

# Yingluck Trying to Make Peace in the Deep South

May 1, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 1, 2013

Cartoon title: A proof of flowers and guns

From left, in Lt. Gen. Paradon Pattanathabutr's hands: NSC, negotiating to put out fire in the South: understand, reach out, develop

In Pol. Col. Thavi Sodsong's hands: SBPAC

In the hands of insurgents: Restore peace and happiness to the three Southern provinces

On shirt of insurgent at right: Terrorizing

Phi Nooring: Stop hurting each other.

Mouse: Restore the Southern way of living.

# Yingluck Lies

May 1, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



01/05/56

From Manager, May 1, 2013

Caption: Hey... You just change the name of their capital, there!!!!

The sign reads: Ulaanbaatalae

# What we are doing now is called... Democracy

May 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



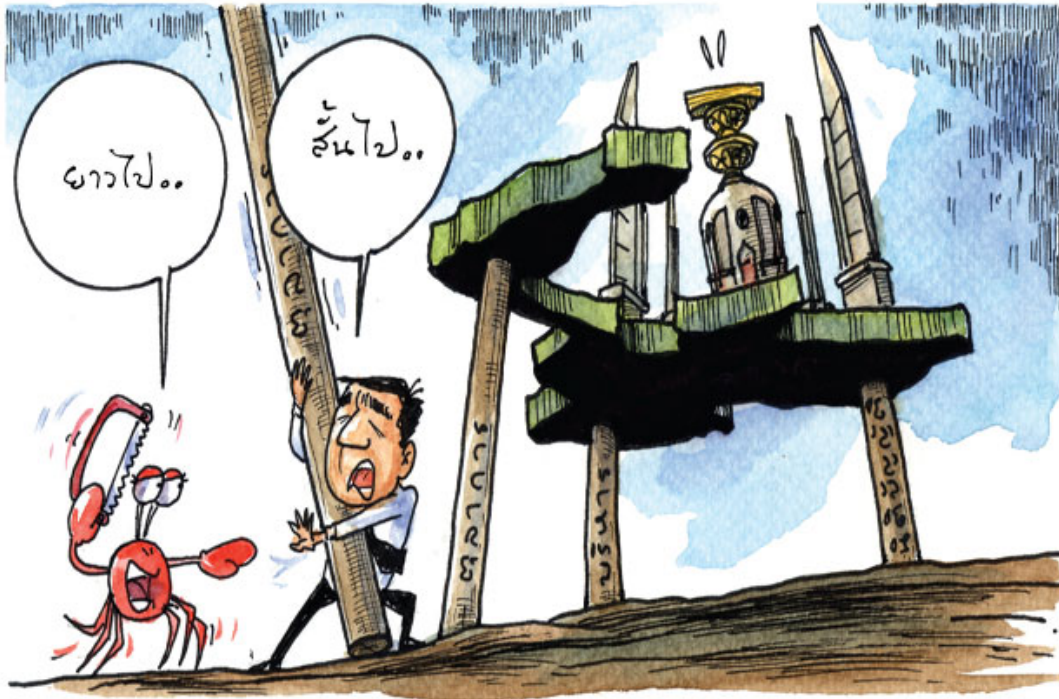
From Komchadluek, May 2, 2013

Thaksin (as Hitler): Remember!! What we are doing now is called... Democracy.

# Cut down the judiciary

May 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, May 2, 2013

Red crab (symbolizing Yingluck whose nickname is "Poo" or crab): Too long

Abhisit: Too short

The pole held by Abhisit said: Judiciary

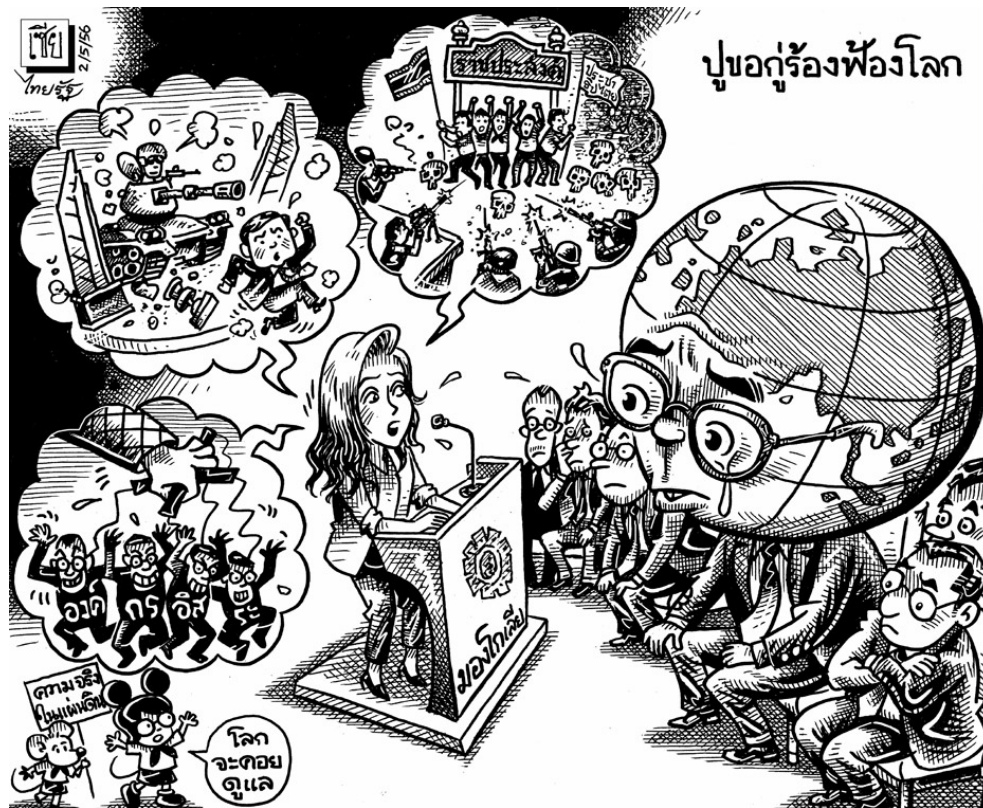
On the poles in the background: Legislation, Administration, Judiciary



# The World Weeps for Thaksin

May 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 2, 2013

Title: Poo tells the world.

Top middle bubble: The military crackdown against Red Shirts in 2010. The sign reads "Ratchaprasong."

Top left bubble: The 2006 coup d'état which overthrew Thaksin's government. It shows Thaksin running from a tank knocking down Democracy Monument.

Bottom left bubble: "The independent agencies" showing the quilted jacket of Privy Councillor Prem allegedly manipulating regulatory agencies to block the elected government from giving Thaksin amnesty

On the podium: Mongolia

Mouse: The truth in the country

Phi Nooring: The world will protect you.

# Thaksin Rides the Red Buffalo

May 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



02/05/56

From Manager, May 2, 2013

Caption: Cool way to survive from being drowned for someone .

# Thailand needs to act as Bangkok sinks faster

May 2, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand needs to act as Bangkok sinks faster](#) – Deutsche Welle, May 2, 2013

... “The buildings are already sinking nearly 20 millimeters. Additionally, the soil and clay are also sinking 10 to 20 millimeters,” said Dr Anond Sanitwong, director of GISTDA, the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency.

“Adding those two figures together means the absolute sinking rate of the ground is around three centimeters or 30 millimeters at least per year. It’s fast – much faster than we thought...”

# **Chevy pulls ad offensive to Chinese**

May 2, 2013

Categories: China

[Chevy pulls ad offensive to Chinese](#) – CNN, May 2, 2013

General Motors has pulled a television ad for its new Chevy Trax compact SUV after complaints about its use of a song with lyrics that are offensive to people of Chinese ancestry...

# Thairath editorial cartoonist calls Yingluck a prostitute – Red Shirts protest

May 2, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Redshirts Protest Thai Rath Cartoonist's Remark About Yingluck](#) – Khaosod, May 2, 2013

*...The remark quickly went viral, and today at 13.00, approximately 100 Redshirts – led by Ms. Ladawan Wongsriwong, former Minister of Prime Minister Office – arrived at Thai Rath and laid down a funeral wreath bearing the cartoonist's name to express their anger. A company of police officers stood nearby to maintain order...*

# Awesome Thai Iron Man Trailer

May 2, 2013

Categories: Film and TV



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



[Watch This Crafty & Awesome Thai Sweded Trailer for 'Iron Man 3'](#) – May 1, 2013

...What seems to be a Thai boy band by the name of Fedfe has taken the second action-packed trailer for Iron Man 3, the one with all the new armors in action, and sweded it with some really crafty and cool ideas...

“Sweded”: [The summarized recreation of popular pop-culture films using limited budgets and a camcorder.](#)



# Weekly News Magazines, April 26, 2013

May 3, 2013

Categories: Uncategorized



From Nation Weekend, April 26, 2013

Cover reads: Love Alina so much



From Matchon Weekly, April 26, 2013

Cover reads: Alain Pellet stole the scene



From ASTV Manager Weekly, April 27, 2013  
Cover reads: Princess online

# **One Year Ago: Heil Hitler! in the Thai Parliament**

May 3, 2013

Categories: Today in History

One Year Ago: [Heil Hitler! in the Thai Parliament](#)

# Pheu Thai Joins Chorus Against Anti-Yingluck Cartoonist

May 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai

[Pheu Thai Joins Chorus Against Anti-Yingluck Cartoonist](#) – Khaosod, May 3, 2013

... "Chai Ratchawatra has not just insulted the nation's leader, but also insulted the gender of his own mother," the statement said...

[Chai's Facebook page](#)

Earlier: [Thairath editorial cartoonist calls Yingluck a prostitute – Red Shirts protest](#)

[Translations of Chai's Editorial Cartoons](#)

There are two subtexts here: one is explained in this post: [The Burden of Being a Prominent Thai Woman—and Being Called a Slut](#). The other is that Chai is a decidedly anti-Thaksin cartoonist for Thairath (the other being the rabidly pro-Red Shirt [Sia](#)) and thus a statement like this from his Facebook page would be eagerly seized upon by those he constantly ridicules in his cartoons.

# YouTube Clip Shows South Pattaya ‘Mafia’ Attacking Pier Official

May 3, 2013

Categories: Pattaya



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



[YouTube Clip Shows South Pattaya ‘Mafia’ Attacking Pier Official](#) – Khaosod, May 3, 2013

...The video, titled “Pattaya Mafia”, shows a bronze Nissan pickup truck with a siren parking in front of the Tappraya 2310 booth at Bali High Pier, South Pattaya. A Thai man aged 50 stormed the booth, pulling out one of the officials in full uniform, hitting him angrily in the face while shouting condemnations and grabbing his uniform, right in front of the tourists and residents...

