “This project is part of a plan to prevent and fight drug problem. It’s also aimed to develop our youth to grow up to be decent adults in the future.”

On the red tint: Thai cheer power . . . support our teenagers to win over drugs. Come to watch the 5-player Street Soccer, a competition for the “Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra” cup and a prize money of more than 17 million baht.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The Department of Physical Education, Ministry of Tourism and Sports invites you to Thailand’s Royal Celebration Marching Band International Contest 2012 at the National Stadium, Pathumwan and Muang Pattaya, Chonburi province between August 22 – 25, 2012.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Raise the minimum labor wage to 300 baht – Improving quality of life of laborers across the country

At bottom: Thai labourers up-stream – capital of Thai economy The Ministry of Labor is ready to take care of every laborer.



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Upgrading the educational foundation of the people.

Finish Matthayom 6 within 8 months

Qualifications – 18 years and up

– Earn one's own living

– Attend classes as specified

Contact: Every ONIE Tambon, provincial and Bangkok that close to your home.

Woman: Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra

Man: Assoc Prof Suchat Thadathamrongvej, Minister of Education



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Nurture good kids, smart kids . . . for the future of Thailand

Woman: Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra

Man: Gp. Capt. Anudith Nakornthap, Minister of the Information and Communication Technology of Thailand

## Former Police Chief for Governor

September 4, 2012

Categories: Elections, Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: For better Bangkok – Elect a new governor

Top left logo: By the Bangkok Power group

## DSI as Moses

September 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek, Tharit Pengdit



From Komchadluek, September 4, 2012

On the tablet: The 91 corpses case file

## **BBC: Has Thailand learned from last year's floods?**

September 4, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Has Thailand learned from last year's floods?](#) – BBC, September 4, 2012

...”The government cannot just look at a map and designate an area to let the floodwater flow, saying this is urgent, and that it has no time to do preliminary assessments. It must study the environmental impact of these plans, and talk to the people affected, otherwise they will never co-operate...”

## Thailand grapples with killer student gangs

September 4, 2012

Categories: Uncategorized

[Thailand grapples with killer student gangs](#) – AFP, September 4, 2012

...”Winning fights is their way of life,” says Montree Sintawichai, a former senator and now an expert on young people’s issues who works for a charity called the Child Protection Foundation.

“The students think their victims are weak... they have little respect and little forgiveness,” Montree says...

## Welcome to the Deep South

September 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, The Thai Deep South



04/09/55

From Manager, September 4, 2012

The banner reads: The Three Southern Provinces Bombing Festival

Southern insurgents on the left: Prime Minister, please cut the ribbon.

The caption reads: You, Southern insurgents... Find something good for the Prime Minister to do.

## **Rolls-Royce Announces Further Expansion Plans In Thailand**

September 4, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rolls-Royce Announces Further Expansion Plans In Thailand](#) – theautochannel.com, September 4, 2012

Following the recent opening of the first Rolls-Royce Motor Cars showroom at Rama 3 in Bangkok, the company announced plans to open a unique new boutique in Central Bangkok, the first of its kind in Asia.

This exclusive facility will be situated at the Siam Paragon, an upmarket luxury shopping destination. The boutique will provide easy access to Rolls-Royce products for customers and will complement the two-storey Rolls-Royce showroom, which is already one of Asia's largest. It is expected to be operational in the fourth quarter of the year...

## Singapore curriculum gaining popularity among parents in Thailand

September 4, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Singapore curriculum gaining popularity among parents in Thailand](#) – CNA, September 4, 2012

...One major strength in the Singapore curriculum is the emphasis on mathematics and multilingualism.

Most of the students at Anglo Singapore International School are Singaporean, but it is becoming increasingly common for Thai parents to send their children to international schools...

## Rich Kids Duang and Vorayuth

September 5, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 5, 2012

Duang Yubamrung says: I have 'Ai Puea' to help me out.

Caption: Both these kids' fathers share the same name 'Lerm'... Both caused deaths of police officers of Police Sgt. Major ranking... But what make these two kids different?"

## Vorayuth Yoovidhya, Red Bull Heir, Hit-And-Run Case Reveals Thailand Injustice

September 5, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubumrung, Thai Police

[Vorayuth Yoovidhya, Red Bull Heir, Hit-And-Run Case Reveals Thailand Injustice](#) – AP, September 4, 2012

*People in Thailand often joke that prisons are reserved for the poor; because the rich and privileged tend to get away with murder...*

*Orachorn Devahastin Na Ayudhya was 16 and driving without a license when she crashed her sedan into a van on a Bangkok highway. A court initially sentenced her to a 3-year prison term but reduced the sentence last week, saying she had provided “helpful” testimony.*

*One of Thailand’s most infamous untouchables recently resurfaced in headlines. Duang Yubumrung, the son of Deputy Prime Minister Chalerm Yubumrung, was linked to the 2001 shooting of a policeman in a nightclub brawl. He was acquitted of murder in 2004 on grounds of insufficient evidence.*

*Duang has since joined the Bangkok police force and in July was assigned as a sharpshooter. News reports quoted his father as saying he was proud of his son’s skill because “His shooting accuracy is 100 percent!” ...*

## **Canadain sisters killed by a drink called “4 X 100”, made of Kratom leaves, Coke, cough syrup & insect repellent**

September 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

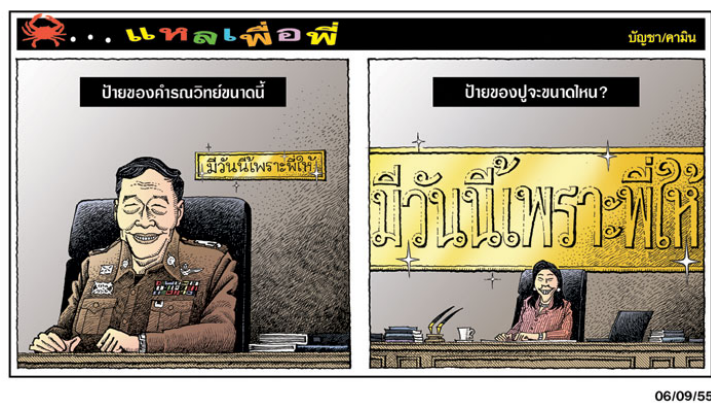
[A Strange, Hallucination-Inducing Thai Drink Killed Two Canadian Sisters](#) – businessinsider.com, September 4, 2012

...New reports from the autopsies on the girls suggest that they likely ingested the DEET while drinking a local “cocktail” called 4 X 100, which combines a tea made from Kratom leaves with Coca Cola, cough syrup, and maybe also the insect repellent or a variety of other drugs that range from methamphetamine, opiates and benzodiazepines. CBC didn’t report any other specific chemicals found during the autopsy...

## They Know They Owe Their Jobs to Thaksin

September 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Kamronwit Thooprachang



From Manager, September 6, 2012

Sign behind Metropolitan Police Bureau chief Kamronwit Thooprachang: I have today because you gave it to me.

Left caption: Kamron's sign is this big.

PM Yingluck's sign reads: I have today because you gave it to me.

Right caption: How big is Poo's sign, then?

Earlier: [Government from Afar: Thaksin's Decision on the Military Reshuffle, Confers with the Police Chief](#)

## Thailand's 'Unbeatable' Wheelchair Fencer Aims For More Gold

September 6, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thailand's 'Unbeatable' Wheelchair Fencer Aims For More Gold](#) – Guardian, September 5, 2012

...Jana is now national hero in Thailand, regularly shining at the regional Fespac and Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Para Games. Of the 50 Thai athletes competing in the Paralympics this year, the Chiang Mai native is but expected to bring home another gold – this one in the épée division at the Excel Arena today...

## Killing the Police Officer

September 6, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 6, 2012

Caption: The goal isn't there to hit.

## More details of waterboarding at the Thai secret prison

September 7, 2012

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Report details harsh treatment at secret CIA-run prisons](#) – AP, September 6, 2012

*...Former President George W. Bush, his Vice President Dick Cheney and the CIA have said that the method was used on only three senior al-Qaida suspects at secret CIA black sites in Thailand and Poland — Khaled Sheikh Mohammed, Abu Zubayda and Abd al-Rahman al-Nashiri, all currently being held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The technique involves pouring water on a hooded detainee's nose and mouth until he feels he is drowning...*

And the report: [Delivered Into Enemy Hands – US-Led Abuse and Rendition of Opponents to Gaddafi's Libya](#)

*...However, after the two arrived in Bangkok, they were arrested while in the airport waiting room. They were then taken to a special room in the airport in Bangkok in which, Belhadj alleges, he and his wife were severely mistreated and abused by the CIA for several days. While in CIA custody in Bangkok, Belhadj said he was “stripped and beaten.” He was forced to be naked, wear a blindfold, was hung against a wall by one arm and then by one leg, and was put into a tub with ice...*

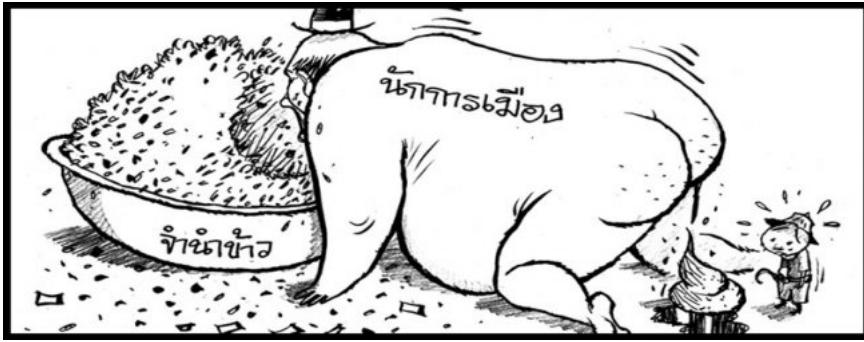
More: [Cat's Eye: News on the Secret Thai Prison](#)

Update: [CIA 'tortured al-Qaeda suspects close to the point of death by drowning them in water-filled baths'](#)

## Poo For Farmers

September 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 10, 2012

On rice bowl: Rice mortgage

On the large figure: Politician

## Thai People Don't Mind Corruption

September 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



10/09/55

From Manager, September 10, 2012

The man says: I'm OK... they're corrupt and they let us have some...

The caption reads: More than 60% of Thai people are easy to feed.

## Can Thailand Avoid Becoming a Modern-Day Atlantis?

September 10, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Can Thailand Avoid Becoming a Modern-Day Atlantis?](#) – thediplomat.com, September 9, 2012

...“There were these political problems,” says Verwey, a consultant with Deltares, a Dutch institute specializing in flood solutions.

Contacted by Thai authorities through the Dutch Embassy in Bangkok, Verwey was soon taking charge of crisis meetings involving the new prime minister, the army and numerous ministries as they tried to plug leaking dykes and flush water out to sea via poorly maintained flood channels.

“With a good master plan this could have been foreseen and prevented,” he says. “That is the nature of human beings: Something has to happen before action is taken...”

## **The Philippines should follow the lead of Thailand in imposing higher taxes on alcohol and tobacco products**

September 10, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai doctor: 'Sin tax' a boon to Thailand](#) – Philippine Daily Inquirer, September 10, 2012

The Philippine government would have generated revenue enough to build a new sky train system had it followed the lead of Thailand in imposing higher taxes on alcohol and tobacco products, a visiting Thai tobacco expert said on Friday...

## Should the Red Shirts break from Thaksin to build their own radical socialist organization?

September 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's 'parallel war': Thaksin and the Red Shirts](#) – *links.org.au*, September 9, 2012

*...Just like in Gluckstein's parallel Second World War, the ability of "the people" or the Red Shirts to achieve their goals depends on the degree of political self-organisation, independent from the ruling class. There may be thousands of disappointed Red Shirts, but their inability to form a united progressive movement to fight for freedom and equality has allowed the UDD Red Shirt leaders to police the movement and make sure that it serves only the interests of the Pheu Thai government...*

## **Abac Poll: Let Thaksin come back**

September 10, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Abac: Let Thaksin come back](#) – Bangkok Post, September 9, 2012

...The majority, 83.6 per cent, said the Yingluck government should be given a chance to continue to work and 16.4 per cent said otherwise. Most, or 80.3 per cent, against a minority of 19.7 per cent, said Thaksin should be allowed to return to fight cases in court...

## **Cambodia: Mandatory Internet Surveillance Cameras**

September 10, 2012  
Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia: Mandatory Internet Surveillance Cameras](#) – globalvoicesonline.org, September 9, 2012

...despite the (government's) recent announcement that they are drafting a cyber law, it seems highly unlikely that they will be able to unilaterally censor the internet and mobile phones, primarily due to a lack of the financial and human resources that are needed in order to do so. Furthermore, as Cambodian citizens become more technologically aware, many users will be able to find a way of accessing restricted sites through the use of proxy servers...

## **Caged tigers found on Thai apartment block roof**

September 10, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

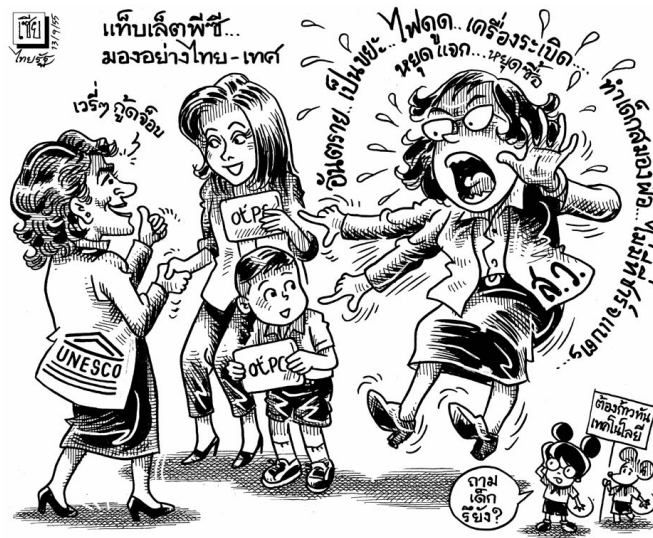
[Caged tigers found on Thai apartment block roof](#) – AFP, September 10, 2012

...The tigers were fed with around 10,000 baht's worth (S\$398) of chicken bones a month. "They did not get enough nutrients for their growth," Capt Montri said, adding that the cubs were "stressed" in the small cages.

## Tablet computers: Perspectives of Thais and foreigners

September 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, September 11, 2012

The cartoon title: Tablet computers: perspectives of Thais and foreigners

From left, foreign woman in UNESCO suit: Very, very good job.

Woman on right with "Senator" on her jacket: Dangerous! Trash! Electric shock! Explosive! Children's brains become dried out! No chargers! Stop giving them out! Stop buying!

Mouse: We've got to catch up with technology.

Pi Nooring: Have you ever asked the children?

## **Nine years ago: Thaksin gains complete control of the police**

September 11, 2012

Categories: Today in History

Nine years ago: [Thaksin gains complete control of the police](#)

## Thai Editorial Cartoon: Can't Figure Out How to Raise Rubber Prices

September 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



11/09/55

From Manager, September 11, 2012

On books from left: World market prices of para rubber, Market mechanism of para rubber, How to increase para rubber prices

Boy: Admit it, Pi Ten... It's over the heads of buffalo herders like us...

## More Cult of Yingluck

September 11, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

Earlier: [The Cult of Yingluck](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: The Metropolitan Waterworks Authority is kindly offering a 10% discount for new piped-water installation from today until September 30, 2012. For more information, Tel: 1125 24 hours.

Man in white jacket on left: Mr. Chuchart Hansawat, Deputy Interior Minister supervising the MWA.

Man in white jacket on right: Mr. Chareon Passara, Governor of the MWA

Man in blue shirt on right: Mr. Youngyuth Wichaidit, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister

Woman: Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra

Signs on the bottom from left: Interior Ministry, Metropolitan Waterworks Authority of Thailand and “Waterworks for the People”



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: In yellow frame: To ASEAN Economic Community

August 18-26, 2012 from 10:00-21:00 at Challenger 1-3, Muang Thong Thani

Man in blue shirt: Yongyuth Wichaidit, Deputy Prime Minister

Woman: Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Billboard from Songkhla Province: The government provides good public health things to the people.

In red: Suddenly sick, decease

Don't ask about your right. Go to places close to you.

In green: 70 years, no queuing

Nutritious foods

Halal foods

In white on the bottom: Ministry of Public Health

Woman on the right: Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra

Man on the left in the picture: Wittaya Buranasiri, Minister of the Public Health

Earlier: [The Cult of Yingluck](#)

## **A Nazi Lab in Thailand's Northeast?**

September 11, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[A Nazi Lab in Thailand's Northeast?](#) – thesharkguys.com, September 10, 2012

## Weekly News Magazines, August 31 and September 7, 2012

September 13, 2012

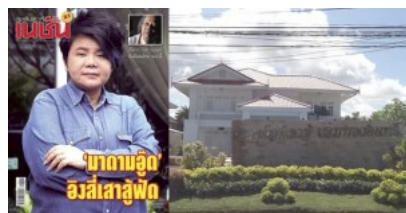
Categories: Kamronwit Thooprachang, Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, September 7, 2012  
The cover reads: A goal is there to run into.



From Nation Weekly, September 7, 2012  
The cover reads: "I have 'today' because you give it to me."



From Nation Weekly, August 31, 2012  
The cover reads: 'Madame Ood' relies on 'Si Sao' for the fight

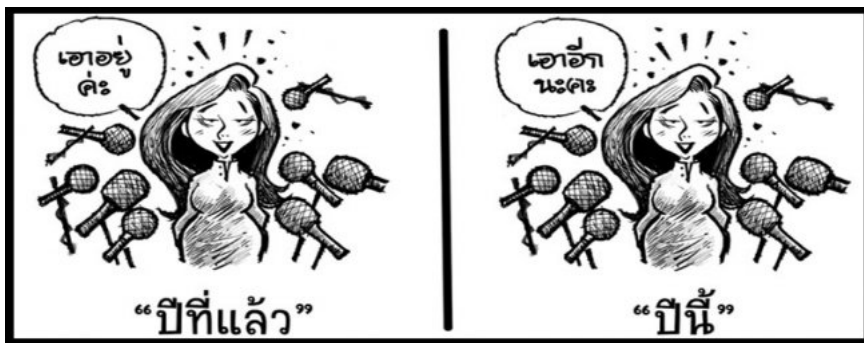


Matichon Weekly, August 31, 2012  
The cover reads: Drop a 'bomb'  
Sathian 'not' Sathian

## Yingluck Statement on Flooding: I've Got It

September 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 13, 2012

Left: I've got it.