# PM sues cartoonist for defamation

May 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons

[PM sues cartoonist for defamation](#) – Bangkok Post, May 3, 2013

*...Thai Rath, the country's largest-circulation daily, said in its Friday edition that it understood how painful it would be for any woman to have such remarks directed at her.*

*However, since everyone has freedom of expression, he or she should be responsible for any opinions expressed publicly, said the newspaper, adding that the same rule applied to Mr Somchai.*

*If his opinions had been published in the newspaper, it would definitely have taken responsibility for the published messages, it said.*

*But in this case, the newspaper had to respect his right of privacy, it added.*

[Pheu Thai Women MPs Condemn "Chai Ratchawatra"](#) – Khaosod, May 3, 2013

*... Pheu Thai Party Women MPs regard the above-mentioned Facebook message as a violation of women's rights and insult on women.*

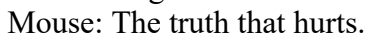
*On the one hand, it accuses women of being whores who sell their bodies. Although the message does not refer to a specific person, it reflects the opinion of the author which is insulting the female sex. As women and men have equal rights, this kind of comment is very inappropriate and is a serious violation of his professional ethics. It deserve an open condemnation...*

Earlier: [Pheu Thai Joins Chorus Against Anti-Yingluck Cartoonist](#)

Earlier: [Thairath editorial cartoonist calls Yingluck a prostitute – Red Shirts protest](#)



## Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



# Australian Doubts over granting visa to Thaksin

May 4, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Doubts over granting visa to Thaksin](#) – AAP, May 3, 2013

...While there are conflicting reports about whether or not the visa has been used by Thaksin, Australian Foreign Minister Bob Carr confirmed earlier this year that it had been granted.

Senator Carr described Thaksin as a private citizen who “applied for, and was issued, a visa in early 2012”, despite previously being on a visa blacklist.

The granting of a visa to Thaksin required Mr Bowen to use “discretionary powers” as the former Thai leader faces questions over his “character” due to the prison term...

# Just give them a lesson, brothers

May 5, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 5, 2013

Cartoon title: Pride and trap

Sign in hands of man standing in front of the tank: Sloppy Constitution Judges

On shirts of protesters: Kor.Wor.Por.

Protester: Just give them a lesson, brothers.

On the ground: Court jurisdiction

Phi Nooring: Peaceful protest

Mouse: Don't trust the armor.

# Thailand's boom is sustainable, unlike the one in 1997

May 6, 2013

Categories: Economy

[Thailand's boom is sustainable, unlike the one in 1997](#) -SMCP, May 6, 2013

*...The recent boom in public and private investment has unquestionably resulted in strong credit growth since 2010, but Thailand's economy and finances appear to be on a firm footing, unlike in 1997.*

*Thailand's public debt-to-GDP ratio is a modest 44 per cent. Household income is rising, thanks partly to two successive rises of 40 per cent in the minimum wage. And thanks to low global commodity and energy prices, inflation is benign.*

*The game-changer for Thailand in terms of investor perception came with the election of Yingluck Shinawatra as prime minister in 2011. The credit rating agency Fitch raised Thailand's sovereign rating to BBB-plus in March, on the back of a new political stability...*

# Corruption and illicit money stats

May 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand 13th in the world in illicit financial flows from developing countries during the period 2001-2010](#)

[50% of Malaysian businesses believe they lost business to corruption over the last 12 months, which is the highest in the world.](#) (Thailand was not included in the survey.)

# Almost Like Snow on Doi Inthanon

May 6, 2013

Categories: Weather



From Khaosod, May 6, 2013

The caption reads: As if it snows – Climate condition on Doi Inthanon, Chiang Mai Province after a summer storm and a heavy hail storm, the area was covered with hail that makes it look as if it just snowed there. Meteorologist said that this incident happened for the first time in 50 years.

From 1955: [The day it snowed in Thailand in Chiang Rai](#)



# The failure of democracy in Cambodia. Will it be repeated in Myanmar?

May 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia, Myanmar/Burma

[Lessons from Cambodia](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 6, 2013

*...One key lesson that Myanmar can learn from Cambodia is that a genuine democratic reconstruction process begins with the moral commitment of a country's top leadership to human rights, to freedoms and to liberties of the people and the media, with no marginalization.*

*A strong, independent electoral institution and system for free and fair elections, with the support and respect of voters, must be established early on to avoid conflicts and the return of a one-party system or dictatorship...*

# **Case Against British Activist Puts Thailand in the Dock**

May 6, 2013

Categories: Human Rights

[Case Against British Activist Puts Thailand in the Dock](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 6, 2013

...“As far as I know, this is the first time that a criminal libel case has been charged against a researcher exposing the working conditions of migrant workers...”

# Memorial To Thai Communist Revolutionary Unveiled

May 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Memorial To Thai Communist Revolutionary Unveiled](#) – Khaosod, May 6, 2013

...”Everything he did, he did it for the benefit of the people. He wanted the people to eat well, live well, and stay free from the authorities’ exploitation,” Mr. Chai said.

Mr. Jitr Bhumisak was prolific author, having written dozens of books, essays, and songs dedicated to the cause of Communism. His radical ideas were developed during his years at Chulalongkorn University.

Afterwards, he was imprisoned for some years alongside members of the Communist Party.

Shortly after he was released in 1965, he joined the armed struggle against Thai authorities, joining one of the Communist strongholds in Sakol Nakorn’s wooded mountains, and was killed a year later.

# **Cervical Cancer Kills 14 Thai Women Daily**

May 6, 2013

Categories: Health

[Thai Public Health Ministry: Cervical Cancer Kills 14 Thai Women Daily](#) – Bernama, May 6, 2013

...He said that about 27 new cases of cervical cancer was recorded each day or some 10,000 annually.

According to the deputy public health minister, the main cause of the disease was human papillomavirus infection...

# Pedophiles plotted ‘evil’ Thai sex ring

May 6, 2013

Categories: Crime

[Pedophiles plotted ‘evil’ Thai sex ring](#) – ninemsn.com.au, May 6, 2013

*Three pedophiles imprisoned together in Perth plotted to set up a doll-making business in Thailand called “Little Angels” as a front for a child abuse ring, a court has been told...*

# The craze of Thai Buddha amulets in China

May 6, 2013

Categories: Buddhism

[The craze of Thai Buddha amulets](#) – Global Times, May 6, 2013

...Wang said that in 2005, there were only three Thai Buddhist amulet shops in Beijing, and the number climbed to around 1,000 last year, while this year, it soared to nearly 3,000...



## Reduce judicial authority

May 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, May 7, 2013

Thaksin: Be careful, the wood is falling.

# All the whores should thank the brother

May 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



07/05/56

From Manager, May 7, 2013

Woman with a flower bouquet: We'd like to thank Phi Jui for distinguishing that evil woman from us, for society to realize it... and makes our image look much better.

Caption: All the whores should thank the brother



From Post Today, May 6, 2013

# Defend Yingluck! Govt regulator threatens webmasters with fines & jail if they allow people to post messages criticising the prime minister

May 7, 2013

Categories: Censorship

[MICT threat 'a rights violation'](#) – The Nation, May 7, 2013

*...National Human Rights commissioner Niran Pitakwatchara said yesterday such threats were a violation of basic rights of Thai citizens and that the right to criticise is a foundation of democracy. The prime minister should instead use criticism as feedback to reconsider her conduct and improve her work, Niran said, adding that if criticism were deemed false and defamatory, then the matter should be settled in the courts.*

*“The government or executive branch should not overstep its authority by forbidding the expression of views by the people in a democracy because this is akin to depriving people of basic rights,” Niran said...*

[Democrats blast Anudith's cyber-shutdown threat](#) – Bangkok Post, May 7, 2013

*...The ICT minister declared on Sunday that his ministry would take prompt action against the owners of websites allowing people to post messages criticising the prime minister, threatening fines and jail terms, and warning they could be shut down.*

*He said they could be fined up to 20,000 baht or put in prison for one year under the provisions of the Criminal Code.*

*The minister's rant came in the wake of a post by Somchai Katanyatanan, a popular cartoonist for the mass circulation Thai Rath newspaper under the name of Chai Ratchawat. He implied the prime minister was an "evil woman" in a comment on her speech made at a democracy forum in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, on April 29...*

# **Cambodia statue highlights murder mystery**

May 7, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia statue highlights murder mystery](#) – aljazeera.com, May 6, 2013

...The killing of Chea has all the elements of a Hollywood thriller: A murdered political figure, assassins on a motorcycle, death threats, allegations of police corruption, witnesses claiming intimidation, and two men serving 20-year prison sentences for a crime few believe they committed...

# Cambodian Strongman Hun Sen Vows to Hold Power 14 More Years

May 8, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodian PM vows to leave power 'when I am 74'](#) – AFP, May 6, 2013

..."I became prime minister when I was 32. So I started the post when I was young and I am not yet old. It is a long time, but there is nothing wrong with a long time," Hun Sen said in a speech broadcast on national radio.

"I will leave power when I am 74," he added.

Cambodia has held general elections every five years since 1993, but Hun Sen has retained power amid a cloud of accusations that his regime suppresses political freedoms and mistreats rights campaigners...

# Searching for the Shinawatrass

May 8, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



08/05/56

From Manager, May 8, 2013

Left: Google search: "E-Ngo"

Caption: Alias of current Prime Minister

Right: Google search: "E-Aoun"

Caption: Alias of the next Prime Minister

# **American who ran secret waterboarding prison in Thailand bypassed for CIA promotion**

May 8, 2013

Categories: Thai Secret Prison

[Woman who ran secret prison bypassed as top spy](#) – AP, May 7, 2013

One of the CIA's highest-ranking women, who once ran a CIA prison in Thailand where terror suspects were waterboarded, has been bypassed for the agency's top spy job...



## Some pet animal

May 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



09/05/56

From Manager, May 9, 2013

ICT Minister Lt. Cdr. Anudit Nakhonthap: Let it be damned... This is my chance. I have have to lick her up.

Caption: Some pet animal... and its loyalty beyond its own life



# The Premier's speech on the truth in Thailand presented in Mongolia

May 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 9, 2013

On back of the hooded figure: Order to suppress the people; 100 dead bodies

In the hooded figure's hands: Statement in response to the Premier's speech of the anti-democracy group who supports a coup

In hands of globe: The Premier's speech on the truth in Thailand presented in Mongolia

Cartoon title: Ha ha! It's not the same as what I learned... Ha ha!

Phi Nooring: Thinking that he read a comic book.

Mouse: Can only fool the fools.

# Thaksin Blinks – Court Siege Called Off

May 9, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin acts shrewdly in ending court demo](#) – Bangkok Post, May 9, 2013

*...Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra's controversial "Mongolia Speech" was an important factor. At first, the Pheu Thai Party drew energy from the speech. They thought it was sharp and powerful. But the speech was met with a major backlash and Ms Yingluck suffered harsh criticism. The negative public mood against Ms Yingluck—and the realisation that the anti-Constitution Court rally would probably fall flat—led to Thaksin's decision to finally call the rally off. To ease political tensions, Thaksin has also increased pressure on his people to speed up parliamentary approval of the amnesty and reconciliation bills...*

[Thaksin key to rally's end – Reds plan to file treason charges against judges](#) – Bangkok Post, May 9, 2013

*...The MPs had also joined the protest in front of the Constitution Court on Chaeng Watthana Road in Bangkok. But they later withdrew their support after demonstration leaders ignored their warnings and attacked Privy Council president Prem Tinsulanonda, threatened Constitution Court judges and used obscene words. Once the MPs left, the number of demonstrators dwindled before they finally dispersed Wednesday...*

[Govt 'must push agenda'](#) – The Nation, May 9, 2013

*..."Our party has been pushed to the brink of a ravine. We launched an election campaign saying that we would rewrite the entire charter, but opponents submitted a petition against it and the Constitutional Court ruled that we have to amend the charter one article at a time. "But when we tried to amend particular articles, the same group submitted another petition to the Constitutional Court, which accepted it by a vote of 3-2. The party did not know how to react because we were already acting on the court's advice, but we still faced obstacles. As a result, we resolved not to accept the court's authority and we had to inform the public that the Constitutional Court is interfering in the work of the legislative branch," Phumtham said...*

# Thailand more accepting of crimes: paedophile

May 9, 2013

Categories: Crime, Thailand in the International Media

[Thailand more accepting of crimes: paedophile](#) – The West Australian, May 8, 2013

Convicted paedophiles who allegedly conspired to commit child sex offences in Thailand believed people there would be more accepting of their criminal past than in Australia, a Perth court has been told...

# **The Difficulty of Evangelizing in Thailand**

May 9, 2013

Categories: Local Beliefs

[The Difficulty of Evangelizing in Thailand](#) – huffingtonpost.com, May 8, 2013

...Thailand is a country to watch. Overshadowed by Buddhism and a culture that assumes being Thai and Buddhist are one and the same, how will this current vision break through barriers which has so bridled the Gospel? What I didn't hear was how the campaign faces the Thais' fear of the world of spirits, a fear so endemic in the entire culture...

# **Karun's disqualification sets scene for two-party face-off**

May 9, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Karun's disqualification sets scene for two-party face-off](#) – Bangkok Post, May 9, 2013

...On June 20, 2012 the EC decided by a majority to red-card Mr Karun after finding him guilty of making false accusations that defamed rival candidate Taenkhun Jitt-itsara and the Democrats at campaign rallies in Boon-Anant market in the Don Muang area on June 3, 2011 and Kosum Ruamjai market on June 12, 2011 during the lead-up to the July 2, 2011 general election...

Earlier: [Colorful politician Karun Hosakul red carded for outrageous claims](#)

# Peace talks with the BRN is the right way

May 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 10, 2013

Left: NSC Secretary-General said the peace talks with the BRN is the right way.

Middle: Why are we so confident that we are on the right track?

Right: Because we see dead people and soldiers along the way.

## Weekly News Magazines, May 3, 2013

May 10, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, May 3, 2013  
Cover reads: Who are you in his eyes?



From Matichon Weekly, May 3, 2013  
Cover reads: Poo-Red, harsh



From ASTV Manager Weekly, May 4, 2013

Cover reads: A whore just sells her body, but an evil woman peddles her own country.



# Thailand to crack down on rerouting of gold to India

May 10, 2013

Categories: Economy

[Thailand to crack down on rerouting of gold to India](#) – Economic Times, May 10, 2013

Thailand has agreed to retrospectively re-examine rules of origin certificates issued to Indian gold importers after New Delhi said third-country gold was routed through Thailand to take advantage of concessional duty available under India-Thailand free trade agreement...

# Don't squeeze till their blood drains out completely

May 12, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 12, 2013

Cartoon title: Don't squeeze till their blood drains out completely

On necktie of man on the left: BoT

End of the rope reads: High interest rate

In hands of man being tied, from left: Exporting business; investors

On necktie of man on the right: Finance Ministry

End of the rope reads: Appreciating baht value

Phi Nooring: Relaxing

Man mouse: Conflict can lead to disaster.

# Closing Small Schools

May 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Thairath, May 14, 2013

Left: I have already solved the problem of burning schools in the southernmost provinces by the insurgents!!

People: How did you do, sir?

Right: I proposed to close all small schools so there is no school for them to burn.

# **Thai Deputy PM labels green activists “garbage” and threatens them with arrest**

May 14, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[You're not in Malaysia Mr Plodprasop](#) – Bangkok Post, May 14, 2013

...”I warn the protesters not to come, otherwise they will all be arrested. There will be no space reserved for the protest but only jails awaiting them. There will be no talk whatsoever, only arrests. And the Chiang Mai people should not let these people, who are like garbage, mess around...”

# Very Silly

May 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 14, 2013

The search term at top: E-ngo-I-ngo

PM Yingluck: Oops.. now Poo is not lonely anymore.

Caption: If there is a school closure... then this page will welcome a lot of members.

## Intervention

May 15, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 15, 2013

Cartoon title: Just has intervened... !

Above soldier in the tank: Thaksin was just intervened politically by the military.

Top right: The democratic system is intervened by the court system.

The sign reads: Ratchaprasong Intersection

On sword in hand of man on the right: Work sloppily

Paper in hand of man on the right: Act 68

Bottom: The UDD was intervened during their political protest.

Around necks of men on the right: Government; Legislature

## Phi Nooring: Deadly interventions

## Man mouse: Dictatorship

# Remembering the Thaksin Years: Hard to Ride the Tiger

May 15, 2013

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



From Thairath, May 15, 2001

Cartoon title: This is tame?

On the tiger, a list of Thaksin's promises: moratorium for farmers; village fund; 30 baht per doctor's visit; TAMC ; economic problems

On the knife in Thaksin's back: NACC

# Boss and Flunkey... They're both insane

May 15, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 15, 2013

Thaksin Shinawatra: I am King Mool Muang... And you, who are you, Plod?

Plodprasop Suratsawadi: I am King Meng Rai

Caption: Boss-Flunkey... They're both insane.



# Bringing 1927 Cambodia to life

May 15, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Lessons From Cambodia's Rebirth Through the Arts](#) – huffingtonpost.com, May 14, 2013

The revival of Cambodia's rich and unique cultural heritage has fueled the country's impressive recovery from the Khmer Rouge's genocide of 1975-79. This message rang unmistakably true as the Season of Cambodia (SOC) has dazzled New York audiences in museums, universities, galleries, and performing arts centers over the past month. Both the U.S. and the Cambodian governments stand to learn from this game-changing lesson for post-conflict development strategy, but neither government seems to have noticed...

[New York Public Library for the Performing Arts brings 1927 Cambodia to life](#) – VOA, May, 2013

...“It's been three decades of work, from 1979, when a few of the artists who survived came back to Phnom Penh and worked on the revival process,” Prim said at the festival's opening at the Rubin Museum of Art. “Because we had that gap of generations, the difficulty was to connect the few survivors, the elder with the younger generations...”

Exhibition website: [Memory Preserved: Glass Plates Photographs of the Royal Cambodian Dancers](#)

# **As Gamblers Gather, Thailand's Child Boxers Slug It Out**

May 15, 2013

Categories: Local Beliefs, Sports

[As Gamblers Gather, Thailand's Child Boxers Slug It Out](#) – NPR, May 14, 2013

...Child boxing in Thailand is a tradition that has a long history. The child boxers bring prize money back to their families. And Chai's village and trainers, yelling advice and pushing up against the barricades of the ring, don't come just to cheer for him. They come to bet on him...

# **Thaksin To Skype With Redshirts Rally On 19 May**

May 15, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thaksin To Skype With Redshirts Rally On 19 May](#) – Khaosod, May 15, 2013

...Ms. Tida added that Mr. Thaksin will skype to give speeches and honor the “martyrs” who died in 2010. There will also be exhibitions showing photos and videos of the crackdown...

# Thailand Unshackles Some Death Row Inmates

May 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Amnesty International Welcomes Unchaining Of Thai Prisoners](#) – Khaosod, May 15, 2013

...He said to be on death row and was chained down for almost 4 years. The physical and mental pain caused by the chains is still alive in his mind even though years have passed. It was a feeling of constant discomfort while he was sitting, sleeping, going to the toilet.

But the pain, he said, was at its greatest in his heart. He said that he felt like he was a hell creature, a non-human. He thinks that all chained inmates feel the same way.

“This kindness offered today is easing the torment in hell to some extent,” Mr. Wisut said.

It should be noted that although shackles are mostly applied to serious crime prisoners or suspects, those who were charged with lese majeste, such as Mr. Somyot Prueksakasemsuk, are often shackled when they appear before the judges. The practice has caused uproar among civil rights activists who see it as further punishment of ‘prisoners of conscience’.

# Concert to save Bangkok's last green space from the developers

May 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



[Concerted effort for Makkasan](#) – Bangkok Post, May 16, 2013

...The concert, which is a part of the campaign calling for more petitioners, aims to save Bangkok's last remaining green space, in the Makkasan area, and turn the 500-rai plot into a public park with a museum. Its owner, the State Railway of Thailand, plans to develop the plot into Makkasan Complex. Earlier this year, more than 10,000 petitioners signed up to ask the SRT to keep the green space. The activist group will later submit the petition to the SRT.

[Makkasan Hope on Facebook](#)

[Makkasan Hope online petition](#)

From 2003 on 2Bangkok: [Let's Make Bangkok's Central Park!](#)

# **Burma becoming like floundering neighbor Bangladesh rather than dynamic Thailand—it can't seem to build power plants**

May 16, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

['Bangladesh Syndrome' Looms over Burma's Electricity Crisis](#) – The Irrawaddy, May 16, 2013

...In the past year announcements have been made in Burma for plans for new power stations, fueled by coal, natural gas or renewable energy such as the sun, totaling 2,010 megawatts.

That's 60 percent more than the total electricity generating capacity Burma has in theory at present.

However, none of these plans have moved beyond a boardroom blueprint and this week leaders of the Hlaing Tharyar Industrial Zone in Rangoon warned that continuing prolonged electricity cuts could lead to factory closures and job losses...

# As Baht Rises, Thai Tycoons Spend

May 16, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

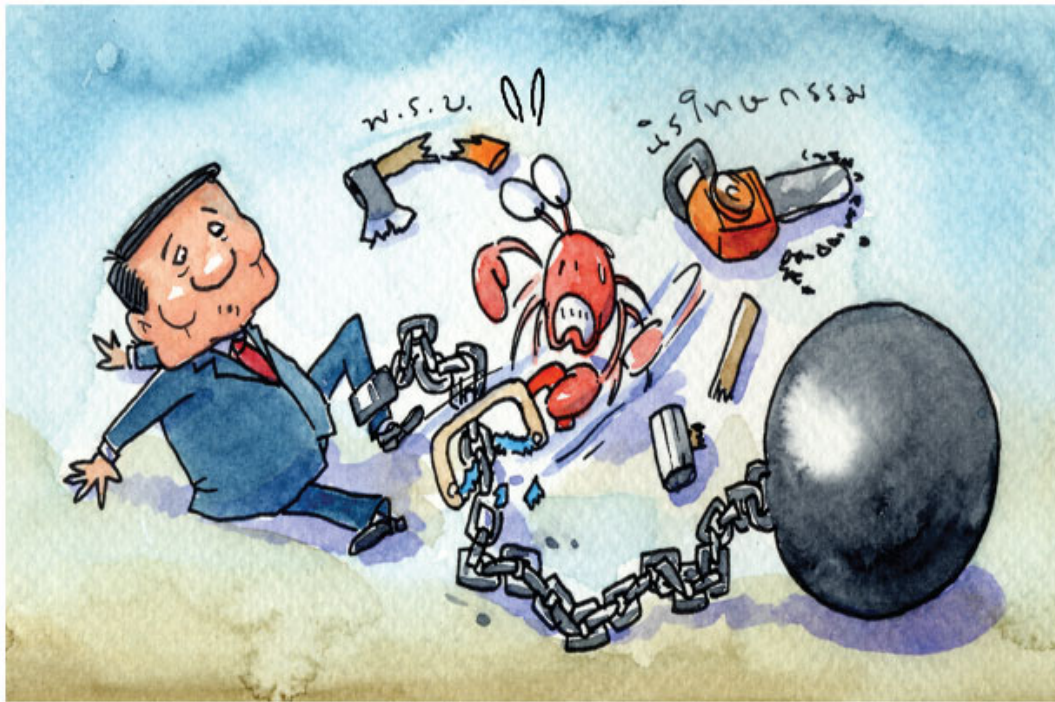
[As Baht Rises, Thai Tycoons Spend](#) – WSJ, may 16, 2013

...Populist policies such as higher minimum wages and tax rebates for first-time house and car buyers fatten wallets and offset slower export growth, says Jun Trinidad, an economist at Citigroup. He notes that where exports are growing, it is to other similarly fast-growing consumer markets. Thailand's exports to other emerging Asian economies rose 6.1% year-over-year in March, compared with a 0.4% decline in shipments to the "big three" markets, the U.S., Europe and Japan...