Caption: Last year

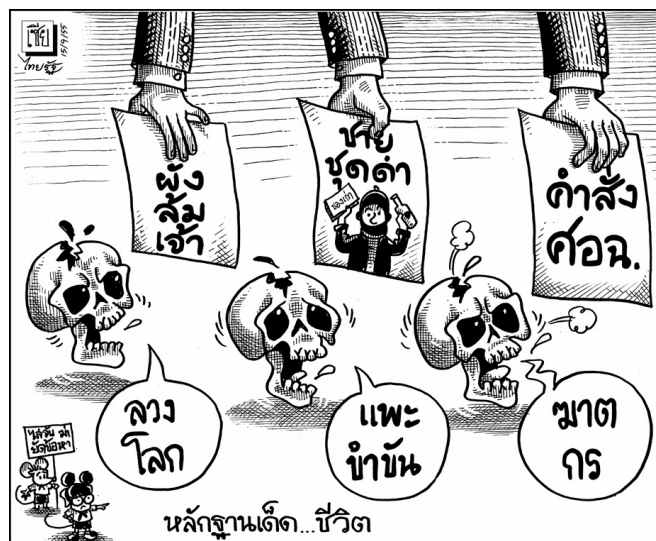
Right: I've got it again.

Caption: This year

## What Can We Tell the Dead?

September 13, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thai Rath, September 13, 2012

Left paper: Anti-monarchy chart

Left Skull: Chasing

Middle paper: Men in black

Middle skull: Liars, scapegoats

Right paper: CRES

Right skull: Murderers

Mouse: Chasing, murdering and falsely accusing

The caption reads: Evidence... of lives taken

## **The real cost of the Thai military's superstitions: Hundreds jailed by 'fake' bomb detectors in Thai south**

September 13, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Hundreds jailed by 'fake' bomb detectors in Thai south](#) – AFP, September 13, 2012

...But the powerful military has refused to concede it was duped over its rumoured \$20 million acquisition, or apologise to those held in what rights groups say is a flagrant miscarriage of justice.

Hassan said he was threatened and interrogated in detention and forced to point out friends from a school photograph.

Among them was Ayub who said he was arrested with no further evidence and held for two years before he was freed without a conviction or an apology....

## **A Fading Yangon Captured in Photos**

September 13, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[A Fading Yangon Captured in Photos](#) – WSJ, September 13, 2012

## Cambodia helps squeeze WikiLeaks

September 13, 2012

Categories: Wikileaks

[Cambodia helps squeeze WikiLeaks](#) – atimes.com, September 14, 2012

...The announcement confirmed online rumors that Sweden wanted Svartholm Warg home at least in part because of his alleged involvement in a hack of Logica, an IT company contracted by the Swedish Tax Board. The hack is believed to have caused the leak of 9,000 Swedish tax numbers on a public website this past spring. But Femerstrand and Sunde's bigger fear is that Svartholm Warg will be charged as part of a wider international crackdown on WikiLeaks, Femerstrand said. Svartholm Warg at one point allegedly helped host the WikiLeaks site so that its files could be accessible on the web. Svartholm Warg is also rumored to be personally associated with Julian Assange, founder and promoter of WikiLeaks...

## Vietnam PM orders fresh crackdown on bloggers

September 13, 2012

Categories: Vietnam

[Vietnam PM orders fresh crackdown on bloggers](#) – AP, September 13, 2012

...The Communist Party fears that public criticism or even honest discussion about its failings could lead to social instability and – ultimately – loss of power. It labels democracy and free speech activists as “terrorists.”

...Danlambao, or “the People’s Journalism Blog,” said it would keep publishing.

“Danlambao and its companions are prepared to be repressed and imprisoned rather than leading the life of a dumb dog that dares not to bark, subservient to those who abuse their power,” it said in a blog posting.

Quanlambao, or “Official Journalism,” also responded, saying Dung’s move was aimed at creating the legal basis to make arrests in accordance with a “planned scenario...”

## Threatened Vietnam Cave Bugs Draw Little Sympathy

September 13, 2012

Categories: Vietnam, Wildlife and Nature

[Threatened Vietnam Cave Bugs Draw Little Sympathy](#) – AP, September 13, 2012

...“It’s rather like a company going in to mine the Galapagos just before Charles Darwin arrives,” said one of the scientists, Tony Whitten, a former biodiversity specialist at the World Bank who is now regional director for Asia-Pacific at the UK-based conservation group Fauna & Flora International. “How many species is a company prepared to eliminate from a planet we are supposed to be managing and sustaining?”...

## **Good for farmers – bad for business: Thais grumble over high price of rice**

September 13, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thais grumble over high price of rice](#) – dw.de, September 13, 2012

...Ever since the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra took office, he has been earning 50 percent more than the market would normally pay for every ton of Thailand's staple food.

"That is really good because now the money comes directly to us and not to the traders," says Muntimoh.

With its promise, Shinawatra's Phuea Thai Party has appeased the rural population and turned them into voters. The government currently pays farmers around 12,000 baht, or about 300 euros, for every ton of rice delivered to the mills, and which then lies unsold in government warehouses...

## Disconnected for decades, Myanmar poised for telecoms boom

September 13, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Disconnected for decades, Myanmar poised for telecoms boom](#) – Reuters, September 13, 2012

...But as Myanmar races ahead with economic reforms, the telecoms sector, riven with graft and mismanagement and lagging behind even Asia's poorest countries, is on the verge of a major shake-up as part of a "reform plan" to liberalise one of the world's last remaining greenfield telcos markets.

Details of the plan are scant, but Myanmar appears to have finally got its act together and insiders say it could announce its plans this week...

## Royalty Signs on the Expressway

September 14, 2012

Categories: The Monarchy



The sign reads: Long Live



The sign reads: The Royal Auspicious Ceremony of the 5th Cycle Birthday Anniversary of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, July 28, 2012  
Your Majesty's obedient subjects, executives and employees of the Expressway Authority of Thailand



The sign reads: The 60 Birthday Anniversary, the 5th cycle Birthday Anniversary on July 28, 2012 of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn

## **Cambodia, Home of Hardened Criminals and Sexual Predators**

September 14, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Most Unwanted](#) – NYT, September 13, 2012

...This is a country where the then president of the Chamber of Commerce, Theng Bunma, can complain to an airline about bad service by shooting out the tire of a plane with a pistol and never have to worry about fallout. A few months later he pulled out a gun inside a plane in order to delay takeoff so as to wait for friends who were late boarding...

## The Nation launches website for Myanmar news

September 14, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



[Website launch for Myanmar news](#) – The Nation, September 14, 2012

...The website, [www.elevenmyanmar.com](http://www.elevenmyanmar.com), is updated daily and is divided into 10 sections, ranging from national, business and Asean-related news to tourism and lifestyle coverage. Eleven Media, Myanmar's largest private publisher, and Nation Multimedia Group's The Nation will operate the website...

## **Thailand's Football Association could be forced to disband following allegations of corruption**

September 14, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thai FA investigated, face possible disbandment](#) – Reuters, September 14, 2012

## Thai floods: a repeat of 2011?

September 14, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Thai floods: a repeat of 2011?](#) – FT, September 14, 2012

...Quoted in international media, risk consultants PSA Asia said: “Flooding in several central provinces over the weekend has highlighted a flaw in the government’s flood-control strategy.” Meanwhile, the government has repeatedly reaffirmed its confidence that floods on the scale of 2011 are unlikely and earlier this year pledged \$11bn to improve flood defences...

## Thailand's Moken 'sea gypsies' under threat

September 14, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Moken 'sea gypsies' under threat](#) – Guardian, September 13, 2012

...The Moken are a nomadic sea people who live in and around southern Thailand, traditionally feeding on the fruits of the sea for eight months of the year. But the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami destroyed many livelihoods, and the Moken were forced onto the land...

## Thai-language interview with Sia Sakda Sae-aew about his editorial cartoons

September 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



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



Thai-language interview with Sia Sakda Sae-aew (Vice Chairman of the Thai Cartoon Association) about his editorial cartoons. Thanks to Nice for pointing this out.

## Thai Editorial Cartoons on Floods

September 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various, Floods



From ThaiRath, September 7, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Who's real, who's a dummy?

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra: You may come out now. Don't be afraid, the government finished testing the flood drainage system in Bangkok.

On giant tunnel: All through your life, we take care.

Pi Nooring: The governor is afraid of water.

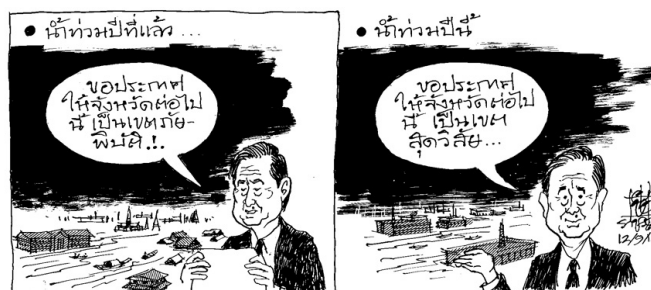
Mouse: Bangkok must not flood.



From Komchadluek, September 12, 2012

On the curtain: Confucius Peace Prize

Signs from left: Lawsuits assisting her own people, corruption, 350 billion baht budget for flood management, failure to solve agricultural product prices, failure to manage flood problems



From Thairath, September 15, 2012

Headline on left: Flood last year

Man: The following provinces are designated as disaster areas...

Headline on the right: Flood this year

Man: The following provinces are designated as the beyond-control areas...

## Malaysia offers “spot the gay kid” seminars for teachers and parents

September 15, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Malaysia offers “spot the gay kid” seminars for teachers and parents](#) – BoingBoing, September 14, 2012

...”It is a multi-religious and multicultural , after all, all religions are basically against that type of behaviour,” said the official.

The federal government said in March that it is working to curb the “problem” of homosexuality, especially among Muslims who make up over 60% of Malaysia’s population of 29 million people.

According to a handout issued at a recent seminar, signs of homosexuality in boys may include preferences for tight, light-coloured clothes and large handbags, local media reported.

For girls, the details were less clear. Girls with lesbian tendencies have no affection for men and like to hang out and sleep in the company of women, the reports said...

## **Thai Airways Flight Attendants: Finished at 45**

September 15, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines

[THAI sets new attendants' age cap at 45](#) – The Nation, September 14, 2012

Thai Airways International's board of directors yesterday agreed to extend the age limit for female flight attendants hired under outsourcing contracts to 45 years...

## **Taung Byone Festival Gives Myanmar's LGBT Community Rare Opportunity to Openly Celebrate**

September 15, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Taung Byone Festival Gives Myanmar's LGBT Community Rare Opportunity to Openly Celebrate](#) – theworld.org, September 14, 2012

In Myanmar, it's illegal for men to have sex with other men. There are no gay bars or openly gay celebrities. But for one week each year, in a small village called Taung Byone, thousands of gay and transgender people congregate and celebrate freely. It happens at one of Myanmar's largest spirit or "nat" festivals...

## Myanmar stung by global censure over unrest

September 15, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar stung by global censure over unrest](#) – AFP, September 15, 2012

...“The Burmese have fully joined the global stage,” said a foreign diplomat, who asked not to be named.

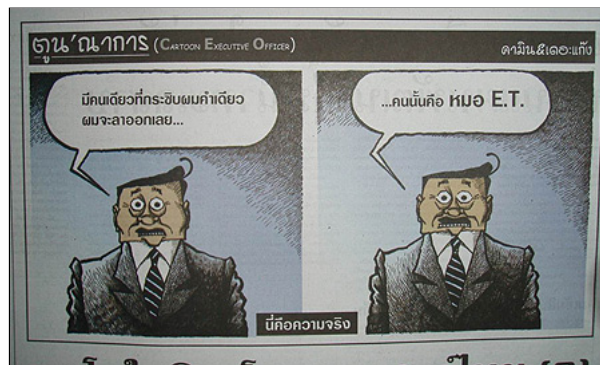
“They discovered (the unrest) has an international impact which they did not imagine and suddenly found that it was not just an isolated problem in a corner of the country.”

...Human Rights organisations have accused Myanmar forces of opening fire on the Rohingya while the UN human rights chief warned of a stream of reports “alleging discriminatory and arbitrary responses by security forces” against Muslims...

## Thaksin and the fortuneteller E.T.

September 15, 2012

Categories: Film and TV, Local Beliefs, Myanmar/Burma, Thai Politics



From *Poojadkuan – Manager*, September 15, 2006

Left: There is only one person who could whisper one word to me and I would quit immediately...

Right: That person is the fortuneteller E.T.

Caption at bottom: This is the truth.

More Thaksin and ET cartoons [here](#)

[Fortuneteller's life told on Thai TV](#) – mmtimes.com, October 8, 2012

...The series, titled *Extraordinary Gift*, will use actors and scripted material to tell the life story of E T, a fortuneteller who is famous not only on Myanmar — particularly for doing consultations with former members of the military elite — but also in Thailand, Japan and several other countries.

Many Thai people have travelled to Myanmar to consult E T, including series director Mr Nirattisai Kaljaruek, who has been coming to Yangon for that purpose for more than 10 years...

[Prophet at the Box Office](#) – The Irrawaddy, July 24, 2012

...More than 20 years ago, it was rumored that before overthrowing then Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan in February 1991, Thailand's conspiring generals made a secret trip to Rangoon to seek advice from the fortune-teller. After consulting with ET, they apparently made several offerings at a temple in order to ensure a successful coup. When returning to Thailand, the generals were instructed not to touch the earth, but only to walk on red carpets when moving to and from cars and aircraft. This they duly did; their coup d'état was ultimately successful.

## **“LGBT is not suitable for our Malaysian culture and we want to help those who have this problem”**

September 16, 2012

Categories: Malaysia

[Psychologists slam guidelines to track LGBT as being harmful](#) – thestar.com.my, September 16, 2012

...The guidelines, among others, cautioned parents about their sons wearing tight V-neck shirts and bright coloured attire and their daughters being frequently seen in the company of certain girls while ignoring others...

Earlier: [Malaysia offers “spot the gay kid” seminars for teachers and parents](#)

## **Girl's death 24 years ago haunts quest for justice in reformist Myanmar**

September 16, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Girl's death 24 years ago haunts quest for justice in reformist Myanmar](#) – Reuters, September 16, 2012

...The death of schoolgirl Win Maw Oo, 16, shot by soldiers during Myanmar's military crackdown on pro-democracy protests in 1988, so torments her family that they have yet to perform the Buddhist rites to release her soul into the afterlife...

## Eleven years ago: Installing cables on the Rama VIII Bridge

September 17, 2012

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Eleven years ago: [Installing cables on the Rama VIII Bridge](#)

## Thaksin's Dog

September 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



17/09/55

From Manager, September 17, 2012

Left: Sign on table: Ombudsman

Ombudsman: Returning Thaksin's passport is illegal because the man is a fugitive.

The caption reads: Human standards

Right: Sign on doghouse: Foreign Ministry

The dog says: How can it be wrong to take a passport to my master?!

The caption reads: Ping's standard

## **“Targeting” the Poor in Thailand**

September 17, 2012

Categories: Economy

[“Targeting” the Poor in Thailand](#) – truth-out.org, September 16, 2012

...The problem is that this has not worked. With the interest rate set at 3 per cent for some time now, Thailand like many other economies has been the recipient of large capital flows from the global system. This has had three consequences. The first is that the Thai baht has appreciated over time.

At around 30 baht to the dollar currently, this appreciation is having adverse effects on the competitiveness of domestic producers. More so because trade is an important target of Thai production, and currency appreciation makes Thai exports more expensive in dollar terms and imports cheaper when valued in domestic currency.

Second, an appreciating currency only encourages more capital inflows, since there are gains to be made from the strong baht. Returns made on baht investments yield more in dollar terms if appreciation has occurred during the life of the investment.

Finally, since the central bank is forced to respond to this situation as part of its “flexible” inflation targeting policy, it is required to buy up foreign exchange to stall excessive baht appreciation. This increase in the assets of the central bank, and therefore in its liabilities, implies some loss of control over money supply, which is what the policy regime is supposed to be avoiding in any case...

## **Amorous Indians in amazing Thailand**

September 17, 2012

Categories: India

[Amorous Indians in amazing Thailand](#) – DNA, September 16, 2012

Most Indian tourists (males, that is), seem to perceive Thailand as an easy sex getaway — convenient and affordable. Most Thais consider Indian tourists (males, that is) sex-starved deviants who don't think twice before indulging in things in Thailand that they wouldn't think of doing in India...

## **US Embassy in Bangkok warns: Demonstration at U.S. Embassy**

September 17, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Security Message to American Citizens: Demonstration at U.S. Embassy Bangkok on September 18](#) – bangkok.usembassy.gov, September 18, 2012

The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand has been informed by the Royal Thai Police that a demonstration involving several hundred people is planned on Wireless Road in front of the Embassy beginning between 1 PM and 2 PM on Tuesday, September 18. Demonstrators will assemble at Lumpini Park and march to the Embassy. The large number of demonstrators is expected to disrupt traffic in the area...

## Can Suu Kyi Stay Silent?

September 17, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Can Suu Kyi Stay Silent?](#) – The Irrawaddy, September 17, 2012

...Until now, Suu Kyi has been largely silent on the issue—she even answered “I don’t know” when asked by a reporter whether the Muslim Rohingya community should be allowed Burmese citizenship. Other statements have been purposefully vague. During her European tour, she responded to reporters’ questions about the Arakan crisis by referring to the matter as a “rule of law” issue—hardly a heartfelt sentiment by a woman renowned across the world as a defender of the oppressed, a voice for the needy...

## Boots for Yingluck

September 18, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



18/09/55

From Manager, September 18, 2012

Man: Water is starting to flow from Northern Thailand now... Hurry up, or our Major Client in Thailand won't have enough boots to wear.

## Western Journalists off Myanmar Blacklist, but Still Can't Get Visas

September 18, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Journalists off the Blacklist, but Still Can't Get Visas](#) – The Irrawaddy, September 19, 2012

...He added that four other journalists he knows have met with a similar response, despite being taken off the blacklist.

Lintner said that he has actually applied three times since the new quasi-civilian government introduced reforms early last year: once last December, and twice in August of this year, including once after the government released a list of names of those no longer banned from entering on Aug. 30.

The Thailand-based journalist, who has written several books on Burma and other Asian countries, was first put on the blacklist in 1985...

## Teaching Kids About Parliament

September 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thai Rath, September 19, 2012

Left: The Parliamentary System can eliminate political conflicts, such as...

Middle: ...if anyone has committed any wrongdoing, their case can be brought for a debate in Parliament. This way, the accused person stands a chance to clear himself or herself...

Right: ...by swearing that if he or she committed any wrongdoing, may he or she be damned.

## **Lawyer for Thailand's Red Shirts Denounces Report on 2010 Violence**

September 19, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Lawyer for Thailand's Red Shirts Denounces Report on 2010 Violence](#) – PRNewswire, September 18, 2012

...According to Mr. Amsterdam, the TRC report cannot be taken seriously given that it fails to address the unlawful nature of the military coup that unseated the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra in 2006, which is a core grievance of Thailand's pro-democracy protest movement. Instead, says Mr. Amsterdam, the TRC blames Thaksin for the coup, much like the Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban has blamed protesters for "running into the bullets..."

## Weekly news magazines

September 20, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, September 14, 2012

Headline: “I have today because you gave it to me.” Confucius Peace Prize



From Nation Weekend: September 14, 2012

Headline: Prai Reya: “We’re also human.”

On the cover is the lead actress Araya Hargate.

## Tusks on a Dog

September 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



20/09/55

From Manager, September 20, 2012

Left caption: This phenomenon is hard to become true.

Thaksin says: I'll sacrifice for the sake of the country's peace.

Right caption: This phenomenon is even damn harder to become true.

# Does airing the truth help in the Thai world?

September 20, 2012

Categories: Analysis, Red Shirt Protest 2010

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Thailand report on the 2010 Red Shirt protest deaths released this week laid blame on all sides (as expected) and has already been dismissed (as expected) by all sides.

Its results are likely close to the truth—that the Red Shirts did field a force of “men in black” who used weapons to attack the government in the name of their Thai-style “dissatisfaction.” This indeed was the Red Shirt claim during the protests along with the assertion that resistance to military efforts to break up the protest was coming from soldiers who had switched allegiance to their cause.

Likewise, the report documents that the military did use snipers and live gunfire to clear the protest area and shoot people as they have done so many times during politically turbulent times in Thailand. This is a very Thai response to perceived “stubbornness.” The government and military always knew that the objective of the protests was the immediate collapse of the government to forestall the elevation of Gen. Prayuth to head the military. Once the Red Shirts rejected an offer of their publicly stated goal of early elections, vowing to fight on anyway even though their demands had been met, the Thai establishment would have likely felt justified in using live fire to end the protest.

The meaning of political violence in a Thai context is that a government that uses force against the people loses legitimacy, steps down, and then all are pardoned. This was the overall game plan of the Red Shirt protests in Bangkok and why, even after the 2009 protests when no one died, Thaksin and other Red Shirt leaders still insisted scores must have died. The protests were meant to result in deaths and trigger the sequence of events that would lead to a government stepping aside and a pardon for all (mirroring the 1992 Black May events).

That the Democrat-led government was able to hang on after the bloody events of 2010 broke a precedent. Their obstinacy was fueled by the idea that no disgruntled politician should be allowed to use a rural “mob” (as the Thais call it) to push his way back into power. Bringing rural people to Bangkok to force political change was another longstanding Thai political fear that was realized in both 2009 and 2010. Many politicians from Chavalit Yongchaiyudh to Suthep Thaugsuban had threatened to occupy Bangkok or “set the country on fire,” but Thaksin was the first to make it a reality.

Knowing all this, it is interesting to note that reports that lay blame do not bring the situation no closer to resolution. The open airing of the truth is not a cathartic moment in the Thai context as it would be in the West. Speech here is always carefully moderated so as not to force a person whose feelings are hurt to have to strike back out of Thai “dissatisfaction.”

Whenever one hears Thais (especially politicians like Charlem) pledge that there will be a truth commission where all the facts are revealed, this is not seen as a positive thing, but as a threat. It means if you do not compromise with us the worst thing could happen—the truth will be told and the chips will fall where they may. This is counter to the way the Thai sees the world—with the highest value of carefully considering one’s conduct and speech so as never to impinge on another’s feelings or cause them to lose face.

So despite the publication of this report, there will still be a future reckoning and both sides are preparing themselves for more tricks and more shocks moves coming up.

International news media commenting on the final report from The Truth for Reconciliation Commission :

New York Times: [Truth Panel in Thailand Says Conflicts Are Festering](#)

...Sunai Phasuk, a researcher in Thailand with Human Rights Watch, praised the commission’s report as balanced and relying on “neutral evidence and forensic science.” “This is the first report in modern Thai political history that investigates violence from all sides,” he said on Thai television...

Wall Street Journal: [Thailand’s Lessons From Conflict – Two years on, no one has been held to account for the deadly violence in Bangkok](#)

...At the report’s launch, Red Shirt activists let loose a barrage of questions that were left unanswered at the close of the event. Later, their representatives rejected all the recommendations, saying that the report is biased and doesn’t offer any redress for the killings.

Weng Tojirakarn, a red-shirt leader who is also an MP with the governing Pheu Thai Party, demanded the TRCT provide evidence to support its conclusion that armed “men in black” were present at Bangkok rallies and enjoyed support from his red-shirt group...

Here is an article from international journalists who actually followed the red shirts’ “men in black” around while they were fighting the military: [Unmasked: Thailand’s men in black](#)

The findings of The Truth for Reconciliation Commission broadly match the findings of Human Rights Watch: [Descent into Chaos – Thailand’s 2010 Red Shirt Protests and the Government Crackdown](#)

## The Burmese slaves who peel shrimp for the Thai shrimp industry

September 20, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[In a world hungry for cheap shrimp, migrants labor overtime in Thai sheds](#) – Washington Post, September 20, 2012

At an age when she should have been in a classroom, Thazin Mon discovered her knack for peeling shrimp. To help support her Burmese migrant family, the 14-year-old pulled 16-hour shifts, seven days a week, for less than \$3 a day. “I am uneducated, so I work. I have to work bravely,” she says.

Although she was the best peeler in the factory, speed was never enough. Mon was beaten if she slowed down, she said. And when she asked for a day off to rest hands swollen with infection, her boss kicked her and threatened rape...

## Thailand's football chief denies fraud allegations

September 21, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thailand's football chief denies fraud allegations](#) – ndtv.com, September 20, 2012

...The FAT had signed a four-year contract with the company from 2007 to 2011, but Worwai said Dae-an 21 broke the deal when it stopped making payments after around a year and failed to respond to queries over the shortfall.

“It (the allegation) is part of an effort to discredit myself and the FAT, I think the FAT should sue back to protect our reputation...”

## **Phnom Penh's foreign donors are enabling abuses of human rights**

September 21, 2012  
Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia and Cronyism – Phnom Penh's foreign donors are enabling abuses of human rights](#) – WSJ, September 20, 2012

...Phnom Penh's international donors might stop to consider that Cambodia's oppressive cronyism is ultimately a manifestation of its disregard for the human right of private property. Absent meaningful pressure to protect property rights, foreign aid and investment will bring limited benefits.

## Australia hostage died in Cambodia as part of Hun Sen's Power Play

September 21, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Govt kidnap policy: necessary or 'fatal'?](#) – AP, September 20, 2012

...He said ambassadors were shown a case of \$US150,000 cash and release of the hostages was scheduled to take place on August 20 but the plan was derailed. “(Deputy prime minister) Hun Sen wanted to stop the release so (prime minister) Ranariddh wouldn't get the credit for it, so on the morning of the 20th, he bombarded the camp,” said Mr Gaisford.

Hun Sen mounted a coup against Mr Ranariddh years later...

## Film to honour late red-shirt hero who drove his taxi into a tank

September 21, 2012

Categories: Film and TV, Thai Politics



From *Truth Today*, November 3, 2009

The title reads: A life in exchange for Democracy – Awakening Thais to topple the aristocrat

[Film to honour late red-shirt hero](#) – The Nation, September 20, 2012

...To red-shirt Chulalongkorn historian Assoc Prof Suthachai Yimprasert, Thai history will remember Nuamthong kindly – despite the fact that only red shirts and those who opposed the coup value his sacrifice.

“The future will be different,” Suthachai said. “It’s impossible to see the coup as legitimate from the future’s point of view. We exist in the bias of the present. It’s like the October 6, 1976 massacre; no one today says the killing was right anymore.”

Suthachai said what made Nuamthong unique was the fact he was a working class man and not from the educated middle class...

## UK media reports on Thailand jellyfish horror

September 21, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[‘I thought I’d been bitten by a shark’: British mother tells of horrific jellyfish stings in Thailand that have left her scarred for life](#) – Daily Mail, September 20, 2012

*She was left with third-degree burns just hours after arriving at luxury hotel*

*Said stings felt like ‘a hundred razors’ being dug into her skin*

*Spent rest of holiday in hospital and had to take four months off work*

*The 37-year-old said she was just glad it hadn’t happened to her daughter*

## Myanmar learning how to be a democracy by watching old episodes of “The West Wing”

September 21, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar Takes Cues From ‘The West Wing’](#) – WSJ, September 20, 2012

...According to an Associated Press report, Mrs. Clinton said that former generals were learning “how to be a democratic congress, a parliament” by watching old episodes of Aaron Sorkin’s “The West Wing”...

## Thai Muslim Women Offended by Durex's 'Most Unfaithful' Ranking

September 21, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Thai Muslim Women Offended by Durex's 'Most Unfaithful' Ranking](#) – New Straits Times, September 21, 2012

...Sirinda Auhmud, a public relations officer of a private company, said Muslim women did not agree with the survey because it did not give the races of those involved.

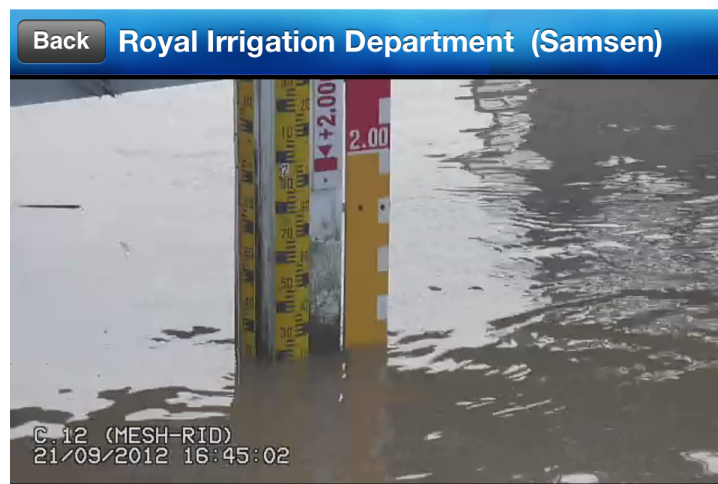
“The figure made it look like all women in Thailand were unfaithful but actually not all of them cheat on their partners.

“Only a small number of Thai women do that...”

## Government iPhone app for flood info: Water4Thai

September 21, 2012

Categories: Floods



Very cool: Live video feeds of klong water levels on the iPhone

[Government iPhone app for flood info: Water4Thai](#) – sg.news.yahoo.com, September 21, 2012

## The Red Bull Real Man

September 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Caption: The real man

## Peaceful protesters in Yangoon Threatened with Arrest

September 22, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Arrest threat overshadows Myanmar peace rally](#) – AFP, September 21, 2012

...”As they demonstrated without official permission, they violated the law and bylaws. So we will charge them,” said Yangon Police Major Myint Htwe late Friday after the rally ended”...

## **Thai Government Races to Save the Multi-Billion Dollar Myanmar Port Project**

September 22, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Thailand, Japan race to rescue Myanmar project](#) – Reuters, September 22, 2012

...”Italian-Thai has had difficulty in mobilising the funding. So now the Thai government has effectively taken over the project,” Thaung Lwin, chairman of the Dawei SEZ said...

## **Gangnam Style dance-off escalates into gang shootout in Bangkok**

September 22, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Gangnam Style dance-off escalates into gang shootout in Bangkok](#) – guardian.co.uk, September 21, 2012

...two gangs were dining in the same restaurant when “the younger members of both groups danced provocatively at each other in the manner of top hit Gangnam Style”. The dance-off escalated into an argument and, eventually, a gun attack in the upmarket Ekkamai neighbourhood, in which one of the gangs fired at least 50 bullets from a carbine and an 11mm gun...

## **In Thailand, Smuggled iPhones Go for Up to \$1,400**

September 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[In Thailand, Smuggled iPhones Go for Up to \\$1,400](#) – WSJ, September 22, 2012

...One vendor in MBK – as it is known – said his team will try to bring over 100 phones into Thailand, and so far more than 80 people have handed over deposits of 5,000 baht, or \$160, per phone...

## **Brit paid for his own execution when his Thai wife used his cash to hire the men who killed him**

September 22, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media

[Brit killed by hitmen HE paid for](#) – The Sun, September 22, 2012

A tragic Brit paid for his own execution when his Thai wife used his cash to hire the men who killed him, say cops...

## Connection between mysterious Vietnam deaths and Chiang Mai's death hotel?

September 22, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[US tourist died of brain edema, not poison: police](#) – thanhniennews.com, September 21, 2012

...The paper said Bowerman's friends have raised the possibility that the two women were poisoned through exposure to a pesticide or some other toxic substance. According to an AP report Tuesday, Bowerman's family and friends have launched a letter-writing campaign to get the US government to seek answers to her death. Karin Bowerman's sister, Ashley Bowerman, said their campaign has spread to at least 12 states, the newswire reported. International media reports have linked the deaths to an incident in Thailand in June in which two Canadian sisters were found dead in their hotel room, covered in vomit, CNN and CDC News reported...

## The Red Shirts Will Demand Justice

September 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, September 23, 2012

Headline: From Hillsborough to Ratchaprasong

Signs in the gallery from top left: Ratchaprasong, Bonkai, Kok Wua intersection, April-May, 2012, Chasing-killing, False accusations, Bring in the persons who made orders to kill for punishment

On the back of the hooded figure: Order to suppress the people

On the back of the referee: TRCT

In referee's hand: Report

Pi Nooring: The truth on the 98 deaths

Mouse: Reported from Liverpool, England

## Thai Pinocchio

September 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, September 23, 2012

Cartoon title: White Lie Plague

Top left: These uniforms for extortion are just an act of a mental illness.

Top middle: I'll make the para rubber's price increase to as high as 120 baht. Trust me!

Top right: Will it flood like last year? Wait for another 100 years.

Bottom left: Giving the passport back to Khun Thaksin is based on the same regulation as in the time when Khun Kasit was Foreign Minister.

Bottom middle: I've never had a flag, never changed. I'm neutral.

Bottom right: Taking the media who take the government's side to watch soccer in England is aimed at giving them the opportunities to see the world.

## No Car Day

September 23, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



The sign reads: Joining forces to make a miracle: stop using cars on September 23, 2012

Gather at Lumpini Park from 08:00-15:00 for various activities.

Experience Ratdamnern Avenue when there is not a single car.

- Bicycle procession formed in the Thai National flag formation
- Bangkok transportation system
- 6 metropolitan cities of bike-lovers
- Free health check-up with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration
- Special prices on bike-related merchandises

## Thaksin comments on the 2010 protest deaths report: Resistance to his return means political chaos

September 23, 2012

Categories: Analysis, Kamronwit Thoopkrachang, Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thaksin writes to families of 2010 'martyrs'](#) – The Nation, September 23, 2012

*... "I feel grateful for the sacrifice of all martyrs who re-established democracy but met with fate. I insist that I always feel grateful to the debt of honour I owe to all of you and will try to take the best care of the families of everyone," Thaksin wrote. He said giving all Thais the opportunity to become prosperous was also his goal but he had faced resistance from those who oppose change. "This leads to the political chaos up to the present. But I will offer you both my moral support and will stand by you until I die."*

*...Somchai said people who did not want Thaksin to return feared him because he was more able than them, claiming that eventually, no one could stop Thaksin from returning if the call by the people became like a wall of water breaking a water bank...*

## From 2010: ‘Is it OK to shoot foreigners and journalists?’

September 23, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[‘Is it OK to shoot foreigners and journalists?’](#) – smh.com.au, May 22, 2010

...The Red Shirts are about 200 metres up the road. They pop out of the side street and hurl one of their primitive improvised devices or launch one of their homemade rockets (fire crackers) that explode far short of the bunker I am in. I can’t help thinking that the army is replying with heavy-handed and disproportionate force. But then I hear the sickening whirl of incoming high-velocity bullets, coming close to the bunker, followed by the thump of M79 grenades.”

...There is a lull in the fire, and in a twist of reality, one of the soldiers yells across the road to an officer in an adjacent bunker: ”Is it OK to shoot foreigners and journalists?”

I am mortified. There is a pause before the answer is screamed back from the adjacent bunker: ”No”...

## Who Plays the Tune?

September 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, September 24, 2012

Caption: A snake trainer died because of his own snake.

On the basket: TRCT

## Angels and Devils Calling to Thaksin

September 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24/09/55

From Manager, September 24, 2012

Angel on right shoulder: Sacrifice

Devils on left shoulder which include Red Shirt leaders: Keep fighting... Kill them...

Caption: The voice of God cannot defeat the louder voices of these Satans.

## Getting Your Intimate Areas Their Whitest

September 24, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs



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



[Thailand's skin-whitening craze reaches woman's intimate areas](#) – Guardian, September 24, 2012

*A new product said to make women's intimate areas "fairer within four weeks" has revived the beauty debate in colour-conscious Thailand, where fair skin is associated with opportunity, success and status, and caused critics to question when, if ever, the skin-whitening craze will end...*

## **Exiled Thai Leader Thaksin Says Rice Policy Should Stay Several More Years**

September 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Exiled Thai Leader Thaksin Says Rice Policy Should Stay Several More Years](#) – Bloomberg, September 24, 2012

Former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said a rice-purchase program should be extended for several more years, rebuffing critics who say the policy has increased government debt and encouraged corruption...

## Ma'am, why did you bring so many chickens with you?

September 25, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, September 25, 2012

Officer: Ma'am, why did you bring so many chickens with you?

Man: To let them out at the UN.

Caption: At the JFK Airport, New York

## We can prevent floods if...

September 25, 2012

Categories: Floods, Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: It will never flood again ...if... we learn from the word 'enough.' With best wishes from the Foundation of Spirit is a Giver, Soul Goes to Nirvana.

## **Thaksin: Pheu Thai will drop rewriting the constitution and amnesty bills until “the timing is right”**

September 25, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Exiled Thai Leader Thaksin Signals Sister to Avert Political Crisis](#) – Bloomberg news, September 25, 2012

...Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra's ruling Pheu Thai party will probably drop plans to completely rewrite the constitution and amend it section-by-section instead to sidestep challenges that caused previous governments to fall, Thaksin said in an interview in Singapore yesterday. It will also shelve a bill granting a broad amnesty that would include him until “the timing is right,” he said.

...While another coup can't be ruled out, Thaksin said, it wouldn't easily succeed.