# Freeing Thaksin

May 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, May 17, 2013

By the ax: Bill

By the saw: Amnesty



# Enough Trees in Hell?

May 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



17/05/56

From Manager, May 17, 2013

Premier Yingluck Shinawatara: Khun Plod, is it true that bombax trees are in need in hell? There are not enough of them to climb in hell?

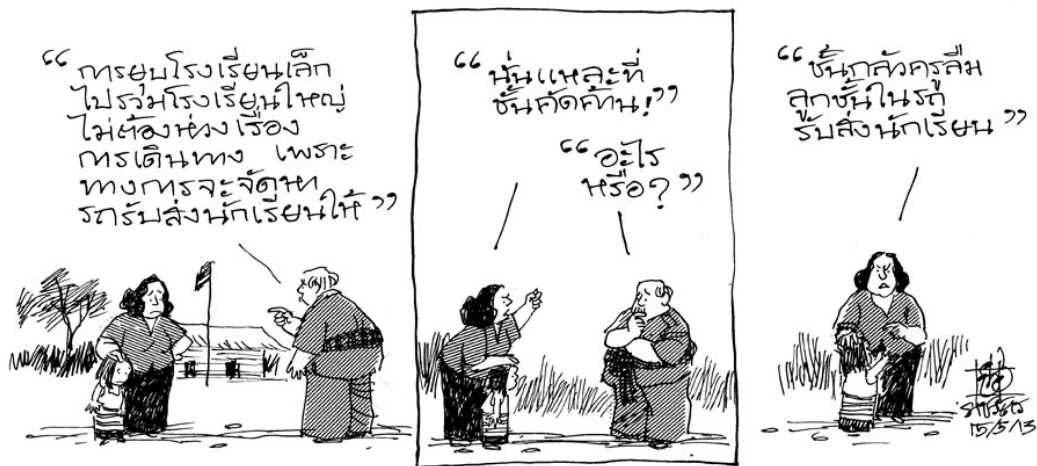
Deputy Premier Plodprasop Suratsawadi: Yes... The Prince of Death sent me an email.

Yingluck: Woo... ha... ha... ha... I survive. So glad...

# Forgotten on the bus

May 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Thairath, May 17, 2013

Left: You don't have to worry about the transportation for the plan to merge small schools with larger ones. The government will provide a school bus for the students.

Middle: That is what I oppose.

A man: What?

Right: I'm afraid that my kid will be forgotten on the bus.

# **Eight Years Ago: Big Brother Shocks Thailand**

May 17, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Eight Years Ago: [Big Brother Shocks Thailand](#)

# Weekly News Magazines, May 10, 2013

May 17, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, May 10, 2013

Cover reads: Khun Chai Putthipat, the General and the evil woman



From Matichon Weekly, May 10, 2013

Cover reads: When you spit, I have to 'wipe' it off because it's 'filth,' Sai Sima.



From ASTV Manager Weekly, May 11, 2013  
Cover reads: ICT Sweetheart



# Let's run the electric pole in the Don Muang by-election!

May 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, May 17, 2013

Thaksin: O.K. Let's put up the electric pole in Don Muang for people to choose like we did at the Bangkok gubernatorial election!!!

# Cutting the chain... to return human dignity

May 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 17, 2013

Title: Cutting the chain... to return human dignity

On prisoner's shirt: Bang Kwang

Phi Nooring: Human value

Man mouse: To release the political prisoners

## **Seven Years Ago: “The Da Vinci Code” can be shown uncut**

May 17, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Seven Years Ago: [“The Da Vinci Code” can be shown uncut](#)



# **Thai raid on fishing operation frees dozens of enslaved migrants**

May 17, 2013

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[Thai raid on fishing operation frees dozens of enslaved migrants](#) – dvb.no, May 16, 2013

...“They were sold to the fishing boats by their ‘job broker’ and forced to repay the money with their labour – they were not allowed to leave the boats...”

# Mob Rule in Chiang Mai

May 17, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Chiang Mai reds' strange concept of democracy](#) – Bangkok Post, May 17, 2013

*...Rak Chiang Mai 51 means business for anyone who dares to challenge them. Not even the police want to have trouble with them. The following are some examples of the group's infamous track record, which may have slipped the memory of most people in Bangkok and elsewhere – but not in Chiang Mai.*

*In 2008, the group raided a community radio station of the People's Alliance for Democracy and clashed with PAD supporters. The father of the owner of the station was beaten to death.*

*On Jan 23, 2009, the red-shirts raided a monastery of the Santi Asoke sect in Chiang Mai on the thinly-veiled pretext of searching for illegal material. Simultaneously, in nearby Lampang, a few hundred red-shirts entered the Regent Resort hotel to look for Chaiwat Sinsuwong, a PAD leader, who was reported to be chairing a seminar there.*

*In February 2009, the group used force and intimidation to break up the Gay Pride parade to highlight the HIV/Aids problem in the northern capital on the ridiculous grounds that the parade would ruin the tourism industry there.*

*In July 2009, the group laid siege to Wiang Ping hospital, where then public health minister Wittaya Kaewparadai was visiting it. The minister had to flee through the back door...*

# Weird Logic

May 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 19, 2013

Cartoon title: Weird logic

From top left: To develop children's brains is to develop their hair style first.

Top middle: Small schools are never "closed," but "merged" with the others.

Top right: The hacker's hands were caught, but not the hacker himself.

Bottom left: Persuade people to obey the World Court of Justice, but not Thailand's court

Bottom middle: No fingerprints were found, but believed to belong to the third party,

Bottom right: People may think differently, but they are trash.

May 19, 2013  
Categories: Black May 1992



# Slain Italian Photographer's Last Photos Unveiled

May 19, 2013

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Slain Italian Photographer's Last Photos Unveiled](#) – KhaoSod, May 19, 2013

...As Fabio's camera was stolen in the confusion after he was shot on 19 May 2010, these were strictly the last photos taken by the photographer. The 'last picture' retrieved, taken on 18 May, shows a group of Redshirts cowering behind barricades made of car tires...

# Three Years Ago: End of the Red Shirt Siege

May 19, 2013

Categories: Today in History



(Photo: 2Bangkok.com)

Above: End of the rally – 14:22, May 19, 2010 – Multiple fires started as the government spokesman announces an end to the rally. (These were tire fires in the street that started simultaneously after the government announcement.)



(Source: TPBS screen grab)

Above: TPBS is showing a montage of riot images set to John Lennon's Imagine. There were similar videos show on Thai TV after the 1992 Black May incident.

News from that day: [Red Protests – May 19, 2010](#)

Two days before it was clear the final countdown had begun: [2Bangkok Situation Update: Divining the plan](#)  
– May 17, 2011

[Other posts from around that time](#)

# Thaksin Convicted Because He Refused to Give a Bribe?

May 20, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 20, 2013

Cartoon title: Expose the good man

Above Thaksin Shinawatra's left arm: Demanded for Baht 600 million in exchange for blowing off the case on concealed shares

On arm of man on the left: NCC

On sword's blade: Getting rid of Thaksin

On money bag: Prize money for informant on the Central World arson case

Phi Nooring: The truth that was concealed

Man mouse: Brain matters more than money.



# Buffalo Ticks

May 20, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



20/05/56

From Manager, May 20, 2013

Tick: As Red Shirt scholars, we oppose the amnesty bill proposed by Mr. Chalerm.

Thaksin speaks to Red Shirt leaders Nattawut Saikua and Jatuporn Prompan: Don't listen to them... They have just stricken our buffaloes to make themselves more famous.

Caption: The voice of ticks on the buffalo's butt.

# Lawyer who held Thaksin funds to keep them from being confiscated on trial for defrauding the former PM

May 20, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Lawyer suffers heart attack during trial involving Thaksin Shinawatra money in Dubai's highest court](#) – Gulf News, May 20, 2013

*...Prosecutors charged K.K. of convincing the former Thai premier to open an account in his name and transfer the money to avoid it being seized by European authorities due to the political tensions that Shinawatra faced in Thailand.*

*The former premier did so after agreeing to be commissioned to run the account, but the defendant, according to prosecutors, deposited the money into his personal account...*

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



The Red Shirt crowd says “he ordered,” “you torched,” “you also torched,” “he torched,” “this guy is the arsonist,” and “I remember you did.”

# Musicians rebuild Cambodia's lost ancient harp

May 21, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Musicians rebuild Cambodia's lost ancient harp](#) – abc.net.au, May 21, 2013

A Cambodian composer has revealed the sound of an ancient harp which has gone unheard for more than eight centuries...

# **Cambodians gather at ‘Day of Anger’ ceremony to mourn victims of genocidal Khmer Rouge regime**

May 21, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodians gather at ‘Day of Anger’ ceremony to mourn victims of genocidal Khmer Rouge regime](#) – WP, May 21, 2013

University students armed with mock guns and knives re-created the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge on Monday for the official annual ceremony honoring victims of the 1970s communist regime, blamed for the deaths of about 1.7 million of their countrymen.

At the Choeung Ek killing field, now a memorial filled with victims’ skulls and mass graves, arts students clad in black pretended to gun down innocents and beat women with rifle butts as more than 1,000 people watched, many of them in tears...

# Amnesty bill to reignite tensions in Thailand

May 21, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Amnesty bill to reignite tensions in Thailand](#) – SMH, May 21, 2013

*... “Let the innocent people be exonerated. There is no problem if redshirt leaders and I are not included (in the bill),” he said in a Skype address to the crowd.*

*But in another Skype message to supporters a few days earlier Mr Thaksin, who is believed to be closely involved in government decision-making from his base in Dubai, made clear he wanted to come home.*

*“I am still drifting in the sea. Do not let me drift too long. It is cold and I want to come home,” he said...*

# Thailand's US\$12b water management programme faces criticisms

May 21, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's US\\$12b water management programme faces criticisms](#) – channelnewsasia.com, May 21, 2013

...Critics said the plan could irrevocably change vast areas of Thai farmland.

Sasin Chalermklarp, secretary-general of the Seubnakasathien Foundation, said: "Water management is a massive undertaking, since we are talking about the alteration of the biodiversity in a vast area of the central plain (of Thailand), which has been transformed from natural fields to urban areas without any guidance."