“If it were to happen again it would not be a quiet coup, no blood,” he said. “It's because the people are aware. The last coup made their life worse so they know they would not allow it to easily happen again.”

## **Pen-ek Ratanaruang's Headshot is Thai Oscar Candidate**

September 25, 2012

Categories: Film and TV

[Hong Kong, Thailand, Israel, and India Announce Oscar Submissions](#) – blu-ray.com, September 24, 2012

## Fearing loss of visa fees, Thailand opts out of common visa plan

September 25, 2012

Categories: Tourism

[Reluctance to join single-visa scheme could prove to be costly](#) – The Nation, September 25, 2012

...In July, the CLMV Single Visa was launched by Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

...Thanate Vorasaran, vice president of the Tourism Council of Thailand (TCT), said yesterday that Thailand was left out because of its stance on issuing visas. The government, after years of negotiation, refused to join the agreement, saying it already permitted visitors from up to 45 nations to enter without a visa.

Thailand also signed a deal with Cambodia in 2007 for a single-visa scheme, but it is not yet activated...

## Yongyuth said you meant to donate your land to the golf course, not the temple

September 26, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



26/09/55

From Manager, September 26, 2012

Left: A god says: Granny Nuam, I'll have to eliminate your virtue by half.

Granny Nuam: Why is that?

Right: Because Yongyuth said you meant to donate your land to the golf course, not the temple.

On front page of newspaper: Yongyuth said he complied with Granny Nuam's wish.

Caption: Impact on Heaven

## Arun's Notebook

September 26, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



The cartoon title reads: Tourist guide and tourists at the Emerald temple. 15.9.'12

[From Arun's Notebook](#) on Facebook

## Grow up uncorrupt

September 26, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

In black: “If he’s good at his work, then it’s acceptable if he’s going to be corrupt.”

In red: If we keep thinking like this, when will our country be prosperous? Teach our children to grow up uncorrupt.

Bottom left: Start now at the BMA schools.

Bottom right: The course ‘Grow up uncorrupt’

## **Thaksin, Thailand's de facto leader, meets heads of state in Singapore, Brunei and Cambodia**

September 26, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin visits Singapore, Brunei and Cambodia – all in a day](#) – The Nation, September 26, 2012

...His visits to the three countries are intended to build up mutual relations with leaders of those countries. His visit to Singapore was also aimed at observing tourism to help Thailand improve its tourism plans, he added.

## **Cambodian prime minister dismisses opposition threat to boycott next year's elections**

September 26, 2012  
Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian prime minister dismisses opposition threat to boycott next year's elections](#) – calgaryherald.com, September 25, 2012

...”That’s good. Other parties: please get ready,” Hun Sen said in a speech to graduating students. “The voters who don’t vote for the Cambodian People’s Party will vote for those parties that join the election...”

## How did Yingluck, Thaksin's admitted "clone," become such a success?

September 26, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Yingluck Shinawatra Turning From 'Stopgap' to a Lasting Presence](#) – [asiasociety.org](#), September 25, 2012

*...How could a political neophyte who had never run for elected office seriously become prime minister? And more importantly, how could this businesswoman in her mid-40s be anything but a front for her older brother, self-exiled former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted in a 2006 military coup? Yingluck was not even an executive member of Pheu Thai, let alone the party's leader — and Thaksin himself referred to her patronizingly as his "clone."*  
*But after a runaway election win, Yingluck confounded many of her critics with her winning personality, non-confrontational style, and easy rapport with Thailand's traditional institutions, including the military, the privy council and the all-important monarchy — with whom Thaksin had long been at loggerheads...*

## **Security Message to U.S. Citizens in Bangkok: Planned demonstration at Embassy on September 27, 2012**

September 26, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Security Message to U.S. Citizens in Bangkok: Planned demonstration at Embassy on September 27, 2012](#) – bangkok.usembassy.gov, September 26, 2012

## Land grabbing by the rich in Cambodia decimating village life

September 26, 2012  
Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Landless Class](#) – NYT, September 26, 2012

...Then in 2002 the police arrived and told them to leave, claiming that the sisters no longer owned it. No one among the 32 families in Chrolang had ever heard of Tep Menon, but the police said he was now the owner of the plot. And so began the sisters' decade-long fight in the courts to keep their land. Land grabbing — big and small — has become all too common in Cambodia. Protests and violent confrontations with the authorities have left a mounting death toll. Meanwhile, as more and more poor Cambodians are being dispossessed, many fear the end of the “communal rice bowl” and traditional village life that once guaranteed food and a family home for all. With no more land to go home to, village life is being decimated...

## Eight years ago: Being afraid of the threatening billboard

September 27, 2012

Categories: Today in History



### "เอกยุทธ" ชี้ขึ้นสมองผวาตัดเข้าที่ขู่ฆ่า



"เอกยุทธ-อเมริกัน" ผวาตัดเข้าที่  
สยอง "2 นักธุรกิจ อ.ชะตาถึงฆาต"  
"วอนเสื้อสีดำ โวยส่งสัญญาณขู่  
ฆ่าชัด ทำเหมือนบ้านเมืองไม่มีชื่อ  
แป แต่ยืนย่นไม่หวั่นไหว แรงมากก็  
แรงกลับ ขณะที่ตรวจสอบแล้วพบ  
เป็นตัดเข้าที่หนึ่งดัง "สุริยะชาติ"

ภายหลังจากการที่มีการขึ้นป้าย

Eight years ago: [Being afraid of the threatening billboard](#)

## Thailand's Mr. Condom revolutionizes education in one of poorest provinces

September 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Mr. Condom revolutionizes education in one of poorest provinces](#) – inquirer.net, September 27, 2012

...He established the Mechai Pattana Bamboo School in 2009 in Buriram, one of Thailand's provinces whose residents have the lowest educational attainment.

...The school has opted to do away with the rote method of learning where students only repeat what they have learned without fully understanding them. Instead, they have adopted the learning method that uses critical thinking, creativity and group work.

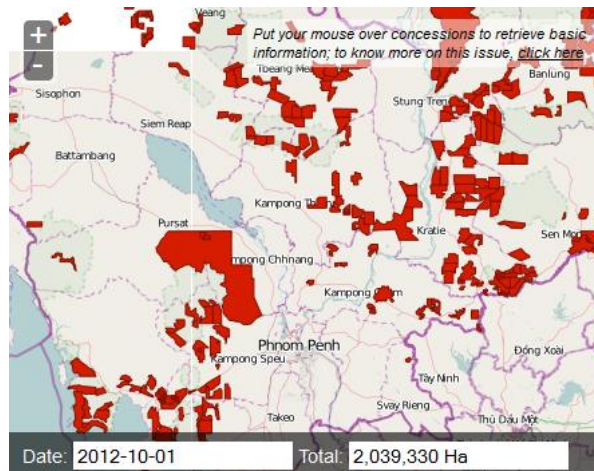
The students have a voice in selecting their teachers and the incoming Grade 7 students. They are also part of the purchasing committee to teach them about budgeting, planning, transparency and negotiation skills.

The students and their families also learn practical agriculture-based courses including animal-raising (pigs, chicken, ducks, frogs, fish and even crickets). They also plant fruits and vegetables, often in an unconventional manner. Vegetables are grown in sandbags to save space. The sandbags are placed under lemon trees to save water consumption while cantaloupe is grown and fed using leftover intravenous catheters (IV lines). The IV tubes and plastic lines are used for storing water and drip irrigation. In a two-meter-wide, plastic-covered shelters, mushrooms are grown. Scientific knowledge is applied to ensure that fruits grow off season to fetch high prices...

## Interactive map shows scale and speed of Cambodia's land-grabbing crisis

September 27, 2012

Categories: Cambodia



[Interactive map shows scale and speed of Cambodia's land-grabbing crisis](#) – globalwitness.org, September 21, 2012

...Over 2.1 million hectares of land – roughly the total area of Wales – has been transferred mostly from subsistence farmers into the hands of industrial agriculture firms.

An estimated 400,000 people have been affected by land disputes since 2003, and government violence against land-grabbing victims is at an all-time high (the most shocking example coming when authorities shot dead a 14-year-old girl during an eviction)...

Also: [Land grabbing by the rich in Cambodia decimating village life](#)

## **‘Sunny Bangchak’ in Bang Pa-In, Ayutthaya is Southeast Asia’s Largest Solar Plant**

September 27, 2012

Categories: Energy

[Suntech, Bangchak Turn On Southeast Asia’s Largest Solar Plant In Thailand](#) – renewablesbiz.com, September 26, 2012

...a 44-megawatt project called ‘Sunny Bangchak’, achieved grid connection on September 4, 2012. The project, located in Bang Pa-In, Ayutthaya, forty kilometers outside Bangkok, Thailand, is owned by Bangchak Public Petroleum Co., Ltd (BCP), utilizes Suntech’s high performance solar panels and was constructed by engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) partner Solartron Public Co., Ltd...

## Labour woes for Thailand if Myanmar migrants return home

September 27, 2012

Categories: Labor, Myanmar/Burma

[Labour woes for Thailand if Myanmar migrants return home](#) – channelnewsasia.com, September 26, 2012

...Myanmar is opening up and more job opportunities will be created for them, but if a large number of Myanmar nationals decide to go back home, it could cause a labour shortage for Thailand.

A seafood wholesaler who employs around 30 Myanmar migrants said that if too many of them go back home, it could affect his business.

Thanatchai Patraporn, a seafood wholesaler, said: “We could experience a serious lack of workers in the seafood industry because Thais are not interested to work in this field as it is unskilled...”

## **In Battling Mine Project in Myanmar, 2 ‘Iron Ladies’ Rise**

September 27, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[In Battling Mine Project in Myanmar, 2 ‘Iron Ladies’ Rise](#) – nytimes.com, September 26, 2012

They were trailed by plainclothes police officers and called “cows” by government officials. They spent four nights in prison until a public outcry prompted their release...

## What might the US buy from Myanmar?

September 27, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[What might the US buy from Myanmar?](#) – ft.com, September 27, 2012

Myanmar used to be a major exporter of many products – from rice to clothing to its world-famous red rubies. But crippling sanctions left the country with few willing buyers aside from China and India who just wanted fuel or food.

That looks set to change with the US about to lift restrictions on exports from the country. But what might US consumers actually buy from Myanmar?...

## Quirky Thailand in the International Media: Magic Talismans Help to Ward Off Devastating Floods

September 27, 2012

Categories: Floods, Local Beliefs, Thailand in the International Media

[Thais Seek a Little Magic Help to Ward Off Devastating Floods](#) – WSJ, September 27, 2012

...Recently, hundreds of residents gathered at Wat Sawang Arom in Nakorn Pathom province, 40 kilometers west of Bangkok, to receive talismans that they believe have divine power to protect them and their belongings from flooding. The temple has been handing out talismans – pieces of white cloth filled with cabalistic writing – for free periodically since August as the annual rainy season arrived...

## **Thai Muslims protest outside US Embassy, Google office in Bangkok**

September 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai Muslims protest outside US Embassy, Google office in Bangkok](#) – nbcnews.com, September 27, 2012

## Seven Years Ago Today: The constitution is dead?

September 28, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

Seven Years Ago Today: [The Election Commission, Constitutional Court and the Auditor-General cannot operate independently.](#)

The main consequence of the Thaksin years: the destruction of the independent checks and balances enshrined in the 1997 constitution.

## Hiding from Shame

September 28, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



28/09/55

From Manager. September 28, 2012

Man: When will Prime Minister Poo be back from that meeting abroad?

Woman: Yeah, when? So that I can take this pail off my head. It's so uncomfortable.

## **Thai government responds to Washington Post article about Thai abuse of Burmese in the shrimp industry**

September 28, 2012

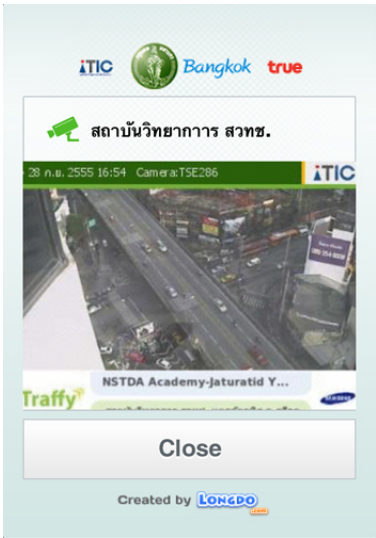
Categories: 2Bangkok News, Labor

[Combating abuse of workers in Thailand](#) – washingtonpost.com, September 26, 2012

*The Sept. 22 news article [“In Thai shrimp sheds, exploited labor”](#) unfairly sensationalized the issue of migrant labor in Thailand. Improving the welfare of migrant workers and combating human trafficking are high on Thailand’s agenda...*

# Cool live Bangkok traffic cam app from BMA

September 28, 2012  
Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Cool live traffic cam app from BMA](#)

## Thai Navy Does Their Version of “Gangnam Style”

September 28, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



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



Thai Navy Does Their Version of “Gangnam Style”

## **Another quick refutation of negative press on Thailand: Claims “that Thailand has ducked out of the five country single visa project are incorrect”**

September 29, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand and Cambodia test single visa](#) – ttrweekly.com, September 28, 2012

*...Suggestions that Thailand has ducked out of the five country single visa project are incorrect. Reliable industry sources confirmed Thailand and Cambodia were selected to test the system and generate feedback that will be evaluated and lead to a wider application including other Mekong Region neighbours, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.*

*Tourism Council of Thailand vice president, Thanate Vorasaran, told TTR Weekly, Thursday, that a single visa for travel between Thailand and Cambodia was part of an agreement signed in 2007 and was specifically identified as a pilot project...*

Earlier: [Fearing loss of visa fees, Thailand opts out of common visa plan](#)

Also: [Thai government responds to Washington Post article about Thai abuse of Burmese in the shrimp industry.](#)

## **Eight years ago: Thai Rak Thai claims coup plan against government**

September 30, 2012

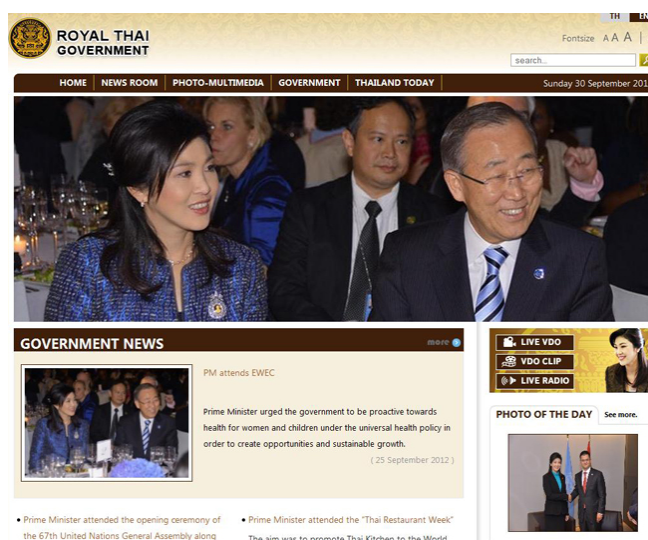
Categories: Today in History

Eight years ago: [Thai Rak Thai claims coup plan against government](#)

# Thai Government Website Gets An Upgrade: Yingluck, Yingluck, Yingluck!

September 30, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics



The [Thai government website](#) has been upgraded with a more modern look, and, as would be expected, a heavy dose of Yingluck. Every news item on the English version is of the PM's activities while other government figures remain invisible. The Thai-language version of the site has a full range of normal press releases from a range of various government activities and figures. The difference between the English and Thai versions reflects the Thai impulse to create a dumbed-down website for foreigners so as not to burden them with the quirky details of the Thai-language world.



Above: The new site is a big step up from the rudimentary government sites in the past which generally eschewed posting any real press releases and focused on unintentionally humorous informational pages like the list of prime ministers and the peculiar reasons they allegedly left office (below).

23	<a href="#">Police Lieutenant Colonel Thaksin Shinawatra</a>	LIV	February 9, 2001	House of Representatives Resolution	March 9, 2005	Term Ended: General Election
		LV	March 9, 2005	House of Representatives Resolution	September 19, 2006	1) Parliament Dissolution February 24, 2006 2) State Administration Assembly September 19, 2006
24	<a href="#">General Surayud Chulanont</a>	LVI	October 1, 2006	Council for National Security	February 6, 2008	Constitution of Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2005 when there is appointment of the new Prime Minister
25	<a href="#">Mr. Samak Sundaravej</a>	LVII	January 29, 2008	House of Representatives Resolution	September 8, 2008	Constitutional Court ruling
26	<a href="#">Mr. Somchai Wongsawat</a>	LVIII	September 18, 2008	House of Representatives Resolution	December 2, 2008	Constitutional Court ruling

From January 7, 2009: Besides the plethora of font types, sizes and colors, the Thai government [cabinet website](#) continues to show unusually worded reasons for Prime Ministers leaving office. I bet you did not know Thaksin left office because of the "State Administration Assembly."

## Swirly face pedophile expelled from Thailand after serving sentence

September 30, 2012

Categories: Crime

[B.C. pedophile, homeward bound after Thai prison term, arrested at Vancouver airport](#) – theglobeandmail.com, September 29, 2012

A convicted pedophile who was once the subject of an international manhunt for allegedly posting his sexual assaults of children online after hiding his face behind a digital swirl has been arrested at Vancouver's airport.

Christopher Neil was returning home to British Columbia after serving a prison sentence in Thailand for sexually assaulting a 13-year-old boy...

## Weekly News Magazines, September 21, 2012

October 1, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, September 21, 2012  
Cover reads: Pan Khamgong – buttons his first button.



From Nation Weekend, September 21, 2012  
The cover reads: 'Men in Black' – in the name of their belief  
The man is Khanit na Nakorn, the Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand's (TRCT) committee.  
Under the picture reads: Open the secret off the TRCT record, Khanit na Nakorn

## Words from Chalerm

October 1, 2012

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 1, 2012

Left: When he was an opposition...

Deputy Prime Minister Chalerm Ubamrung: Mrs. Muam stated clearly in her will that the land belongs to the temple. It can't be traded. If I have a an opportunity to work in a government, I'll get it back!

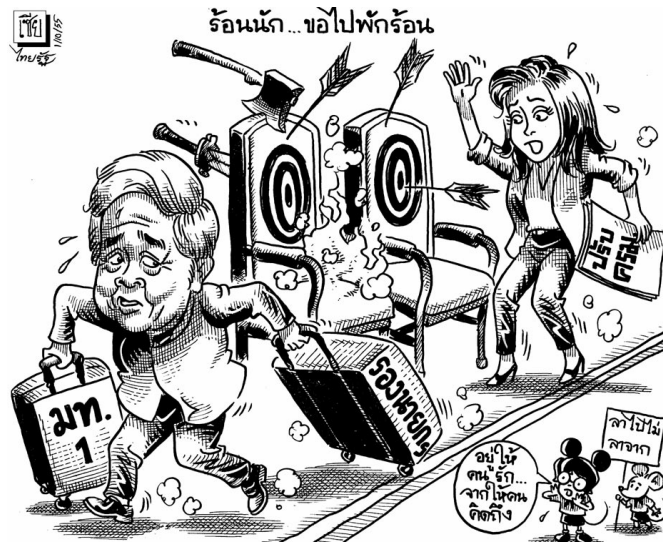
Right: When he is in the government...

Deputy Prime Minister Chalerm Ubamrung: What I said was only my tactics for my election campaign.

## Getting Rid of Yongyuth

October 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 1, 2012

The cartoon title: Too hot... Take a vacation.

In Yingluck's hand: Cabinet reshuffle

On suitcases: Interior Minister, Deputy Prime Minister

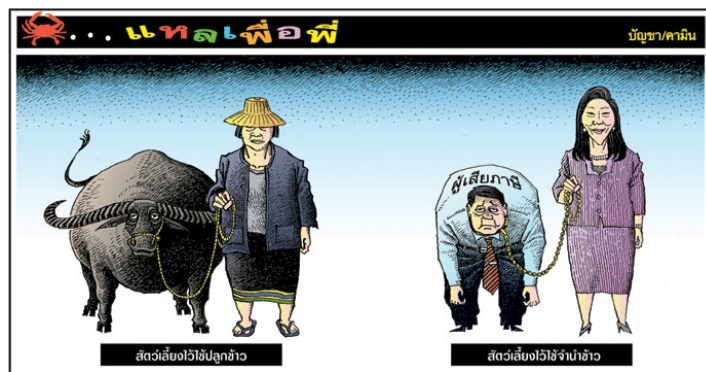
Mouse man Pi Nooring says: Be loved when you stay... be missed after leaving.

On the mice sign: Just a goodbye, not a so long.

## Yingluck and Her Buffalo

October 1, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



01/10/55

From Manager, October 1, 2012

Left: An animal kept for rice farming

Right: Animal kept for rice mortgaging

On Man's shirt: Taxpayers

Woman in purple dress: Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra

## Financial guru Faber: “Strange” that the government gets to appoint Thaksin cronies to head large companies

October 1, 2012

Categories: Airports and Airlines, Economy

[Financial guru Faber knocks Thai ‘cronyism’, pledging scheme](#) – The Nation, October 1, 2012

*World-renowned investment guru Marc Faber says cronyism is a concern for an investor like himself as the Thai government has appointed people connected to former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.*

*“I think that, to be quite honest. I as an investor, it concerns me that, for instance, the government appoints principally people connected to Mr Thaksin for, say, Thai International,” he said.*

*“As an investor, to me it sounds very strange that people who run large companies are appointed by the government and that the government then favours people that are supportive of them. There is still a lot of so-called cronyism. In other words, I have political power and you’re a businessman or you are someone who was at the party before and I give you a good job and the position of power,” he said...*

## The rush to strip mine Cambodia's forests

October 1, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[Don't tell anyone a forest is falling in Cambodia](#) – asiancorrespondent.com, September 30, 2012

“If they come to Cambodia, I will hit them until their heads are broken”.

These are the words attributed to the brother of the Cambodian Prime Minister after the international NGO Global Witness published “Cambodia Family tree” in June 2007. The tree exposed how relatives of the prime minister and other senior officials had run illegal logging operations with complete impunity over a number of years...

## Wall Street Journal: Thailand's Wages of Populism

October 1, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Wages of Populism](#) – WSJ, September 30, 2012

*...Thailand is not alone in the middle-income country problem of rural-urban income divides. Regrettably, these countries have nothing to learn from advanced countries—least of all those in Asia like Japan and Korea—which routinely subsidize farm production. Ms. Yingluck is misguided, but her mistake should focus attention on a very real dilemma, one that is particularly pressing for those facing still large rural electorates.*

## Old Thai Salts Not Amused by Gangnam Style

October 1, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Navy ‘Gangnam Style’ makes choppy waves](#) – Bangkok Post, October 1, 2012

...Adm Surasak admitted that there was some impropriety about military officers doing their fancy stepping in uniform, which had sparked wide criticism. He advised officers to dress in sports outfits, saying it would look more appropriate.

He said he would talk to the officers of the Third Naval Area Command so that everyone would have the same understanding.

“I will only warn them like brothers and there will be no punishment,” Adm Surasak said...

Earlier: [The video: Thai Navy Does Their Version of “Gangnam Style”](#)

## The Road to the Cabinet

October 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 2, 2012

On the wall: Chan Song Laa house

Pojaman says: Oh! Brother Off.

Former National Police Chief Piewpan Damapong says: Who said you have to fly to Dubai for a seat in the Cabinet?

Caption: Off only went to Charansanitwong Road.

## Who clogged the drains?

October 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 2, 2012

The cartoon title reads: Let's help break through the drainage pipe.

Man with pole on the left: The Pheu Thai Party

Man with pole on the right: The Democrat Party

Man in the pipe is Bangkok Governor, M.R. Sukhumbhan Boriphat

Pi Nooring, mouse man says: Love Bangkok, vote for a new governor.

On the mouse's sign: Pretend to clean the drainage system.

# Thai Editorial Cartoons About the Report on the 2010 Protest Deaths

October 2, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Komchadluek, September 19, 2012

On the book's spine: TRCT document. The men in black really exist.



19/09/55

From Manager, September 19, 2012

In hand of the man in the middle: Summary of the TRCT investigation

Top right caption: Demons are scared of the light.

Demons : Aarggh!...



From Thai Rath, September 17, 2012

Cartoon title: Out to kill more before leaving

On left arm, above head of man in glasses: Dictatorship

On right arm: Order to suppress the people

On the book being held by Khanit na Nakorn, chairman of the Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT): Summary of the TRCT investigation

Above the bullets: Men in black

Street signs from top: Kok Wua intersection, Ratchaprasong

Man with candle in hand is Somchai Homla-or, another TRCT member: It's just like a family fight.

Skull: Hundreds of thousands of bullets.

Mouse man (Pi Nooring): Sacrificed even their own lives.

Mouse: Asking for democracy, but accused of being terrorists in return.



From Komchadluek, September 20, 2012

The man is Khanit na Nakorn, chairman of the Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT). He holds a tablet like Moses that reads: Summary of the TRCT investigation



From Manager, September 21, 2012

Khanit na Nakorn, chairman of the Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT): Have some grass with iodine, then I'll show you something.

Foreground caption: For some groups of people, Khun Khanit needs to help them .

The papers Khanit holds: Summary of the TRCT investigation



From Thai Rath, September 15, 2012

Cartoon title: Every lost life is a lesson for living people.

Left: Hit and run.

Middle: Shot a man, but still shows up proudly in the Parliament.

The signs from top read: Gas station in Samut Sakhon province. Clean washroom.

Right: Killed 98, but still at large.

The signs from top read: Kok Wua intersection, Ratchaprasong, Democracy and asking for justice.

Moune man (Pi Nooring): Poor guys.

Mouse: Bring in those who ordered the killing to punish them.

## Thailand Says Goodbye to Panda TV

October 2, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



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



[Thailand Says Goodbye to Panda TV](#) – blogs.wsj.com, October 1, 2012

...The network and the Zoological Park Organization, a government agency overseeing Chiang Mai Zoo, had collaborated on the show. True agreed to shoulder the broadcasting costs for the first two years, and the zoo organization bore the third year. The costs of broadcasting were around THB10 million per year. The organization decided not to extend the contract, resulting in Monday's termination. Ratings for the Panda Channel are not available, but executives appear to have perceived that the pandas' popularity had fallen, said Prasertsak Buntragulpoontawee, chief of the organization's panda research department...

## The Cost to Burma of a Stalled Investment Law

October 2, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[The Cost to Burma of a Stalled Investment Law](#) – The Irrawaddy, October 2, 2012

...“It is difficult to reconcile the democratic spirit of this administration with the reality that the text of the initial draft law was not made public, that there was no public discussion of the issues when the draft was deemed to be flawed, and that the administration has declined to explain clearly the timetable for the law’s enactment...”

## Uncle Sam and Yingluck

October 3, 2012

Categories: Anti-Americanism, Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, October 3, 2012

On the airplane: U-Tapao

Uncle Sam: Okay! I'll get it all.

## Toad and Buffalo

October 3, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 3, 2012

Buffalo: It's fantastic for a low-class animal like yourself to become our leader... Aren't you satisfied?... What else do you want?

Toad: I want to sit on a sedan.

## **Criminalization of land activists and human rights defenders in Cambodia**

October 3, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Another Critic Is Silenced in Cambodia](#) – NYT, October 2, 2012

A court in Cambodia has sentenced a 71-year-old radio journalist to 20 years in prison for allegedly encouraging a secessionist movement in a remote eastern village.

The conviction, however, by most independent accounts, has nothing to do with insurrection and everything to do with the suppression of dissent over an ongoing series of land grabs, illegal logging and forced evictions...

## **Lloyd's Analyzes Repercussions of Thai Flood Losses a Year Later**

October 3, 2012

Categories: Floods

[Lloyd's Analyzes Repercussions of Thai Flood Losses a Year Later](#) – insurancejournal.com, October 3, 2012

...The economic cost of the floods has reached \$45.7 billion, according to the World Bank. “For insurance and reinsurance companies, the total claims tally – much of it from business interruption and contingent business interruption – came to an estimated \$12 billion, according to figures from Swiss Re. Lloyd’s share of this was \$2.2 billion...”

## **Thai central bank chairman calls for scrapping of rice policy as stocks mount**

October 3, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai central bank chairman calls for scrapping of rice policy as stocks mount](#) – breccorder.com, October 3, 2012

The chairman of the Thai central bank urged the government to scrap a politically sensitive and hugely expensive scheme to subsidise rice farmers, saying it was a threat to stability in a country which has faced repeated unrest in recent years...

## How Thais Stay in a Forest

October 4, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 4, 2012

Left: I intend to trek in a forest here so I've prepared everything from a map to a flashlight, pocket knife, tent, sleeping bag and first-aid kit...

Middle: Thai man: Thai tourists never bother to make a fuss like you.

Foreign tourist: Then what Thai people do when they trek in a forest?

Right: They just make sure to have enough cash, find a map and a resort's phone number. And there they are, staying overnight in a forest.

## **New Genus Of Aquatic Animals Discovered In Thailand's Songkhla Lake**

October 4, 2012

Categories: Wildlife and Nature

[New Genus Of Aquatic Animals Discovered In Thailand's Songkhla Lake](#) – bernama.com, October 4, 2012

...Dr. Saowapa said that an animal of the genus is about two millimetres long and lives 70 centimetres deep in clay sediment in the lower part of the Songkhla Lake close to its estuary...

## Weekly News Magazines, September 28, 2012

October 5, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, September 28, 2012

The cover reads: I'm not afraid of the Men in Black, but I'm afraid of the men with 'black hearts'



From Nation Weekend, September 28, 2012

The cover reads: Several drops of honey

## Breaking in to the Treasury

October 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 5, 2012

On vault: Treasury

Man with tool: Hey!... Are you guys sure it's right to rob the money for the rice mortgage project?

The other man: Eh!!

## A coup d'etat rod

October 5, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 5, 2012

The cartoon title reads: This TV channel is useful.

On TV screen: Stir up a situation.

On the mouses sign: A coup d'etat rod

Voice from the TV: Put on this shirt, then go out and get them!

## Thai delegation visits US schools to see how they teach art and social studies

October 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand delegation visits Howard County school system](#) – baltimoresun.com, October 4, 2012

...Members of the Thai delegation said they want to learn how U.S. schools teach art and social studies and how those lessons prepare students to be productive members of society. It is also seeking to expand its approach to arts studies and marveled at how school system office walls were decorated with students' artwork. "When our teachers talk about art, they say, 'You draw this, you sing this.' But what we see here is what is the meaning of art," said Namfa. " art is reinforced for students to talk about themselves and write about it. We want the art team to think and extend, go beyond the traditional art learning..."

## The downside of living in Thailand for a long time—exposure to pesticides from the local food

October 5, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News



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



Unless you are riding around on a motorcycle and/or drinking alcohol, this is the biggest downside of living in Thailand for a long time—exposure to pesticides from the local food you are eating.

# Washington Square Demolition Leaves Bangkok's Elderly Sexpats Lost, Confused

October 5, 2012

Categories: Humor

From Not the Nation: [Washington Square Demolition Leaves Bangkok's Elderly Sexpats Lost, Confused](#)

*...When directed towards The Dubliner, a nearby Irish-themed pub, Summerville waved his hand in protest. "Can't go in there," he said. "There's young people in there. And Thai women who have their own money. Can't go in there, no way."*

*...Even the physical structure of the square was a factor, according to Nootaree. "Washington Square was literally walled off by darkness," she noted. "It was similar to a cave ecosystem, where the indigenous species evolve in isolation, adapt to their bare resources, and eventually become a new species altogether..."*

## Multi-billion dollar Dawei port project stalls

October 5, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Direction requested on Dawei](#) – Bangkok Post, October 5, 2012

...”So far, we’ve seen reports that the Thai and Myanmar governments have agreed to push the Dawei project forward jointly, but we’ve not received documents from any party that would inform us what they will do,” said Dr Somchet.

Government support is vital to the development of the US\$50-billion Dawei project, in which \$8.5 billion is needed for the first phase of infrastructure...

## **Myanmar: Displaced Rohingya living “worse than animals”**

October 5, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar: Displaced Rohingya living “worse than animals”](#) – irinnews.org, October 4, 2012

Nearly 75,000 people living in temporary camps and shelters following inter-communal conflict in Myanmar’s Rakhine State in June face deteriorating living conditions, say local aid workers and residents...

## **Photo of child using drugs angers Thailand**

October 6, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Photo of child using drugs angers Thailand](#) – upi.com, October 5, 2012

## **After Floods, Businesses Still Wary of Thailand**

October 6, 2012

Categories: Floods

[After Floods, Businesses Still Wary of Thailand](#) – WSJ, October 5, 2012

A year after massive floods in the country disrupted the global supply chain for cars and electronics, most factories are at work again, but not always like before. Some foreign companies—having learned hard lessons about concentrating too much of their production in one country—are shifting to other parts of Southeast Asia...

# The belief that the Thai alphabet can be transcribed into any language is an extreme nationalist belief

October 6, 2012

Categories: Language

[Too many 'magical' Thai spelling mistakes](#) – Bangkok Post, October 5, 2012

...Before we can gain a better grasp of these English loan words, we first need to understand the limitations of our own language. Speaking on the matter, Royal Institute member Dr Kanchana Naksakul said: "Thai is a magical language. We can write every word to match with how they are pronounced".

...Lecturer Yukti Mukdawijitra, from the faculty of sociology and anthropology at Thammasat University, has gone so far as to say that "the belief that the Thai alphabet can be transcribed into any language is an extreme nationalist belief. This belief should be stopped. should stop teaching children this."

Outside the academic world, many Thais have found this move absurd. I have heard complaints that the introduction of the new spellings is redundant because everybody is so familiar with the old spellings. I have heard many of the newly introduced tone markers make pronunciation worse than before. And I have even heard people find fault with the aesthetics of the new spellings, saying that put simply, they look stupid.

So the problem here is threefold. First, for all its good intentions, the Royal Institute needs to recognise that its ideas are misplaced. If the intention is to improve English efficiency, efforts should be focused on encouraging Thais to learn English properly, using the English alphabet. The Thai spelling is not important.

Dr Kanchana has even admitted that: "Those who disagree with the new spellings can ignore them. Many words these days are not written the way suggested by the Institute anyway."

Secondly, the Royal Institute must get up to speed with the adaptive nature of language. In a separate but equally misguided move, the Institute has added a series of outdated sayings and idioms to the dictionary that have left all but the oldest generations scratching their heads.

This only goes to further prove that there is a clear gap between those that use language and those who study it.

Finally, and perhaps more usefully, the Royal Institute should reconsider Thai spellings of loan words altogether.

Often the tone markers that indicate stress in words are irrelevant as the spelling is entirely off in the first place. Try and follow me here, the word for computer has been changed by adding a mai toe tone mark to emphasise the "ter" part of the word. This is of course not the correct part of the word to emphasise, as in English it should be comPUter.

However, far more relevant would be to change the spelling from com-pu-dter with a dtor dtao sound to com-pu-ter with a tor tahan sound. By changing the spelling and ignoring the stresses, we could move the Thai language away from being an overly anal language obsessed with rules and sounds, and at the same time make English words more understandable.

Or we could just accept we will never be able to control the nature of language. That to do so is a waste of time and energy. Instead, we should all just enjoy the differences in pronunciation of words like "mammoth" and "Nostradamus", because, well they're hilarious.

## **Preserve Marriage Washington is Buying Facebook “Likes” from Thailand**

October 7, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Preserve Marriage Washington is Buying Facebook “Likes” from Thailand](#) – pamshouseblend.firedoglake.com, October 3, 2012

Thailand is one of the world’s sex tourism hot spots. I wonder how many of Preserve Marriage Washington’s fans there are Washington state voters.

Before the buying spree began, the page had only about 6,000 likes. It’s hard to imagine the purpose of buying empty likes, except to perhaps generate a false sense of strength among local supporters...

## Myanmar: Melting pot or salad bowl?

October 7, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Burma? Myanmar? New Freedom to Debate Includes Name](#) – NYT, October 4, 2012

...But the military had such a pervasive influence over everyday life for decades that the generals' relinquishing of power last year has also led to lifestyle changes well beyond the realm of politics. Most notably, it has allowed debates on once-taboo subjects, uncorking five decades worth of bottled-up opinions.

Writers and linguists have been freed to debate the use of words and terms banned under the junta. There are heated arguments about who should be considered a citizen and discussions over the preservation of buildings, which might have been touchy under a junta that cared enough about appearances that it built an extravagant new capital at a time of deprivation...

## Swedish embassy in Bangkok returns Pirate Bay co-founder's passport after a year

October 7, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Pirate Bay co-founder won his passport back](#) – decryptedtech.com. October 6, 2012

Fredrik Neij won his appeal against the Swedish embassy in Bangkok after they took his passport from him a year ago. He is now free to travel from Laos because the authorities did not present a proper reason for the longer revocation to the Appeals Court. This is just one of the legal cases that the Pirate Bay founders are involved; authorities are really giving them a hard time ever since they were established...