The Thai government said assessments are being done, along with the bidding and planning, rather than before the start of the projects, as is standard practice...

# The Majority Can Crush the Court

May 22, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Komchadluek, May 22, 2013

On arm: The majority



# **“Six-legged livestock” – Thailand urged to explore edible insect market to cope with global food demands**

May 22, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand urged to explore edible insect market to cope with global food demands](#) – AP, May, 2013

...The United Nations’ Food and Agricultural Organization released a study and handbook Tuesday on what they call ‘six-legged livestock’ — edible bugs and worms that can help meet global food demand that is expected to grow 60 percent by 2050. The agency says they provide a rich source of protein, vitamins and minerals...

# **Thai Govt should cease pressuring the Central Bank – Rate cuts “futile and misguided”**

May 22, 2013

Categories: Economy

[Thai slowdown will give banks a bad hangover](#) – Reuters, May 21, 2013

...It's time the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, which for the last two years has stuffed money into people's pockets by purchasing rice from farmers at inflated prices and offering generous subsidies to first-time car buyers, got serious about financial stability. To start with, that means easing up on the central bank.

# Thaksin Clique Drowning

May 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



06/05/56

From Manager, May 6, 2013

Thaksin's son Paanthongthae Shinawatra: It's you, Dad. You always complain that you've been floating for a long time. So now they kick us in to join you.

Caption: The whole family may soon reunite.

# Why did the blackout occur?

May 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



23/05/56

From Manager, May 23, 2013

Man on the left: I plant bombs in the three Southern provinces to seek opportunity for separation... What do you want from cutting off electricity in the South?

Man on the right : To make up an excuse to have a coal power plant constructed.

Caption: New southern insurgent... looks Chinese!

# 21 Years Ago: Scrapping the Bangkok Land Skytrain

May 24, 2013

Categories: Today in History

21 Years Ago: [Scrapping the Bangkok Land Skytrain](#)

# What is at the end of the alley?

May 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24/05/56

From Manager, May 24, 2013

Deputy PM Chalerm Yubamrung pulling former Thaksin: Ouch!!!... You said you will go to the end of the alley. Go... Let's go!!

Title: Not sure whether something is waiting at the end of an alley.



# Critic of Prime Minister has Facebook page suspended; ‘ignores’ summonses for PM’s lawsuit

May 24, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics



From Post Today, May 6, 2013

[Critic's Facebook page suspended; cartoonist 'ignores' summonses](#) – The Nation, May 24, 2013

...Facebook user Phakjira Slk, claiming to have been asked by Somsak, posted a message on the academic's page saying the account had been suspended on Wednesday morning because he allegedly criticised Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra for suing Thai Rath cartoonist Chai Rachawat.

"I want to confirm that I am against Yingluck for filing the lawsuit against Chai Rachawat. This lawsuit is in contradiction to the spirit of democracy," is the message Somsak posted on his page. He also said that the libel lawsuit was a waste of public money...

# Land expropriation under the Orange-Line Electric Train in Din Daeng

May 24, 2013

Categories: Mass Transit



The sign reads: MP. Thana Chiravinij

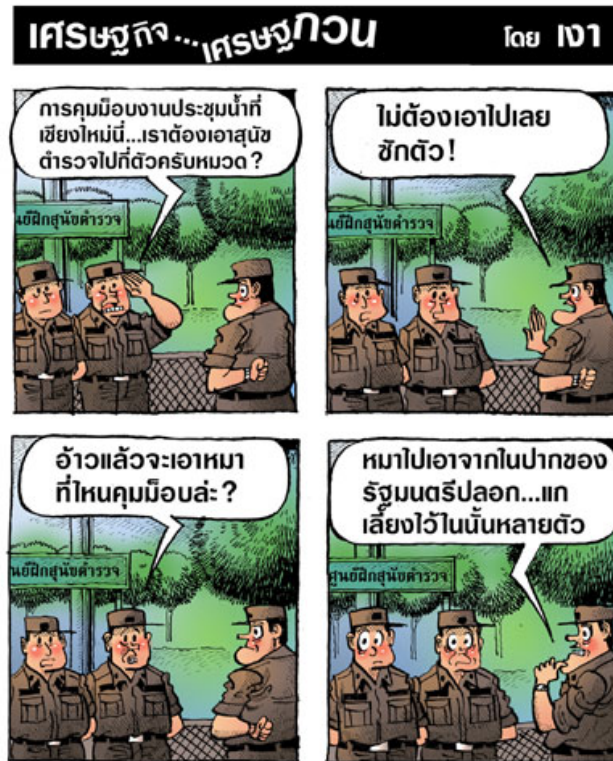
Sithiwat Chiravinij (Personal expert of MP. Thana Chiravinij) and City Councilors invite the Din Daeng brothers and sisters to listen to facts and progress on land expropriation under the Orange-Line Electric Train on Saturday, May 18, 2013 at 16:00 at the auditorium of the Kunnathiruttharam Wittayakhom School.



# Dogs in Deputy Prime Minister Plod's mouth

May 25, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 15, 2013

From top left, a police officer: To control the protest at the Water Summit in Chiang Mai... How many K9s do we have to take with us, captain?

The captain: None!

The officer: Then from where will we take them?

The captain: From the mouth of Deputy Prime Minister Plod... He keeps quite a few in there.

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

May 25, 2013

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Thai Politics

[Chalerm vows Thaksin will be home this year – Behead me if he isn't, deputy PM tells reds](#) – Bangkok Post, May 25, 2013

*...She claimed the opposition Democrat Party has tried to mislead the public by suggesting Ms Yingluck and the government were actually behind the push for the Chalerm and the Worachai bills. Lt Sunisa said the two bills are sponsored by politicians, and the executive branch had nothing to do with them.*

*The Democrats earlier called on Ms Yingluck to clarify her stance on the reconciliation and amnesty bills. Sathit Pitutecha, Democrat MP for Rayong, said the bills could whitewash the crimes of Thaksin, Ms Yingluck's elder brother, and seek to return 46 billion baht in seized assets to him...*

# Weekly News Magazines, May 17, 2013

May 26, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



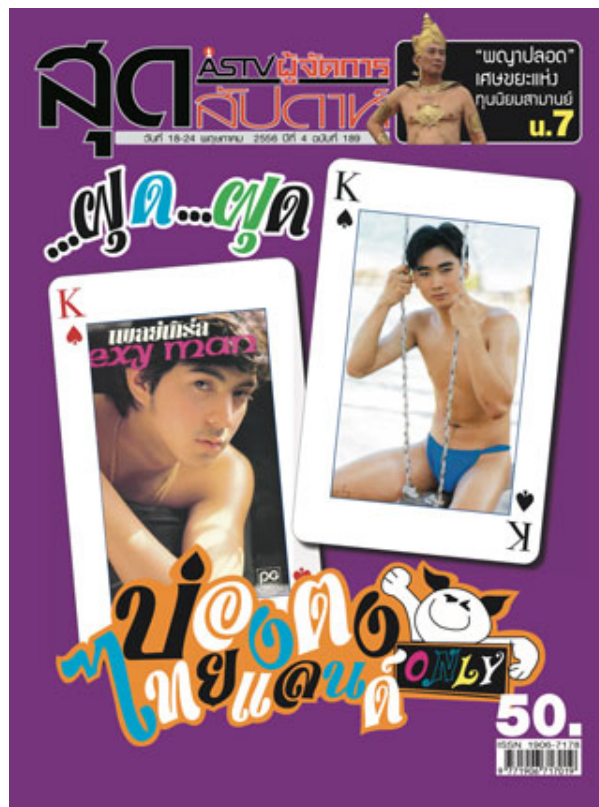
From Nation Weekend, May 17, 2013

Cover reads: Please listen again: Drama Jung Bei



From Matichon Weekly, May 17, 2013

Cover reads: Patience makes people good persons; Be ‘patient’ to the end, then ‘boon’ is what you will get.



From ASTV Manager Weekly, May 18, 2013  
Cover reads: ...Fud ...Fud: Honestly, Thailand only

# **Thai Police: Tourists prefer Russian tour guides on Phuket because Thais cheat them**

May 26, 2013

Categories: Crime

[Invasion of the job snatchers](#) – Bangkok Post, May 26, 2013

...While local tour guides and operators are crying foul over their jobs being stolen, the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) which is cracking down on the illegal foreign workers says many of the financial wounds are self-inflicted because of foreigners' fears of being cheated.

"It is true that the problem affects local business operators, however they have to ask themselves if they are partly the cause of the problem," said Pol Col Yanapol Yungyuen, deputy director-general of the DSI...

# **Cambodia: A rising star with a falling reputation?**

May 26, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia: A rising star with a falling reputation?](#) – just-style.com, May 24, 2013

...Reports of illegal strikes and mass faintings of exhausted girls abound – more than 2,100 faintings in 29 factories in 2012, and over 500 in five factories in the first quarter of 2013. And in the last week alone there have been two partial collapses at factories that have resulted in at least two deaths.

Company turnover is high, with 62.5% of the 273 firms operating in 2009 having entered the industry after 2003, as is labour turnover (on average 20-25% per year).

The public infrastructure is deficient and the cost of electricity very high. Unofficial expenses to corrupt officials can cost large garment factories up to \$20 dollars per month per worker...



# Lizards in Thai Parliament

May 27, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



27/05/56

From Manager, May 27, 2013

An animal control officer: Hey, they aren't. A monitor lizard is on the roof not in parliament.

Title: A day of the monitor lizard hunting... it can be a little bit confusing.

# Swarming

May 27, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Daily News, May 27, 2013

At bottom right corner: Palangkorn, May 27, 2013

Cartoon title: Hey... I'm a person!

Thaksin Shinawatra: Stop swarming. Damn!

Left: Ticks and fleas



# Egg prices

May 27, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, May 27, 2013

Reporter: Why are the goods so expensive?

PM Yingluck Shinawatra: Because our country isn't a democracy!!!

# Anti-Thaksin on Facebook Campaign Angers Pheu Thai

May 27, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics



Above: Image posted on Facebook showing Thairath editorial cartoon Chai Rachawat’s signature character morphing into Guy Fawkes. Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is suing Chai for insulting her on Facebook.

[Anti-Thaksin campaign angers Pheu Thai](#) – Bangkok Post, May 27, 2013

*...Many Facebook pages now carry a slogan reading, “The people’s army has risen and it will root out the Thaksin regime from the country...”*

*...Pheu Thai spokesman Prompong Nopparit Sunday said the online campaign is “unethical” and “psychologically disturbed”.*

*He threatened to take legal action against Facebook users who post the messages, and said he would meet the party’s legal team Monday to discuss if such acts were in violation of the computer crime law.*

*He called on the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Ministry to investigate.*

*However, ICT Minister Anudith Nakornthap said the ministry could not take any action if the campaigners do not break the law...*

Earlier: [Anti-govt ‘Thai Spring’ website opened](#)

[Thai Spring: Organized by Police Gen.Vasit Dejkunjorn and Mr.Kaewsun Atibodhi](#)

# What is Chalerm's Goal?

May 27, 2013

Categories: Analysis, Chalerm Yubamrung, Thai Politics

[Pheu Thai 'won't back' Chalerm bill](#) – Bangkok Post, May 26, 2013

*...Former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra recently ordered the ruling party to adopt the Worachai bill. This would provide amnesties for most people convicted of crimes related to political violence, though would exclude red shirt protest leaders and those who ordered the use of force to quell their demonstrations in 2010.*

*In contrast, the Chalerm bill would offer a blanket amnesty to all those convicted of crimes relating to political unrest, from the 2006 military coup through to the fatal clashes in 2010 between the red shirts and the military at Ratchaprasong.*

*Pheu Thai MP for Maha Sarakham Surajit Yontrakul said his group will on Tuesday ask the party to pass a resolution to promote Mr Chalerm's reconciliation bill as an urgent item...*

# Short or Long Horns?

May 28, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



28/05/56

From Manager, May 28, 2013

A long horn red buffalo: I support Chalerm's amnesty bill.