## **Court calls publishing a basic liberty in Malaysia**

October 7, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[In Malaysia, Court Backs Right to Print a Newspaper](#) – NYT, October 2, 2012

Obtaining permission to publish a newspaper in Malaysia, where the print media are dominated by government-linked publications, is likely to become easier after a court ruled that the right to freedom of expression includes the right to publish and is a fundamental liberty...

Bank of Thailand Scream Over Rice Policy

October 8, 2012  
Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From [Arun](#), October 8, 2012  
Caption: Virapong out spoke that if this government will be destroyed, it is because of this thing .  
On baby's hat: Rice farmers  
On woman's robe: Rice mortgage

## Goodbye Yongyuth

October 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 9, 2012

Yingluck speaking to her cabinet: I respect Mr. Yongyuth's decision. It shows us his morality and sets up a political standard.

Letters on the rope: Civil Service Sub-Commission and the National Anti-Corruption Commission

## Prem Attacks the Government

October 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 9, 2012

The cartoon title: Step back again and again to escape from the haunting ghosts

The woman is Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, next to her is Yongyuth Wichaidit, former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior.

In the forefront, from left: (Non) independent organizations, dissolving parties, 2007 constitution

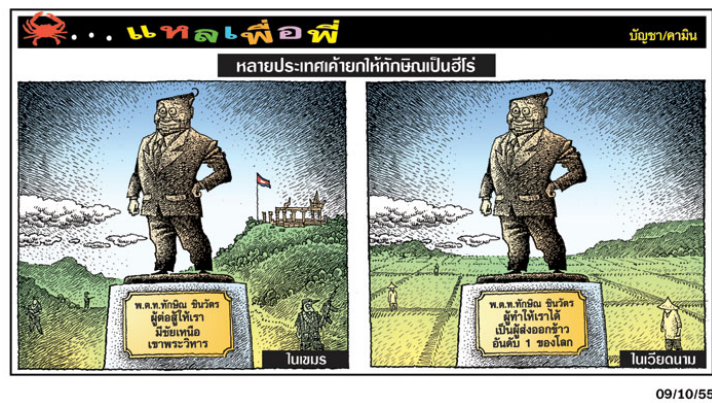
Mouse man Phi Nooring: Haunting ghosts.

On the mouse's sign: Amnat's slaves

## Thaksin the Hero of Other Nations

October 9, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 9, 2012

Cartoon title: Many countries consider Thaksin as their hero.

On the left foundation of the Thaksin statue: Pol. Lt. Col. Thaksin Shinawatra is the man who makes us win over Preah Vihear

On the right foundation of the Thaksin statue: Pol. Lt. Col. Thaksin Shinawatra is the man who makes our country become the world's number one in rice exports.

## Local pastor fights sex trade in Thailand

October 9, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Local pastor fights sex trade in Thailand](#) – newtoncitizen.com, October 8, 2012

*...Brannen is known as “Uncle Ronny” at House of Grace. The girls get a kick out of his wild antics, from encouraging them to crack an egg over his head during a relay game to allowing them to smear their faces with peanut butter and throw cocoa puffs to see how many stick to fashioning a slip n’ slide for them out of plastic bags and dousing it with soap and water.*

*Their laughter and joy is a reminder of how different their lives could be. Brannen was once taken to the sex district by a staff member with House of Grace who wanted to show him exactly what they are working to prevent.*

*There are bars there where girls are lined up in their underwear with numbers pinned to them, and menus are passed out for the men to decide what acts they want them to perform.*

*“I looked into the face of one of the girls and her eyes met mine and they were hollow,” Brannen said. “There was deadness on their faces. The girls at House of Grace are filled with light, filled with laughter, filled with joy, with smiles on their faces ... They have life. What I saw there was death.”*

## IMF Says China, Malaysia, Thailand Currencies Undervalued

October 9, 2012

Categories: Economy

[IMF Says China, Malaysia, Thailand Currencies Undervalued](#) – nasdaq.com, October 8, 2012

... The current accounts of many Asian nations, including China, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand, are stronger and the currencies weaker than they would be with a more desirable set of policies, the IMF said, adding that several of them have very large official reserves or internal distortions that curb consumption.

While inflation rates in emerging Asia have been low or falling, in China and India credit has expanded rapidly, and in Indonesia and to some extent Malaysia, credit growth is still quick, with property prices also booming in some of those markets. In addition, China, Malaysia and Thailand's currencies are undervalued relative to the countries' medium-term fundamentals, the IMF said...

## Rice Farmers Pro and Con

October 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



10/10/55

From Manager, October 10, 2012

Farmer in the left panel: Every time you have some rice, remember it's my sweat that you feed on, and become a human.

Right: Every time you mortgage your rice, remember it's my tax that pays for it so that you remain human.

Caption: Song for Life in the past.....Now!!!!



From Thairath, October 10, 2012

The cartoon headline: Having rice with fish bone in the throat.

On the left arm of man wearing a suit: Academics

On the back of man: Slaves of rice traders

On the rice in the bowl: Rice mortgage

Mouse man Phi Nooring: They only want to have a full stomach.

On the mouse's sign: Eliminate rice farmers' hardship.

## Airplane Landing

October 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 10, 2012

Left: Don Muang airport today can be named rice barn and water dam .

Middle: Because more airlines come back to Don Muang?

Right: Because the government turns to it when there is nowhere to stock mortgaged rice, and uses it as a flood area when Bangkok was flooded.

## Losing 20% in Corruption in the Rice Mortgage is Acceptable

October 10, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, October 10, 2012

Sukampol Suwannathat, Defense Minister, says: Watch out!! Whoever tries to watch ministers for mistakes... If you're caught, you'll be slapped in your mouth.

## Is the UN trying to regulate the internet in Thailand or is the Bangkok Post gullible?

October 10, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[New UN internet laws looming](#) – Bangkok Post, October 9, 2012

...The new draft stipulates involvement is mandatory and not voluntary as it is now, possibly forcing amendments to laws and regulations in individual countries. “Any country disagreeing with this treaty could face sanctions or even have their internet blocked,” said Ms Duangthip.

...”The key question is: will users accept having to pay every time they click on the internet?” said Adirake Patitus, president of the Association of the Thai ICT Industry...

[Myth vs. Fact: The UN's International Telecommunication Union](#)

## Untenable Thai rice scheme puts populist PM in bind

October 10, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Untenable Thai rice scheme puts populist PM in bind](#) – Reuters, October 9, 2012

...”The farmers get very little. The millers take the 15,000 guaranteed and give farmers roughly half of that. That’s why the farmers say they would settle for lower than 15,000 – because they’re not getting that much anyway,” Thitinan said...

## **63.1% of Malaysians oppose corruption vs 68.5% of Thais who condone it if it can benefit them**

October 10, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thais more corrupt than Malaysians](#) – Bangkok Post, October 10, 2012

...The analysed data showed that 63.1% of the Malaysian population is against government corruption, even if there is some personal benefit from it.

On the contrary, a survey of 3,125 respondents in Bangkok and 19 provinces conducted independently by Abac indicated that 68.5% of Thais condone official dishonesty if they have something to gain from it, Mr Noppadol said...

More than 90% of the poll respondents in Thailand believed that the death penalty would be the most effective way to curb corruption. They also wanted protection for the whistleblowers.

## The Dead Wait

October 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 11, 2012

The cartoon title reads: No campaigns for this incident

On newspapers from top: Shot soldiers, killed monks, unrest by Southern insurgents, killed the people, car bombs, Southern insurgents shot and killed local folks

The mouse man, Phi Nooring: Poor innocent victims.

On the mouse's sign: Understand, reach out, develop

## Weekly News Magazines, October 5, 2012

October 11, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Matichon Weekly, October 5, 2012

Cover reads: The Choice: the Cabinet reshuffle



From Nation Weekend, October 5, 2012

Cover reads: The countryside girl: “Miss Rice Mortgage”

## Watching TV

October 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Komchadluek, October 11, 2012

Woman: I think Gaeme is scary. Listening to the Prime Minister talking about the G-to-G rice trade is even scarier.



16/10/55

From Manager, October 11, 2012

Woman: Why stripping Abhisit of his military ranking!! ..... What has he done?

Man: He didn't strip Thaksin of his rank while he was prime minister.

## Two Thaksin Sisters in Charge

October 11, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



11/01/55

From Manager, October 11, 2012

Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom: G to G in my sense is Gai to Gai .

The caption reads: Who said Boonsong lied about G to G?

## Amazing sci-fi short film: True Skin – Bangkok of the Future

October 11, 2012

Categories: Film and TV



06:12 |

Written & Directed by: Stephan Zlotescu  
Director of Photography: H1  
Original Music: J-Punch  
Producer: Christopher Sewall  
Manager: Scott Glassgold / IAM Entertainment

An N1ON Production

<http://N1ON.COM>

Thanks to [Chris](#) for pointing this out.

## Two Pirate Bay founders “detained” in Bangkok en route to a hacker conference

October 11, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Rumors Of The Pirate Bay's Shutdown False After Founders Were 'Stopped' In Thailand](#) – ibtimes.com, October 10, 2012

...Fredrik Neij, a co-founder of The Pirate Bay, and former spokesman Peter Sunder were detained in Bangkok en route to the hacker conference, according to Torrent Freak.

It is not clear who stopped the pair in Thailand...

## Thailand planning to turn 100% of its debt into baht

October 11, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Thai government eyes 100% debt in local currency](#) – Reuters, October 11, 2012

The Kingdom of Thailand is planning to turn 100% of its debt into local currency by repaying upcoming yen and dollar maturities with money raised in the local markets, Chularat Suteethorn, director general of the Public Debt Management Office told IFR in an exclusive interview on Wednesday...

## Both Sides Claim to Tell the Truth

October 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From [Arun](#), October 12, 2012

Cartoon title: Political Storm

Left: Opposition

Right: The Government

## Thaksin Found the Right Person

October 12, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 12, 2012

Thaksin Shinawatra: Poo! I think I found the person with thick skin and who is ignorant enough to any condemnation to replace Yongyuth as party leader. The caption reads: The Right Qualifications for the Big Boss

## Thais to Investigate King's Tomb in Mandalay

October 12, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Thais to Investigate King's Tomb in Mandalay](#) – The Irrawaddy, October 12, 2012

...According to Burmese history records, King Hsinbyushin (1736-76), the third king of Burma's Konbaung Dynasty, invaded the ancient Thai capital Ayutthaya in 1767 and brought many of its subjects, including Uthumphon, back to his capital Ava.

Dr. Tin Maung Kyi, a well-known Burmese historian and Mandalay resident, previously told The Irrawaddy that records say the Thai king was in monkhood when he was brought back as a prisoner of war, and when he died in captivity his body was buried at Linzin Hill.

It is believed that Uthumphon died during the reign of King Bodawpaya (1745-1819), the sixth king of the same dynasty...

October 14, 2012  
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

October 14, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 14, 2012

Cartoon title: Really, believe me.

Top left: Really, the U.S. wants to rent U-Tapao just for checking out the clouds!

Top middle: Really, the online-lotto will solved the over-priced lottery!

Top right: Really, Prime Minister Yingluck selected her cabinet members by herself!

Bottom left: Really, Tharit didn't see any 'men in black' among the Red Shirt protesters!

Bottom middle: Really, Chalerm went to Hong Kong, but didn't see Thaksin!

Bottom right: Really, the government's rice trading deals are classified. We really cannot tell you!

## Thai military resists political pressure

October 14, 2012

Categories: Thai Military, Thai Politics

[Thai military resists political pressure](#) – atimes.com, October 13, 2012

...The Angel Descendent group clearly hoped that Peua Thai's electoral victory in 2011 would translate into more promotions and key assignments for its members. While this has not transpired, Prayuth's balanced handling of key promotions and assignments at this year's reshuffle likely helped to defuse tensions. It has also reportedly earned him a new measure of respect from the Angel Descendants, despite Prayuth's personal background as an Eastern Tiger. This will have left little opening for Thaksin and Peua Thai politicians to exploit the rivalry and play divide-and-rule politics inside the armed forces....

## On His Way Home

October 15, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Naewna, October 15, 2012

The caption reads: His way back to Thailand

On the men's backs: Red

The man is Thaksin Shinawatra.

## **Cambodia former king Norodom Sihanouk dies aged 89**

October 15, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia former king Norodom Sihanouk dies aged 89](#) – BBC, October 15, 2012

## Who Will Lead the Party?

October 16, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 16, 2012

Cartoon title: May I force my way in across parties

On the back of the chair: Leader of the Pheu Thai Party

On the paper on the chair: From a person from a distant country

On leg: The Democrat Party

## The Burden of Government Rice

October 16, 2012

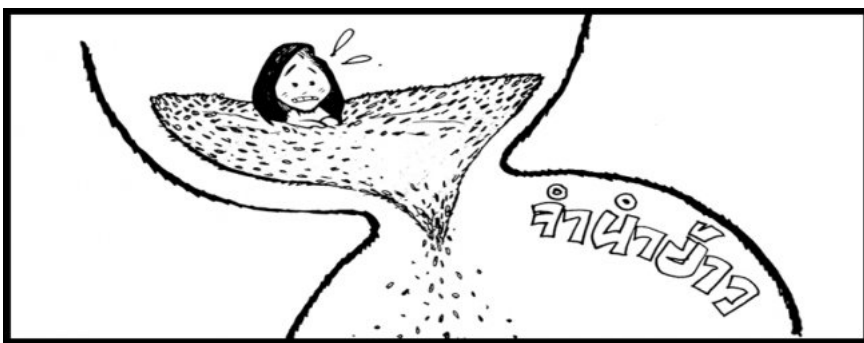
Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Komchadluek, October 16, 2012

On the pipe: Loans for rice mortgage

On the water splash: Corruption



From Komchadluek, October 15, 2012

On the sand clock: Rice mortgage



15/10/55

From Manager, October 15, 2012

From left: More more, More mortgage... more, More, Lots more, More

On the sinking boat: Poo2

Caption: Instead of criticizing... let's cheer it on

## Thaksin to file defamation suits against those accusing him of being behind the men in black

October 16, 2012

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010



[Thaksin to sue over men in black row](#) – Bangkok Post, October 16, 2012

*...Party members attempted to shed light on the mysterious men in black who had been linked to the red-shirt United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD) and who were believed by some to have attacked security forces and killed people during the political violence that ensued.*

*Mr Prompong said Thaksin had no knowledge of the men in black and the Democrat Party was attempting to smear him.*

*"If the Democrats continue to organise such rallies, this will only turn the public against Thaksin and Pheu Thai," Mr Prompong said...*

More: [Chalerm and Prasong Soonsiri](#)

[More on Chalerm and Prasong](#)

## **Southern Philippines deal offers potential lesson for Southern Thailand?**

October 16, 2012

Categories: The Thai Deep South

[Southern Philippines deal offers potential lesson for Southern Thailand?](#) – CNN, October 16, 2012

# The Mind-Boggling Life of the Cambodian King

October 16, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

As Norodom Sihanouk had been ill for so long and had led such an epic life, it was surprising that the media did not have more immediate coverage of his life and times immediately after his death.

Now the articles are trickling out... perhaps after reporters checked out his Wikipedia page?

Any story on Norodom Sihanouk is replete with strange trivia and bizarre shifting alliances. Perhaps International Herald Tribune says it best, "the diplomatic chronology of King Sihanouk, who died Monday in Beijing at age 89, is mind-boggling in its complexity and contradictions."

[Cambodia's Former King Leaves Mixed Legacy](#) – VOA, October 15, 2012

*...The Cambodian king's ties to North Korea were such that leader Kim Il Sung built him a 60-room palace in Pyongyang...*

[Cambodian King Left Mixed Legacy](#) – WSJ, October 15, 2012

*Norodom Sihanouk, a two-time king who helped guide the small Southeast Asian nation of Cambodia through its first years of independence but ultimately failed to prevent it from descending into genocide at the end of the Vietnam War, died early Monday of natural causes in Beijing...*

[The Bloodied Legacy of Cambodia's Chameleon King](#) – IHT, October 15, 2012

*He was a libertine and a francophile, a filmmaker and a painter; a serial husband and father and philanderer; a cherubic but ruthless god-king who liked to putter about in the garden. He played the sax in his own jazz band. He loved to eat. He once served Champagne to a visiting U.S. secretary of state...*

Photos: [Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's leader through decades of upheaval, dies](#) – WP, October 16, 2012

[Cambodia's quixotic former king Sihanouk dies in Beijing](#) – Reuters, October 16, 2012

## **200,000 Burmese Face Deportation from Thailand**

October 16, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[200,000 Burmese Face Deportation from Thailand](#) – The Irrawaddy, October 16, 2012

...He explained that most Burmese migrants to Thailand have not pursued the official steps of verifying their identities because they fear handing over biographical information and their addresses in Burma to the authorities. Many worry that their families will be harassed by local authorities...

## Urban Thais taking up traditional farming in their spare time

October 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Weekend Farmers Plant Seed of Independence](#) – WSJ, October 16, 2012

...“I’m bored to death living in such a competitive environment in Bangkok. We use money for everything there, including buying food,” complains Mr. Wiroj, 32. “And rice there is poor quality. My dogs in Singburi eat better rice.”

...Chonlathep Pandam, an administrative officer in a hospital in Pitsanulok city, took their advice. He drove north to his family home in Sukhothai and told his father that he wanted to grow rice. “He shouted at me, saying ‘Are you crazy?’” Mr. Chonlathep recalls, figuring his son was giving up a paying job to join the ranks of Thailand’s chronically debt-ridden farmers...

## Thai rice buying slows as govt runs out of storage space

October 16, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai rice buying slows as govt runs out of storage space](#) – Reuters, October 16, 2012

...Farmers in several provinces complained they were unable to sell paddy to the government as millers were refusing to take it. Millers generally take the rice from the farmers, giving them a certificate for money they can claim at a state bank.

“Millers and warehouse owners who have joined the government intervention programme are now refusing to take paddy from farmers as they say they don’t have enough space to store it,” Prasit Boonchuey, head of the Thai Farmers Association, told Reuters...

## Chris Coles' Creatures of the Night

October 16, 2012

Categories: Art

[Creatures of the Night](#) – The Nation, October 16, 2012

...Sometimes it takes an outsider to see the appeal of places or things that locals can be blind to. For Chris Coles, an American artist who has lived in Bangkok on and off for more than a decade, the urban jungle is the source of his inspiration...

# Flood Politics: Taunting the Bangkok Governor

October 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 12, 2012

Cartoon title: Three baskets of olives still can't hit him.

Left: Bangkok Governor, M.R. Sukhumbhan Boriphat: These sandbags were planted in the sewage pipes by the Pheu Thai Party to frame me and the BMA.

On the mouse's sign: Governor dummy

Middle: Pi Nooring: But your people said they were the ones who put them there. And these sandbags belong to the BMA.

Right: Then it's the Pheu Thai Party who wants to remove the bags to frame me and the BMA...!



From Thairath, October 17, 2012

Cartoon title: Even the gods can't help

On the jacket of man on the left: Science committee

Paper in his hand: Using engineering to solve the flood problem

Bangkok Governor, M.R. Sukhumbhan Boriphat: God of Rain... God of Konkha... angels and spirits, please help prevent the flood ...!

Pi Nooring: Science vs superstition

Mouse: Governor dummy

On sandbags: Bangkok

## Drugged up on rice in the provinces

October 17, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 17, 2012

Thaksin Shinawatra says to Prime Minister Yingluck: Don't worry, Poo . They become seriously addicted to our drug... Whoever tries to tell them to stop using it must be killed!!!

On the white bags: Rice mortgage

## **Cambodia's Brutal Land-Grabbing Dictator Wants a Seat on UN Security Council**

October 17, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's Brazen U.N. Bid](#) – IHT, October 17, 2012

There's a lot of hand-wringing in New York right now about what the United Nations should do to stop brutal, state-looting dictators. A good place to start would be not to consider them as candidates for a seat on the Security Council...

## Remembering Cambodia's Enigmatic King

October 17, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Remembering Cambodia's Enigmatic King](#) – WSJ, October 16, 2012

...It would be inaccurate to blame the erstwhile king, even indirectly, for the genocide that was ultimately perpetrated in his country. That blame attaches solely to the communists. I often wonder, though, how things might have gone differently had the mercurial monarch been prepared to gamble on America...

[Cambodian-Americans Mourn Death of Former King Sihanouk](#) – Youtube

[King Sihanouk, An Artist And Architect Of Cambodia](#) – NPR, October 15, 2012

Earlier: [The Mind-Boggling Life of the Cambodian King](#)

## **Cambodia denies it plans to build a nuclear power plant**

October 17, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia denies it plans to build a nuclear power plant](#) – radioaustralia.net.au, October 16, 2012

... Its reportedly got the Thai government worried and anti-nuclear activists in a sweat. But comments attributed to the Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen have been refuted by Ith Praing, a state secretary at the ministry of mines and energy...

## Myanmar military warns newspaper not to repeat its “mistake” of publishing a critical cartoon

October 17, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

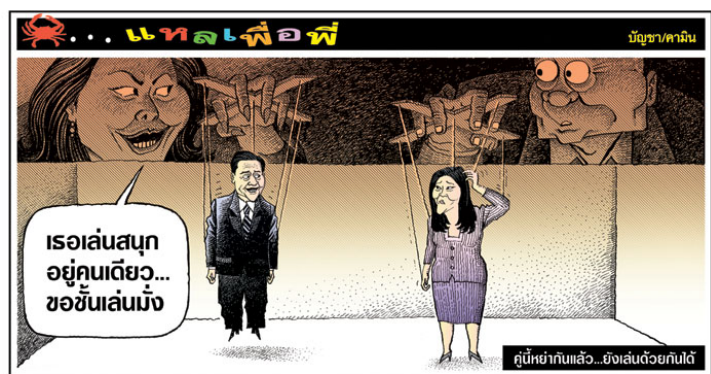
[Newspaper Defends Cartoon Criticizing Military](#) – The Irrawaddy, October 16, 2012

...The commentary, penned by an author writing under the name Maung Pyi Chit, warned against publishing cartoons on such sensitive issues, and urged The Myanmar Times not to repeat its “mistake”...

## The Puppetmasters

October 18, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 18, 2012

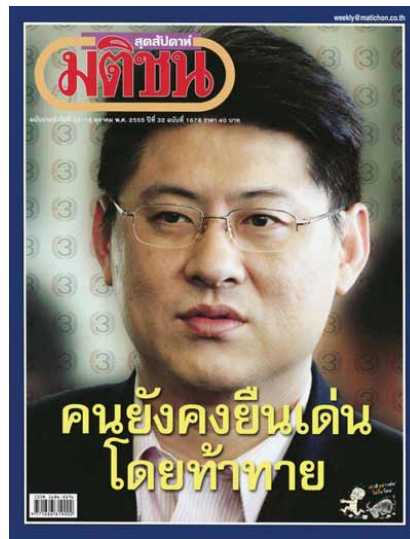
Pojjaman Damapong says: You enjoy it alone. Now it's my turn to play.

The caption reads: This couple is divorced... but still can play together.

## Weekly News Magazines, October 12, 2012

October 18, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, October 12, 2012

Cover on the left panel reads: The Blue Colour Truth

Under the image on the right: We've heard enough lies, now give me a chance to tell the truth.



From Matichon Weekly, October 12, 2012

The cover reads: Still Stands Challenging

## Thai political stability lifts stocks

October 18, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Stocks shine as Thais, Filipinos nurture stability](#) – AP, October 17, 2012

*...Local stock brokers were resigned to the Thai market lagging its potential but the landslide election victory in 2011 of a pro-Thaksin party and the popularity of the country's first female prime minister, Thaksin's younger sister Yingluck, have boosted confidence. Lately, Thai stocks have also got a fillip from big spending government policies that include efforts to overhaul flood defenses after a widespread inundation wrecked industry last year...*

## Socialism or Free Markets? Consider Myanmar and Thailand

October 18, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Socialism or Free Markets? Consider Myanmar and Thailand](#) – Forbes, October 17, 2012

*In terms of land area and population Myanmar and Thailand are close in size, and in the 1960s both countries had similar rates of growth.*

*But in 1962 Myanmar's General Ne Win led a coup d'état, establishing a nominally socialist military government that followed an economic policy of autarky. The country closed its doors to the world and expelled the Indians who had come with the British to help in the retail industry many decades before. Although Ne Win resigned in July 1988, the military junta remained firmly in control of the country.*

*During the same period Thailand experienced multiple army coups, but its leaders chose a different economic path. Thailand became a free-market economy, open to all investments from all countries, and it absorbed its Chinese immigrants, who had arrived during and after British rule. Today Thailand is one of Asia's busiest manufacturing hubs...*

## Warners signs deal to make Bangkok future noir movie “True Skin”

October 18, 2012

Categories: Film and TV



[Warners signs deal to make Bangkok future noir movie “True Skin”](#) – hollywoodreporter.com, October 17, 2012

*Less than a week after the sci-fi short True Skin hit the web, Warner Bros. has pre-emptively swiped it off the table, picking it up for Harry Potter’s David Heyman to produce...*



<https://youtube.com/watch?v=http://www.youtube.com/embed/hoj4Qv7nrN8>



## **Thailand government claims to have struck deal to host Bangkok Grand Prix in 2014**

October 18, 2012

Categories: Sports

[Thailand government claims to have struck deal to host Bangkok Grand Prix in 2014](#) – AP, October 18, 2012

## **Thailand most promiscuous with 83% of men saying they had more than five sexual partners per year**

October 18, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs

[Makati ranks 3rd in Asia's top 10 most promiscuous cities](#) – inquirer.net, October 18, 2012

...The study, which surveyed 10,000 male members of the dating website, found that Bangkok, Thailand ranked first with 83 percent of men saying they had more than five sexual partners per year...

## Surprise Thai Rate Cut Shows Worsening Outlook

October 19, 2012

Categories: Economy

[Surprise Thai Rate Cut Shows Worsening Outlook](#) – Bloomberg News, October 17, 2012

Thailand's central bank voted to cut interest rates four days after Governor Prasarn Trairatvorakul said no easing was needed, adding to evidence Asia's outlook has worsened and supporting a government push to shore up growth...

## Democrats Encircled

October 19, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 19, 2012

Democrat Party Leader, Abhisit Vejjajiva says: "If you break a snake's back, it'll come back to get you later"... Wow! Brother Thuak... this is great... Who wrote it?!

Caption: He's educated in England, so he never read it before.

## Myanmar may flood vintage Spitfire market

October 19, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Briton may harvest surprise bumper crop of vintage Spitfire fighters in Myanmar](#) – AP, October 18, 2012

As many as 140 World War II Spitfire fighter planes — three to four times the number of airworthy models known to exist — are believed to be buried in near-pristine condition in Myanmar. A British-Myanmar partnership says it will begin digging them up by the end of the month...

## **Norodom Sihanouk, King and Film-maker**

October 19, 2012

Categories: Cambodia, Film and TV

[View this movie at cultureunplugged.com](http://cultureunplugged.com)

## US to invite Myanmar to Cobra Gold

October 19, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[US to invite Myanmar to Cobra Gold](#) – Bangkok Post, October 19, 2012

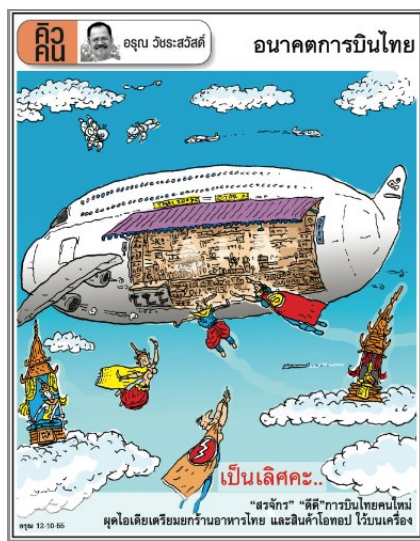
The United States plans to invite Myanmar to the Cobra Gold military exercise next year, the host country Thailand said on Friday, reflecting a dramatic easing of tensions between the former foes...

Past survival training sessions have seen troops drink snake blood and behead chickens...

## Thai Restaurants on Thai Airplanes

October 20, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From [Arun](#), October 12, 2012

Cartoon title: The Future of Thai

Caption: Excellent... New Thai DD, Sorajak came up with the new idea of putting a Thai restaurant and OTOP products on board.

## Thai web users warned against “liking” photo of a reporter standing over image of the late Cambodian king

October 20, 2012

Categories: Cambodia, Censorship

[Thai netizens warned against ‘liking’ photo](#) – Bangkok Post, October 19, 2012

...At a press conference on Friday he appealed to the Thai social network users not to forward or click “like” on the photo or messages associated with it, saying doing so may lead to conflict between the two countries.

It may also violate the Computer Crimes Act 2007, which prohibits the dissemination of content deemed threatening to national security. The law provides for a maximum five-year jail sentence, he said...

## Thai government plans to borrow 2 trillion baht—the most in history

October 20, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[‘Good only at borrowing’ jibe haunts Pheu Thai Party](#) – Bangkok Post, October 20, 2012

*The refrain once hurled at the Abhisit government has boomeranged, damaging the Yingluck administration...*

## Lumpinee Boxing Stadium to be demolished

October 20, 2012

Categories: Buildings, Sports

[Lumpinee set to hang up its gloves – Famed boxing stadium moves to a new site in 2014](#) – Bangkok Post, October 20, 2012

...It was established in 1956 on the order of former military strongman Prapass Charusathiara.

He had the stadium built while he was commander of the 1st Division, King's Guard, in Bangkok.

The stadium project came into being as a rival to the older Ratchadamnoen Boxing Stadium on Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue in terms of facilities and standards. Lumpinee has hosted so many historic matches over the decades that it became the mecca for muay Thai boxers the world over. Winners at Lumpinee are held in high esteem by boxing professionals...

## Past – Present

October 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, October 21, 2012

Cartoon title: Past – Present

Top left: Past – destroy the dikes, Present – take away the sandbags

Top middle: Past – looking for an area to keep flood water, Present – Looking for area to store rice

Top right: Past – Run ‘Thoog Jai’ marts, Present: Run ‘Thoog Jai’ marts until they’re out of business.

Bottom left: Past – Wood logs in sarong, Present – Rice in sarong

Bottom middle: Past – They’re called ‘men in black’, Present – They’re called ‘men jai di’ .

Bottom right: Past – It’s called ‘auction’, Present – It’s called ‘offer’.

## Same old trick of the old party

October 21, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 21, 2012

Cartoon title: Same old trick of the old party

On the left poster: The Democrats will survive if we frame Thaksin.

On the right poster: He blames the 'men in black' to get himself away from jail. 2 million baht reward.

On the hooded figure: Order to suppress the people: 99 dead

Former Deputy PM Suthep points to the poster.

Mouse man, Pi Nooring: You can't run away from your bad karma.

Mouse: The person who ordered the killing must be punished.

## 1 Police Officer, 4 Volunteers Project

October 21, 2012

Categories: Signs and Billboards, Thai Police



The sign reads: 1 Police Officer, 4 Volunteers Project: Sutthisan Police Station, the Metropolitan Police Bureau

The police officer is Police Lieutenant General Winai Thongsong, commander of the Metropolitan Police Bureau

## Poison expert thinks Belanger sister deliberately killed

October 21, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Tourist Deaths Raise Poison Expert's Suspicions](#) – NPR, October 20, 2012

...Rather, Blum thinks the deaths of all these women may have been deliberate. In the case of the Belangers, she says, “why would these two young girls ... be the only ones who die from a poisoned cocktail? That doesn’t sound to me like you’re randomly drinking the popular beach drink. That sounds to me like someone picked you out...”

## **Building blocks of Angkor Wat were shipped in by canal**

October 21, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Building blocks of Angkor Wat were shipped in by canal](#) – newscientist.com, October 20, 2012

It is never too late to find a shortcut. Centuries after the construction of Cambodia's Angkor Wat, archaeologists have uncovered traces of a series of canals that suggest the 5 million tonnes of sandstone used to build the temples took a far shorter route than previously thought...

## Abhisit's Bloody Hands

October 22, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, October 22, 2012

Caption: Ten years from now, I'll wash my hands of politics... But his hands are stained with blood and can't be washed off.

On the arm: Order to suppress the people: 99 dead

On the bucket: People's lives: April-May 2010

### 3-SIS Network: Thaksin's Three Women in Control

October 22, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 22, 2012

Cartoon title: Strong and clear nationwide with the 3-SIS network.

Thaksin Shinawatra: After 1 year with the network, are you bankrupt yet, people?

Caption: Even 3G has to step aside

## Friendly Thailand stares down the barrel of rising gun crime

October 22, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Friendly Thailand stares down the barrel of rising gun crime](#) – Reuters, October 21, 2012

...A tourist haven and regional base for multinational companies, Thailand has the highest number of guns in civilian hands in Southeast Asia — almost four times more than the Philippines, a country notorious for violent gun crime.

Some blame the rise in gun crime on political instability that has gripped Thailand since a 2006 coup that removed Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. Unrest culminated in a two-month stand-off in 2010 between government troops and “red shirt” protesters backing Thaksin and clashes that killed 91 people.

Others say that the seeming impunity enjoyed by the wealthy has prompted some to take the law into their own hands.

“Thailand has become a Wild West movie,” says politician Chuwit Kamolvisit, a former massage-parlor tycoon who says he used to pay off local police to run his seedy businesses. “People pull out their guns at a moment’s notice...”

## Wind Farm in Thailand

October 22, 2012

Categories: Energy



(Photo: GR)

Above and below: Thai wind farm in Korat Province between Thep Sathit and Larn Sonthi. There are two farms of 45 turbines each.



(Photo: GR)



(Photo: GR)



(Photo: GR)

# Credit Card Debt Slaves

October 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, October 23, 2012

From top, left to right

Daeng: Yahoo!... Chulalongkorn Memorial Day, the day when all the slaves became free men.

Noi: Quiet, Ai Daeng... There are still some free men who becomes slaves again.

Daeng: Where?

Noi: Me... Credit card companies' slave... I still have to pay for the outstanding loans plus interests with 3-4 debt notices.

## No One Saw Any Men in Black?

October 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai, Tharit Pengdit



From Thairath, October 23, 2012

Left: Pa Prem calls for reconciliation from every color to tone down the conflict.

Middle: Many parties start to agree.

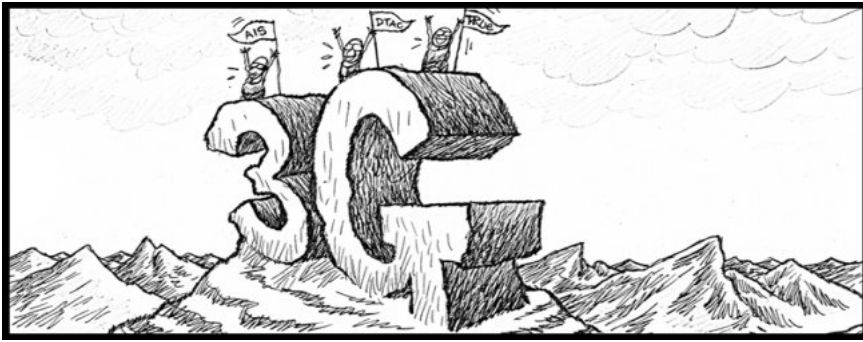
Agree how?

Right: By saying that they've never seen the 'men in black.'

## The Impossible Dream: 3G for Thailand

October 23, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, October 18, 2012  
Flags from left: AIS, DTAC, and TRUE



From Komchadluek, October 17, 2012  
The sign reads: 3G Thailand

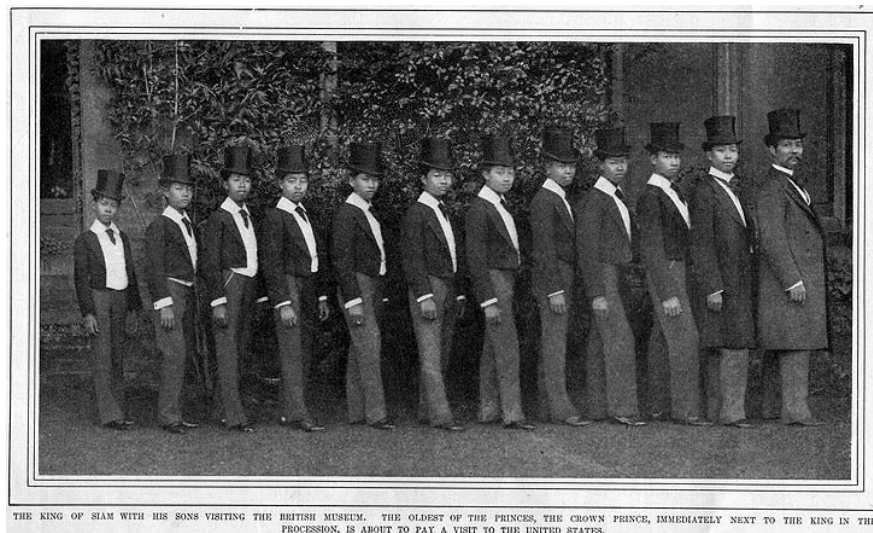
## Chulalongkorn Day 2012

October 23, 2012

Categories: Chulalongkorn Day



[Chulalongkorn Day wreaths](#)



THE KING OF SIAM WITH HIS SONS VISITING THE BRITISH MUSEUM. THE OLDEST OF THE PRINCES, THE CROWN PRINCE, IMMEDIATELY NEXT TO THE KING IN THE PROCESSION, IS ABOUT TO PAY A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

[Vintage images of King Chulalongkorn](#)

## Creating the Ideal Guy for Alternate Prime Minister

October 24, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24/10/55

From Manager, October 24, 2012

Pojjaman Damapong (Thaksin's ex-wife says): Your dad likes to boast that it took him only 49 days to turn Poo into a prime minister. Wait for it! ... Your Mom will make your uncle Op even faster.