A short horn red buffalo: I don't support his bill.

Title: They both are buffaloes... only the length of their horns is different.

# What was happening in May 2013: Thaksin strengths and weaknesses

May 28, 2013

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics

May 2013 was a month where Thaksin strengths and ultimately weaknesses were on display.

Most stunning was the emergence of Prime Minister Yingluck into the political sphere with her speech on democracy praising Thaksin and the Red Shirts. Her continuing popularity across the political spectrum has been largely due to her being a “non-political” PM. She has proven popular even among those who oppose Thaksin and his political aspirations.

As someone with no political background and leading no political faction, Yingluck usually reads prepared statements and is kept away from any contentious measures related to Thaksin’s return. The decision to have her give the speech in Mongolia, obviously in the buildup to pressure the courts, was seized upon by the opposition to demonize her. The frantic response indicated the long pent up animosity that was waiting for an opportunity to smear Yingluck as a Thaksin dupe and not the non-partisan PM image presented to the public.

The events of May came about because the government was under existential legal threat once again. The direct accepting of petitions by the Constitutional Court short-circuits the traditional control of justice by a sitting government (the reason why Red Shirts get prosecuted under the Democrat-led government and why Democrat party leaders find themselves under siege by a Pheu Thai-led government).

The Pheu Thai and the Red Shirts have tried hard to make sure the public sees the courts as a threat. Unlike when there are tanks on the streets, it has been more difficult to paint a pending and nebulous court judgment as an imminent threat to democracy. Court judgments against political parties are a way of the mainly unelected anti-Thaksin establishment to threaten the party if it goes ahead with wholesale constitutional amendments and amnesty that merely cement its power and allow a triumphant Thaksin return.

Against this backdrop was weekly ramping up of pressure on the court. This included government assurances that it was not necessary to break up the anti-court protest with the ISA, calls that the government ignore court rulings, and the Yingluck speech on democracy in Mongolia. With so many legal booby traps set up for the government to prevent Thaksin amnesty, there was no choice but to act fast and push hard to preserve the party and government from possible dissolution.

What happened to the May press on the court? Like all these events on the street, the protest was a projection into the physical world of things going on behind the scenes. Support was not there and the push fell apart.

The best interpretation of what happened is also Thaksin’s biggest challenge—the reticence of MPs, already in power and able to spend money, to jeopardize their hard fought position and popularity by continuing to push for amnesty for Thaksin. This led to the courts once again dangling perilous legal consequences over the head of a Thaksin-directed political party—a threat that wholesale rewriting of laws that only increase a sitting government’s power must not take place.

Once again those already elected and in power were being asked to risk it all. Despite the overwhelming popularity of the government that allowed it to spend freely, they were being asked to acknowledge it was all for one overriding purpose—bring Thaksin back. Thaksin’s return to Thailand would be a return to political power and a long period of rule which would mean a shakeup of politics. Anyone with a place on the political ladder would risk seeing themselves pushed down a notch as the Thaksin clique reasserted itself—and that is assuming a coup or other conflict did not remove them from power long before Thaksin could return.

Keeping MPs motivated has been the challenge since the days of the People Power Party government in 2008. That government was also led by a prime minister who initially, like Yingluck, had no identifiable power base—Samak Sundaravej. He was also a prime minister kept away from party business, but who

maintained the party line that no governing of the country could take place until constitutional amendments (assumed to absolve Thaksin) were tabled. At the time, government MPs quietly fumed. They had already reached power in a sitting government—normally the ultimate goal. However, they were forced to wait while the continuing conflict over Thaksin's future was played out on the streets of Bangkok.

Passing bills gives a sitting government a font of money and influence it can apply to negotiating with potential foes. In 2008, when the People Power Party government fled to exile in the north as Yellow Shirts occupied the airport, its refusal to enact legislation meant it had little to offer to pacify its enemies. The Pheu Thai-led government fixed this problem by having a raft of populist policies to implement to show they were a real government that had the intention of governing.

In the last weeks in May 2013, the confusing flip flops on the various amnesty bills—who would support what and who should be covered—also exposed the growing cautiousness of MPs to jeopardize their positions by pushing a Thaksin agenda.

Quick action in parliament probably remains Thaksin's best hope. The unelected powers that check political overreach by the elected (within the logic of the Thai political worldview) can only go so far against a fair vote in parliament. The military would only act once it is assured that public opinion is behind it. Thus, Pheu Thai's majority with the threat of snap elections will likely be used to make sure sometimes gets passed.

The opposition and the courts will respond with delaying tactics and legal challenges. With any luck, distracting events, such as the floods of 2011, Red Shirt disaffection, blackouts or violence in the south might slow the government as it is forced to return to governing the country. And it all depends on the willingness of government MPs to participate in the risky business of providing Thaksin amnesty.

The safest impulse will continue to be that government MPs laud Thaksin and ride his popularity, but drag their feet on bringing him back.

### **Notes on [Red Power, May 2013](#)**

The major Red Shirt Publications always reflect the coming expected struggle and foreshadowed the sieges of Bangkok in 2009 and 2010.

The May 2013 issue of Red Power shows the revving up of public opinion to fight the battles that were expected to be fought against the Constitutional Court in May. There is article after article examining the excesses of monarchies and the desirability of revolution for the oppressed.

The purpose of this? It is most important to understand that Thaksin and his clique have no overriding desire for revolution and even less desire for truth telling such as pointing out that the military killed people.

Comments that military transfers should be politicized, the Privy Council should be reorganized, or even Chalerm's pronouncements that the truth will be told about the events of May 2010 are not meant as admirable expressions of reform and transparency (as we might interpret from the Western perspective), but as threats that these sacred cows would be sacrificed if the anti-Thaksin establishment does not accede to his amnesty.

The May 2013 Red Power, along with being a rousing call for the "peasants" to resent the ruling classes, is a threat that indicates how far one side might go in violating taboos if the ruling party is threatened with dissolution by the courts or if amnesty is stalled.

# Red Shirts urged to report anti-government facebook pages as “spam or scam”

May 28, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Red shirts join in cyber war of the masks](#) – Bangkok Post, May 28, 2013

*Red shirts and pro-government supporters have kicked off a “red mask” campaign in opposition to the white masks of anti-Thaksin groups.*

*The campaign was born after Facebook users adopted the so-called Guy Fawkes white masks on Saturday to criticise the government and former prime minister and de-facto party leader Thaksin Shinawatra.*

*A Facebook user page named “Seu Moun Chon Khon Sua Dang”, (red shirt mass media), posted a message yesterday: “Please all red cyber warriors gather to attack an anti-government Facebook page at 9 o’clock every night by reporting on their page ‘It’s spam or a scam’. Please change your profile photos to ‘red mask’. Please send this message to your red-shirt friends to join in this campaign. War is started...”*

Earlier: [Anti-Thaksin on Facebook Campaign Angers Pheu Thai](#)

# Thai official transferred from post after revealing 200 billion baht losses on govt rice pledging scheme

May 28, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

RUMOURED HEAVY LOSSES HAVE THROWN THE SCHEME'S VIABILITY IN DOUBT

**Prior view: B70-100bn ➡ Reportedly: B200bn**

(Above: Post graphic)

[Ministry reshuffle follows data leak](#) – Bangkok Post, May 28, 2013

*...The Finance Ministry has reassigned Supa Piyajitti, a deputy finance permanent secretary, from her role overseeing the debts and expenses group after last week's leaked report predicting big losses for the state's rice pledging scheme.*

*...Local media widely reported that losses from the government's most contentious populist campaign – the rice subsidy scheme – are estimated to reach 200 billion baht, up sharply from the Finance Ministry's previous projection of 70-100 billion baht...*



# **Cambodian Democracy Deferred – Strongman Hun Sen rules with an iron fist as democracy stagnates**

May 28, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

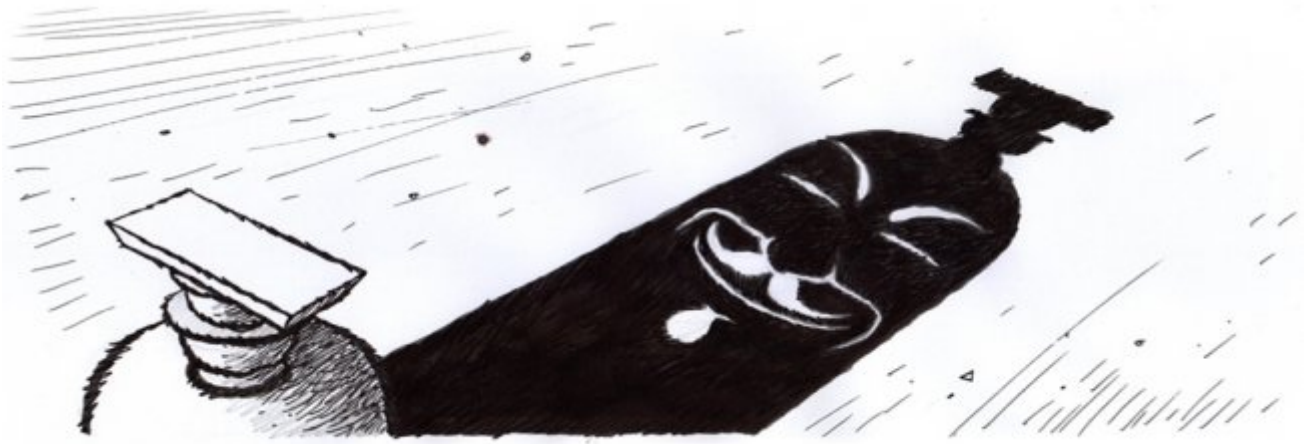
[Cambodian Democracy Deferred](#) – WSJ, May 28, 2013

...In July 1997, Hun Sen ousted Norodom Ranariddh in a coup. While there have been elections every five years since, each has become less free and fair than the previous one. The next will be held this summer. Hun Sen is now one of the longest serving leaders in the world, unchallenged by the crumbling democratic institutions around him...

# Shadow of Anonymous on Attempts to Amend the Constitution

May 29, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, May 29, 2013

# In Thai schools, a drill sergeant's dream of regimentation prevails

May 29, 2013

Categories: Culture and Society, Local Beliefs, Thai Military

[In Thailand's Schools, Vestiges of Military Rule](#) – NYT, May 29, 2013

*... "In Thai schools, a drill sergeant's dream of regimentation rooted in the military dictatorships of the past, discipline and enforced deference prevail.*

*...A former judge who was trained as a lawyer at George Washington University, Mr. Phongthep said that encouraging students to form opinions and debate would be good for democracy in a country that has had numerous stumbles on its eight-decade journey out of absolute monarchy.*

*... In the case of the dress code, there are already signs that administrators might balk. Mr. Arun, the vice principal and strict disciplinarian, is considering flouting the new rules himself if they are too lenient. He and others say that maintaining discipline is essential to combat the social ills convulsing young people in Thailand — drugs, teenage pregnancy and gang fights...*

# Thai court rules troops responsible for Italian reporter's death

May 29, 2013

Categories: Red Shirt Protest 2010

[Thai court rules troops responsible for Italian reporter's death](#) – Reuters, May 29, 2013

*...Fabio Polenghi, 48, was killed on the morning of May 19 when troops moved in to disperse “red shirt” supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who had been camped in the centre of the capital for weeks, demanding an early election.*

*“The court ruled that orders given by Prime Minister Abhisit and Deputy Prime Minister Suthep that day led to Fabio’s death,” Karom Ponthaklang, a lawyer for the journalist’s family, told reporters...*

# Bangkok to eclipse London as ‘world’s most visited city’

May 29, 2013

Categories: Tourism

[Bangkok to be ‘world’s most visited city’](#) – Telegraph, May 28, 2013

... Overall in 2013, Asian cities were notably higher up the list, comprising 42 of the 132 cities that were ranked.

Thawatchai Arunyik, deputy governor of domestic marketing for Thailand’s Tourism Authority, described the news as a “tribute” to the city.

The author of the report, Dr. Yuwa Hedrick-Wong, said: “Bangkok brought with it great momentum from last year. Its ascent to number one is not only a first for Asia, it’s emblematic of the rise of the global south which encompasses much of Africa and Asia as well as South America...”

# **Nine Years Ago: Piranhas in the Klongs**

May 30, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [Piranhas in the Klongs](#)

# Six Years Ago Today: Judgment Day

May 30, 2013

Categories: Today in History



Six Years Ago Today: [Headlines and editorial cartoons from Judgment Day.](#)

# Singapore to individually license websites that report on the country, requires a \$50K bond against bad taste

May 30, 2013

Categories: Singapore

[Singapore to individually license websites, require a \\$50K bond against bad taste](#) – BoingBoing, May 29, 2013

*...The regulation will extend to foreign-hosted sites that report on Singapore, though it's not clear what the Singaporean government will do if, for example, the New York Times declines to obey...*

[News websites to be individually licensed](#) – channelnewsasia.com, May 28, 2013

*...Only online news sites which fulfil two specific criteria will be subjected to individual licensing.*

*1) Sites which publish at least eight articles on Singapore over a period of two months.*

*2) They must also have been visited by at least 50,000 unique IP addresses from Singapore each month, over the same period.*

*So far, 10 such sites have been identified. All belong to mainstream media, with the exception of Yahoo news.*

*The 10 websites are:*

*asiaone.com*

*businesstimes.com.sg*

*channelnewsasia.com*

*omy.sg*

*sg.news.yahoo.com*

*stomp.com.sg*

*straitstimes.com*

*Tnp.sg*

*todayonline.com*

*zaobao.com...*



# Indian Politicians Unamused by Onion-like website for India

May 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Satire in India – All the news that's fit to fake](#) – Economist, May 21, 2013

...Congress Party officials in at least two states filed police complaints after the Unreal Times made a spoof film trailer in 2011 that depicted Manmohan Singh, India's octogenarian and understated prime minister, as an action hero. Most of the time, however, the angry phone calls or online comments can be disregarded as harmless complaints from the sycophants...

[The Unreal Times](#) "News reports of this website are works of fiction. Readers are advised not to confuse these with real incidents."

[Faking News](#) "Where truth doesn't hide"

# Security threat

May 31, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 31, 2013

Left: Pae... I want you to go to the police station because you are suspected of being a security threat.

Middle: Me. Am I a threat?

Right: A white mask group.

# Why won't the Red Shirt families back amnesty? They were paid 7 million baht...

May 31, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



31/05/56

From Manager, May 31, 2013

Red Shirt leader Nattawut Saikua: What? You have already sold these dead bodies for 7 million baht to us for bringing Thaksin home. What more do you want?

Protest boards: Relatives of victims, Oppose the amnesty bills

The man to left of Nattawut is Jatuporn Prompan, another Red Shirt leader

Caption: This is what these guys really want to say.

# Weekly News Magazines, May 31, 2013

June 1, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, May 31, 2013

Cover reads: Virtual mob, brothers and sisters



From Matichon Weekly, May31, 2013

Cover reads: Exploded through the 'Soi'



From ASTV Manager Weekly, June 1, 2013  
Cover reads: “Khun Chai’s” Mask



From Siam Rath Weekly, May 31, 2013  
Cover reads: Topple ‘Thaksin’



# Masked humans...!

June 1, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 1, 2013

Cartoon title: Masked humans...!

Above man's arm at top left: Double-standard judiciary system

On blade in hand of man at top left: Interfering the administrative authority

On blade in hand of man at top right: Interfering with the legislature

Under man's arm at top right: Sloppily

On blade at bottom right: Mob with big connection

On back of man at bottom right: Independent organizations

On blade in hand of man at bottom left: Toppling the government

On blade in hand of man at bottom right: Pull down the Prime Minister

# Why the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway matters

June 1, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Why the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway matters](#) – firstpost.com, May 31, 2013

...Much is on the bilateral platter but perhaps the highest priority point on the bilateral agenda should be connecting the two countries through road and shipping infrastructure. On this count, the two sides have not been able to have in place this much-needed connectivity in double quick time as they should have. This is despite the fact that in every single bilateral visit between the two sides, including the prime ministerial visits, there is avowed focus on the connectivity issue...

# Thailand's Slave-Labor Fishing Industry

June 1, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[An Enslaved Immigrant May Have Caught That Mackerel You Had For Dinner Last Night](#) – HuffPo, May 31, 2013

*...The Thai government is not immune to the criticism from the US and activist groups. It unveiled a plan to stamp out human trafficking in March, but it focused primarily on child beggars and women forced into the sex trade; no mention was made of fishermen. And with the country's seafood business continuing to buoy its exports, there's little hope that Thailand will fully clean its decks any time soon...*



# Getting the truth out about Thaksin's government to the World Newspaper Congress meeting in Bangkok

June 1, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics



[Getting the truth out about Thaksin's government to the World Newspaper Congress meeting in Bangkok](#)

Earlier: [Anti-Thaksin on Facebook Campaign Angers Pheu Thai](#)

Earlier: [Anti-govt 'Thai Spring' website opened](#)

[Thai Spring: Organized by Police Gen. Vasiit Dejjunjorn and Mr. Kaewsun Atibodhi](#)

# Cambodian rice exports to Thailand rise

June 1, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Rice exports to Thailand rise](#) – phnompenhpost.com, May 31, 2013

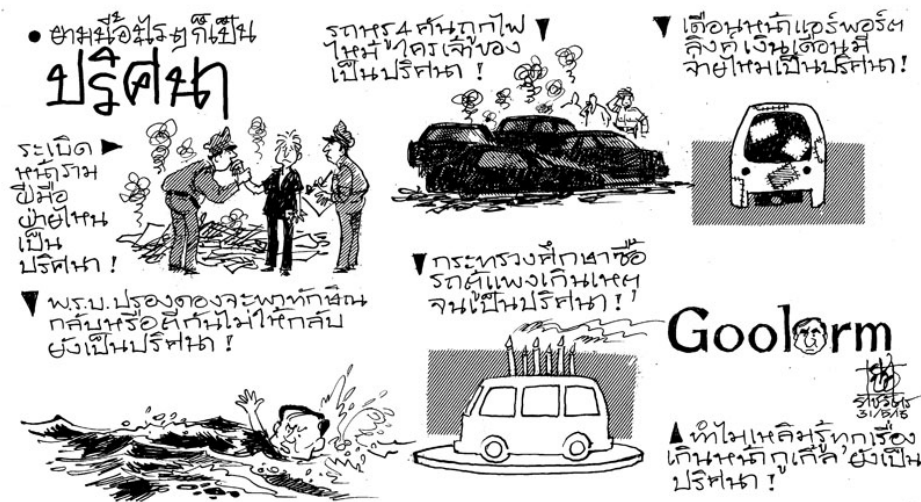
...“Some Thai traders have increased their buying of Cambodia unpolished rice and do further processing in their country,” said Lim Bunheng, “They might find our milled rice price more competitive because rice millers here can buy paddy at lower prices.”

Government figures show that in the first four months of this year, Cambodian milled rice exports to Thailand reached 14,250 tonnes, while total Cambodian overseas exports was 118,504 tonnes...

# Everything is a puzzle nowadays

June 2, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 2, 2013

Cartoon title: Everything is a puzzle nowadays

Top left: Who's responsible for the explosion at Ram Khamhaeng? A puzzle.

Top middle: Four luxurious cars were on fire. Who's the owner? A puzzle.

Top right: Will the Airport Link have money to pay its employees next month? A puzzle.

Bottom left: Will the reconciliation bills bring Thaksin home, or will it lead to a fight not to let him back? A puzzle.

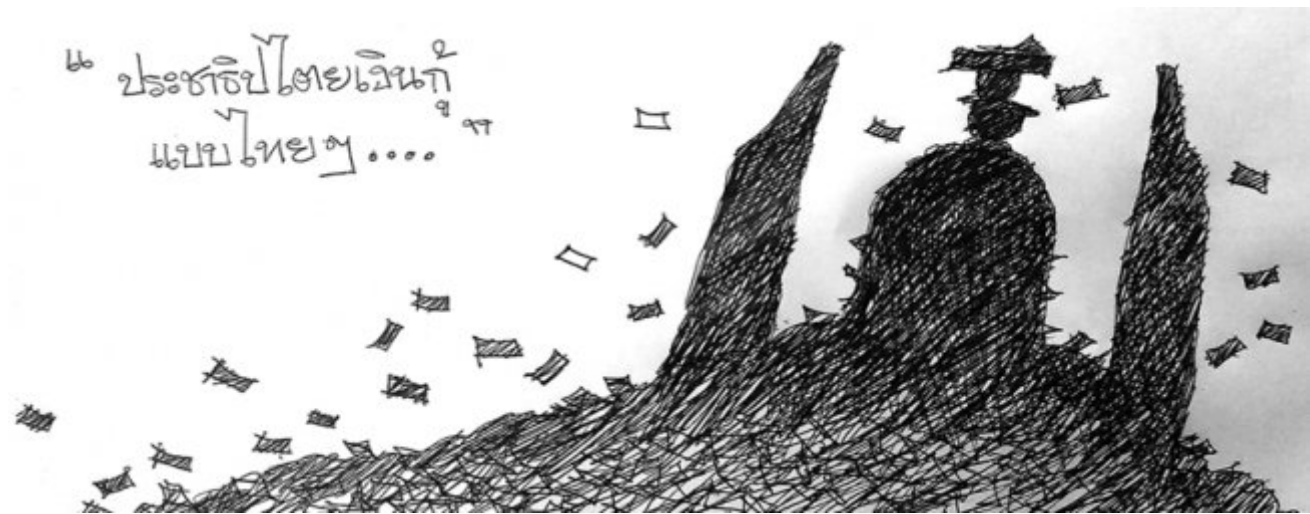
Bottom middle: The Education Ministry purchases such expensive vans that it becomes a puzzle!