Caption: Chan Song Laa challenges for a duel against Dubai

## Thai police compensated for committing murder in the government's war on drugs in 2004

October 24, 2012

Categories: Thai Police

[Police draw criticism for paying killers](#) – Bangkok Post, October 24, 2012

*A senior police officer's decision to provide financial assistance to five policemen found guilty of murder during the government's war on drugs in 2004 has drawn flak from relatives of the victim and a regional human rights group...*

*The money, according to the Region 4 Police website, was intended as welfare support to the five police officers convicted of murder while performing their duty at Kalasin police station.*

*The Criminal Court ruled on July 30 this year that Pol Lt Col Sumitr and the other officers murdered Kiettisak, 17, during the height of the government's war on drugs campaign in 2004...*

[Police compensated for committing murder in the line of "duty"](#) – humanrights.asia, October 19, 2012

*...The action by Pol. Lt. Gen. Sompong Khongpetchsak is an attempt to undo the courageous stand taken by the Criminal Court and thereby restore the "normal" order of things, in which police enjoy impunity for torture, killing, enforced disappearance and other gross abuses of human rights...*

## **Cambodia to deport Chinese woman over royal photo insult**

October 24, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia to deport Chinese woman over royal photo insult](#) – AFP, October 24, 2012

A Cambodian court on Tuesday ordered the deportation of a Chinese factory manager who nearly caused a riot among workers by ripping up photographs of recently deceased former king Norodom Sihanouk.

Wang Zia Chao, 43, was also handed a one-year suspended sentence for “intentionally damaging the photos” of the revered royal and told to pay a two million riel (\$500) fine, judge Seng Neang at Phnom Penh municipal court said...

## US group fears Thailand will dump rice on world markets

October 24, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thai rice mountain casts shadow over world market](#) – AFP, October 24, 2012

...“It’s the worst year we have ever faced,” said Chookiat Ophaswongse, honorary president of the Thai Rice Exporters Association.

“We are already losing our market share in the world to our competitors, especially the newcomers like Cambodia and Myanmar which are producing more and more rice for export,” he told AFP...

[US group fears Thailand will dump rice on world markets](#) – The Nation/Asia News Network. October 19, 2012

...The federation expressed concern about Thailand’s rice mortgage scheme and the effect it may have on increased Thai production and eventually exports, if all the stored rice is released on the market.

The USA Rice Federation is urging the World Trade Organisation to investigate the nation’s compliance...

## Getting Away With the Rice

October 25, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



25/10/55

From Manager, October 25, 2012

Sign on building: National Broadcasting and Telecommunications

Yelling from left: They must have colluded!, Are they colluding?, Certainly colluding...

Caption: While everybody pays attention to 3G... 2G is getting off the hook.

## Weekly News Magazines, October 19, 2012

October 25, 2012

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, October 2012

Cover reads: This is what we call '3G love.'



From Matichon Weekly, October 19, 2012

Cover reads: Self-sufficient Politics, Prierwphan Way

## Buddha Is Not Furniture

October 25, 2012

Categories: Local Beliefs, Signs and Billboards



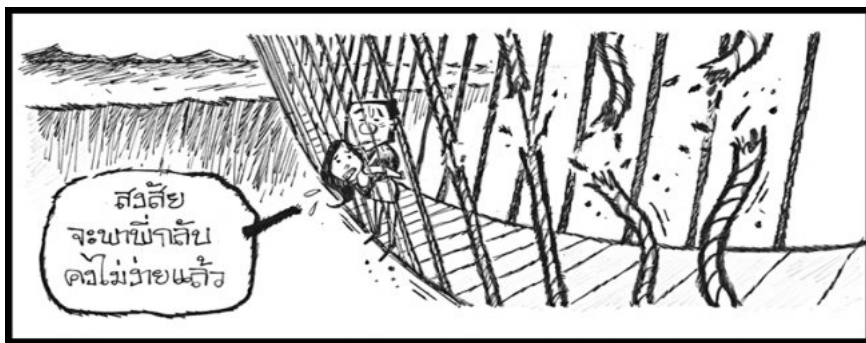
(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

The sign reads: Letting go of your self-ness does not mean to letting go of the Lord Buddha. Join forces in stopping any contempt of the Lord Buddha. No purchase, no support. Campaign by Knowing Buddha.

## Thaksin is Heavy for Yingluck

October 25, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, October 25, 2012

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra: It seems not to be easy taking you back.

## **‘Gone with the Wind’ Popular in North Korea**

October 25, 2012

Categories: North Korea

[Reading ‘Gone with the Wind’ in Pyongyang](#) – AP, October 25, 2012

...What does antebellum plantation life have to do with North Korea, where three generations of rulers—grandfather, father and now the young son, Kim Jong Un—have been worshipped as omniscient? What appeal does Scarlett O’Hara’s high-society ruthlessness hold for people only a few years past a horrific famine?...

## Billions in Hidden Riches for Family of China's Prime Minister

October 26, 2012

Categories: China

[Billions in Hidden Riches for Family of Chinese Leader](#) – NYT, October 26, 2012

Many relatives of Wen Jiabao, China's prime minister, including his son, daughter, younger brother and brother-in-law, have become extraordinarily wealthy during his leadership, an investigation by The New York Times shows. A review of corporate and regulatory records indicates that the prime minister's relatives, some of whom have a knack for aggressive deal-making, including his wife, have controlled assets worth at least \$2.7 billion.

In many cases, the names of the relatives have been hidden behind layers of partnerships and investment vehicles involving friends, work colleagues and business partners. Untangling their financial holdings provides an unusually detailed look at how politically connected people have profited from being at the intersection of government and business as state influence and private wealth converge in China's fast-growing economy...

## **Truth About Cambodian Murder May Stay in the Forest**

October 27, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Truth About Cambodian Murder May Stay in the Forest](#) – huffingtonpost.com, October 26, 2012

This week, a Cambodian judge set free the only man tried in a case related to the murder of tireless forestry defender Chut Wutty. While viewed with outrage and contempt, the verdict lacked any element of surprise...

# The Enigmatic Sihanouk

October 27, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[The Enigmatic Prince Sihanouk](#) – consortiumnews.com, October 25, 2012

...The next day, Bill taped his interview. He did a great job and the conversation went well but it was difficult – Sihanouk was eager to air his grievances against one and all, and the Byzantine nature of Cambodian, Vietnamese and Chinese politics, the names of various factions and their leaders tumbling from his lips, were hard for an American audience to fully comprehend...

## Thailand Student's 'Resold Books' Case To Be Heard By Supreme Court

October 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Student's 'Resold Books' Case To Be Heard By Supreme Court](#) – CNN, October 26, 2012

...So he started a side business, asking family and friends back home to ship him foreign editions of textbooks that often can be bought more cheaply overseas. Kirtsaeng resold them online and made money, but he was sued for copyright infringement and lost.

...The legal issue is whether copyrighted works made and purchased abroad can then be bought and sold within the United States without the copyright owner's permission...

## Thaksin's Police Chief assigns 13 cops to investigate top Democrats

October 27, 2012

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Kamronwit Thooprachang



Above: The much discussed photo of Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Lt General Kamronwit Thupkrajang who credited his promotion to Thaksin and had Thaksin pin on his new rank insignia.

[13 cops tasked with investigating core Democrats](#) – The Nation, October 26, 2012

*Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Lt General Kamronwit Thupkrajang signed an order putting his deputy, Pol Maj-General Anuchai Lekbamrung, in charge of the case. He also listed the 13 officers he wants to investigate the case in the same memo. The investigation team will be holding its first meeting at the Lumpini Police Station on Tuesday...*

Here are two editorial cartoons that point out the plight of the Democrat Party now that a Thaksin-directed government is turning the wheels of justice against them:

[Democrats Encircled](#) and [Fruit of the Poisonous Tree](#)

Update from 2015: [The arrest of Thaksin loyalist Kamronwit in Japan](#)

## Thai “biker gang sex attack” on tourist at Ao Nang “like a Hollywood horror movie”

October 27, 2012

Categories: Crime

[Briton stabbed trying to save his 21-year-old girlfriend from biker gang sex attack in Thai beach resort](#) – dailymail.co.uk, October 26, 2012

*...The laughing thugs grabbed April, clawing at her clothes, before Jack jumped to her defence.*

*But the armed youths then turned on him, puncturing his face and body with a flurry of stabs, before they fled into the night leaving Jack to die in a pool of blood...*

And note that Krabi crime has even spawned a music video: [‘Evil Man of Krabi’](#)



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



## **China blocks access to all New York Times' websites after article detailing premier's wealth**

October 27, 2012

Categories: China

[China blocks access to all New York Times' websites after article detailing Premier's wealth](#) – AP, October 27, 2012

...Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei told reporters at a press briefing that the report “blackens China and has ulterior motives.” He refused to elaborate despite several follow-up questions...

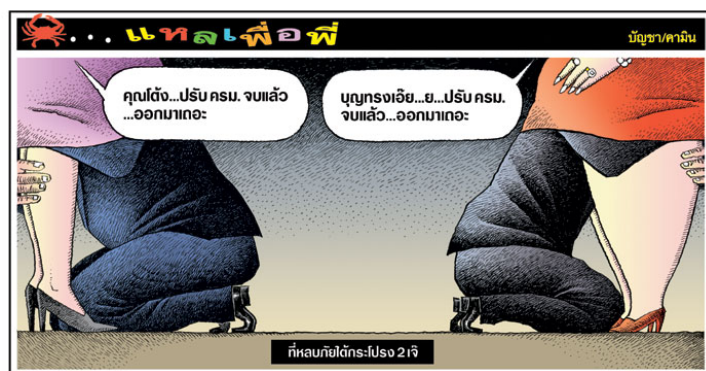
The offending article: [Billions in Hidden Riches for Family of Chinese Leader](#)

And this fantastic graphic: [The Wen Family Empire](#)

## Hiding Under Their Dresses

October 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



29/10/55

From Manager, October 29, 2012

At left, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra says: Khun Tong... the cabinet reshuffle is over... Come out now.

At right, Thaksin's sister Yaowapha Wongsawat says: Boonsong... The cabinet reshuffle is over... Come out.

Caption: Sanctuary underneath the two sises.

## Toad Left Out for the Good of Government

October 29, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Various



From Post Today, October 26, 2012

Cartoon title: The person who sacrifices.



From Komchadluek, October 29, 2012

The sign reads: Minister



From Komchadluek, October 29, 2012

Cartoon title: The five-step plan to bring the government down.

Over the woman: Yingluck

Over the toad: Jatuporn



30/10/55

From Manager, October 30, 2012

Caption: After the cabinet reshuffle, two kinds of animals are forced to be vegetarian.

On the can: Canned water chestnut



26/10/55

From Manager, October 26, 2012

Caption: Repeatedly disappointing vanity fair

Left: I've heard that our Big Bro is disappointed again.

Right: Lower your voice... he'd overhear us!!!

# The wealth of the family of incoming Chinese president Xi

October 29, 2012

Categories: China

[Li Jinping Millionaire Relations Reveal Fortunes of Elite](#) – Bloomberg, June 29, 2012

...Those interests include investments in companies with total assets of \$376 million; an 18 percent indirect stake in a rare- earths company with \$1.73 billion in assets; and a \$20.2 million holding in a publicly traded technology company. The figures don't account for liabilities and thus don't reflect the family's net worth. No assets were traced to Xi, who turns 59 this month; his wife Peng Liyuan, 49, a famous People's Liberation Army singer; or their daughter, the documents show. There is no indication Xi intervened to advance his relatives' business transactions, or of any wrongdoing by Xi or his extended family. While the investments are obscured from public view by multiple holding companies, government restrictions on access to company documents and in some cases online censorship, they are identified in thousands of pages of regulatory filings...

Earlier: [China blocks access to all New York Times' websites after article detailing premier's wealth](#)

Earlier: [Billions in Hidden Riches for Family of China's Prime Minister](#)

## Railway Hall of Fame closes on a sad note amid fears for the future of the gracious locomotive treasures from a golden era

October 29, 2012

Categories: Thai Railroads



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

[Railway Hall of Fame closes on a sad note amid fears for the future of the gracious locomotive treasures from a golden era](#) – Bangkok Post, October 27, 2012

...However, the project hit a snag in 2009 when the SRT asked the organisers to suspend the use of the facility as planned to build its own train museum.

The organisation also accused the hall management of alleged breach of agreement by generating revenue from the sale of soft drinks on the premises, Mr Chulasiri said.

"The SRT then requested the hall to cease operations on May 11, 2012. We asked them for six months to move everything out," said Mr Chulasiri, who was the hall director...

Now that the hall has been closed for good, Mr Chulasiri's biggest concern is with the fate of two medical trains made with precious golden teakwood. They were designed and constructed entirely by Thai technicians and engineers. Only the chassis was brought over from England.

"Not a single metal rivet was used," he said.

"We are worried that the SRT might not take good enough care of them, which would be a pity," he said...

From 1999: [Thai Railway Hall of Fame](#)

On the forum: [Chatuchak Museum & Railway Park](#)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

## **What a difference five years makes – 2007: Thai rice sales surging as India, Vietnam struggle**

October 29, 2012

Categories: Today in History

2007: [Thai rice sales surging as India, Vietnam struggle](#)

# Myanmar's Ethnic Violence: Where Is Suu Kyi?

October 29, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's Ethnic Violence: Where Is Suu Kyi?](#) – cfr.org, October 28, 2012

...Aung San Suu Kyi has been nearly as quiet, alas. Throughout the violence in Rakhine State, which has gone on for months now, Suu Kyi has said almost nothing, even as other leading members of her party have issued harsh, anti-Muslim statements. During her recent trip to the United States, Suu Kyi mostly dodged questions about the violence, and she has been vilified by some Muslim leaders in Myanmar for her silence...

[US's lost moral compass in Myanmar](#) – atimes.com, October 30, 2012

...This is because American policymakers have not had an open debate with full disclosure on how to best engage Myanmar. As a result, the US is now arguably making some of the same mistakes made in Iraq and Afghanistan. These have come at an incredible cost in lives lost and others tragically altered, in a staggering national debt and in a loss of US credibility after decades of high stature around the world.

The Obama administration has decided, in the face of valid protest, to embrace Myanmar's reformist government led by President Thein Sein, who served as prime minister under the previous abusive military junta. The US has effectively shifted course and given favor to a strong central government and army dominated by urban ethnic Burmans...

## Have you heard of booking hotels on the internet?

October 29, 2012

Categories: Thailand in the International Media, Tourism

[Online booking ends in disaster](#) – ucango.com.au, October, 2012

... *“It’s wonderful,” a friend who’d stayed at the destination said. “And it’s cheap and you can book on the internet.”*  
*I’d never booked accommodation on the internet but I checked out the website of this particular resort in Thailand and it looked quite pleasant, so I booked it for a week...*

## Q and A: Thaksin Sits Down With Forbes

October 30, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Q and A: Thaksin Sits Down With Forbes](#) – Forbes, October 30, 2012

*...In Thailand, we help the farmers. It looks like you lost money in the left pocket but you are not losing money. 400 billion baht, if we turned around, we collect 7%, 27 billion already. But at least the money will come back three times. Because the poor when they received the money they spend. So at least 3 times you got back. So you lost in your left pocket 70 billion but you gained 81 billion in the right pocket. So in the end of the day, it's about the economy and about the well being of the poor.*

*...Q. You sounded like you are very familiar with the policy direction?*

*This policy, I am the one who thinks. Like our slogan during the campaign, Thaksin thinks, Pheu Thai acts.*

*...Q. Do you have any relationship with member of the standing committee?*

*Not in the standing committee... I am really close to the Chinese government. And I have a chance to talk to them, listen to them. I just went to the US and met Henry Kissinger. We exchanged views on China – US, China – ASEAN, we share our view on how it should be.*

*Q. How's he doing?*

*Very smart, the brain is still functioning very well. He walked me to the elevator. He is still very active. We talked over an hour...*

*Q. Anything else you wanted us to understand?*

*I am really unlucky that Thailand only have two English newspapers, and both of them against me. So the international audience might read what happening in Thailand through these newspapers. The phrases they used are prejudiced and biased from the beginning. Not just only in the details, the headlines already are prejudiced. So don't believe them. If you want to know the true me, true Thaksin, and you read these newspapers, you'd never know the true Thaksin.*

## Shutting Up the Firebrands to Save the Government

October 31, 2012

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



31/10/55

From Manager, October 31, 2012

Suranand Vejjajiva says to Yingluck: Kokaew is the guy... stitch them tightly.

Caption: If you're afraid that ten of thousands will be mobilize for the next protest... you have to shut down the mob-calling devices.

## Thaksin in Exile: Advising Sister, Digging for Gold

October 31, 2012

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin in Exile: Advising Sister, Digging for Gold](#) – Forbes, October 29, 2012

Earlier: [Q and A: Thaksin Sits Down With Forbes](#)

## **Cambodia Generates a Quarter of All Web Traffic on Mobiles**

October 31, 2012

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia Generates a Quarter of All Web Traffic on Mobiles](#) – TechinAsia, October 30, 2012

Cambodia is unusual in Asia for having a largely rural population – only 20 percent live in an urban environment. Perhaps as a direct result of this, Cambodia’s 15 million inhabitants are pioneers of the mobile web. Recently, Cambodia was the first country in the world to claim more mobile phones than landlines, and this new infographic report from WeAreSocial reveals that almost one quarter of all the nation’s internet activity comes from mobile phones...

## **A Jingoist Media Foments Violence in Burma's Arakan State**

October 31, 2012

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[A Jingoist Media Foments Violence in Burma's Arakan State](#) – The Irrawaddy, October 31, 2012

Encouraged by a rabidly irresponsible nationalist press, the Buddhist nationalists that constitute Burma's majority population, along with the ethnic Rakhine minority, have adopted a siege mentality that Rohingyas, whom they call "Bengali" illegal immigrants and terrorists, are causing the problems in their otherwise peaceful country...