Bottom right: Why does Lerm know everything better than Google? A puzzle.

# Thailand's cash loan democracy

June 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 3, 2013

“Thailand's cash loan democracy...”

# Statue of Guy Fawkes

June 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



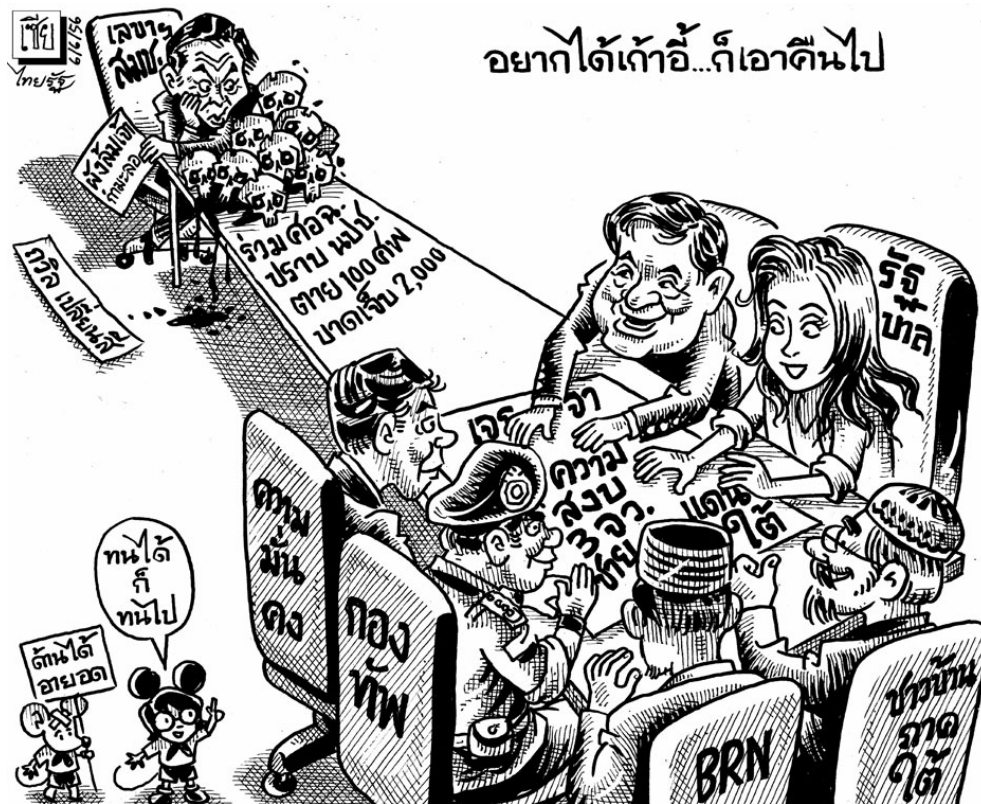
From Komchadluek, June 3, 2013

Bird: I bet now we're flying above Thai territory!!

# If you want it back... then take it

June 3, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 3, 2013

Title: If you want it back... then take it

At far left on the chair: Secretary-general of NSC

On paper held by Thawil Pliensri: Plan to overthrow the fake ruler.

On the table: Join the CRES to kill the UDD people, causing 100 dead and 2,000 injured.

A sign under the table: Thawil Pliensri

Right side of the table PM Yingluck and Deputy PM Chalerm Yubamrung sit. On the chair: Government

On the other chairs at right: Security Agency, Military, BRN and people from the South

On the table: Southern insurgency

Phi Nooring: As long as you can be patient.

Mouse: Those who are shameless get what they want.

# **In Singapore, A Rare Call for Protest Against Blogging Censorship**

June 3, 2013

Categories: Singapore

[In Singapore, A Rare Call for Protest Against Blogging Censorship](#) – Asia Sentinel, June 3, 2013

...Any blog that reaches more than 50,000 unique visitors in a month and prints a single article of Singapore news within two weeks is liable to come under the regulation and to be forced to withdraw the story within 24 hours or be faced with forfeiting the bond although the bigger problem, for most bloggers, is coming up with the money in the first place...

# **One Year Ago: Cambodia's Brutal Dictatorship – 10,000 Days of Hun Sen**

June 4, 2013

Categories: Today in History

One Year Ago: [Cambodia's Brutal Dictatorship – 10,000 Days of Hun Sen](#)



## Things are more expensive because our country isn't really democratic

June 4, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 4, 2013

Thaksin: Listen!! Things are more expensive because our country isn't really democratic.

# Filipino Viewpoint: Thailand protects its own cigarette brands

June 4, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand protects its own; we curse ours](#) – malaya.com.ph, June 4, 2013

*...In a complaint filed by the Philippine government with the World Trade Organization in 2006, Thailand was found guilty of bias against imported cigarettes. It was rather a small matter for that progressive Asean country exempting domestic cigarettes from administrative requirements like filing tax returns covering revenues and expenses.*

*I guess the exemption was granted on the basis of a belief that Thailand taxpayers, including companies producing cigarettes, were more honest in declaring their revenues and therefore were paying the correct tax...*

Update: [Tobacco giant lauds Thai court order on cigarette warnings](#) – AFP, August 27, 2013

# **From the Wall Street Journal: Think New York and London Are Tough on Two Wheels? Try Bangkok**

June 4, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Think New York and London Are Tough on Two Wheels? Try Bangkok](#) – WSJ, June 4, 2013

...Thailand's road-traffic death rate of 38 per 100,000 people is among the highest anywhere, versus slightly more than 11 in the U.S. and 3.7 in the United Kingdom, according to the World Health Organization. Bangkok also has one of the highest average temperatures among major cities and punishing monsoon rains. Tangles of low-hanging power lines and unpredictable drainage covers add further hazards, as do rogue motorcycle drivers who sometimes ride against traffic to reach their destinations faster...

# 12 Phuket hotels threatened by taxi mafia – Officials say wait 6 months for action

June 4, 2013

Categories: Tourism

[Thuggish Phuket taxis targeted after 12 hotels complain](#) – thephuketnews.com, June 3, 2013

*...One hotel complained that local taxi drivers had set up a sales counter in front of the hotel and always stopped and checked cars coming to the hotel. This frightened hotel guests.*

*The hotel also told police that the taxi drivers shouted obscenities at guests when they checked prices of other taxi services.*

*The hotel staff, too, were abused by the taxi drivers to the point where the staff were terrified of them. The hotel begged the police to “find the right man” to fix these issues...*

# **First Coca-Cola products made in Burma in more than 60 years**

June 4, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

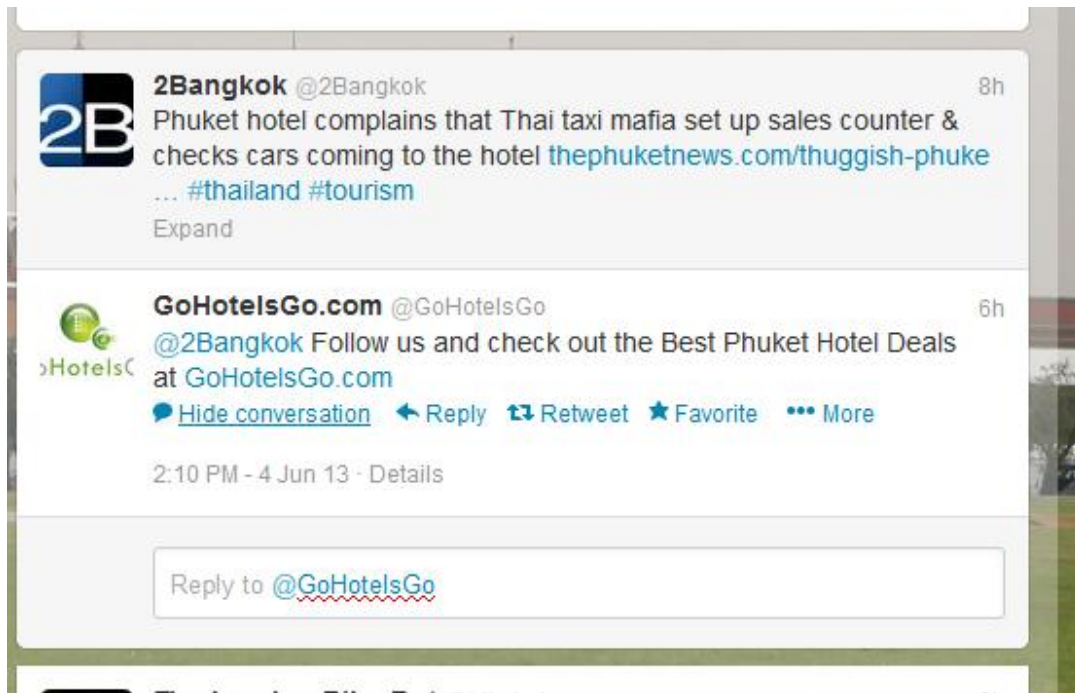
[Coca-Cola Pops the Top on First Burma Bottling Operation in 60 Years](#) – The Irrawaddy, June 4, 2013

...Coca-Cola is partnering with local firm Pinya Manufacturing in the venture, and plans to invest more than US\$200 million in its Burma operations over the next five years. The company will open up a second factory in Burma within the next month, Kent said before a gathering that included Myint Swe, Rangoon Division's chief minister, as well as Rangoon Mayor Hla Myint and former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright...

# When automated spam tweets go wrong...

June 4, 2013

Categories: Humor



# **PM Yingluck gives Thaksin-like speech calling on media to balance free speech with news that creates mutual understanding**

June 4, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines, Thai Politics

[Thai PM Urges Mass Media To Balance Freedom, Responsibility](#) – [www.bernama.com.my](http://www.bernama.com.my), June 4, 2013

*...Yingluck suggested that the mass media prioritise public interest, order, individuals' rights and national security, be professional and balance between press freedom and responsibility, warning that without ethical responsibility, the mass media could create public confusion, misunderstanding and unrest...*

# Ignore the show offs!

June 5, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 5, 2013

Title: Take clothes off... and wear a mask

Naked figures left to right:

Klanarong Chanthik with the word NCC above. He says: Pursuant to Thawil's request, I will handle it.

On his body: Love Democrat Party

On the knife: Section 157

Man with a boot for a head : Call on the military for a coup d'état.

At bottom right is a man wearing a mask of Kaewsan Atibodhi. He says: Use the 'Thai Spring' to bring down the government.

On his body: Love the elite.

In the back is a figure with a mask representing the courts. On his body: Judicial activism

PM Yingluck Shinawatra is covering her eyes.

Phi Nooring: Those who love to show off.

Mouse: Reviling themselves

Along left side: Idea by 1000 TID



# This rubbish group wants to overthrow our regime!!!

June 5, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



05/06/56

From Manager, June 5, 2013

Thaksin: This rubbish group wants to overthrow our regime!!!

Newspaper headline: White mask wants to bring down Thaksin's regime.

Sign in the background: Jao Moon Muang regime

# Remembering the Thaksin Years: Catch the Thief

June 5, 2013

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



From Thairath, October 19, 2001

Cartoon title: Catch the thief... of the super power level

On bag carried by Uncle Sam: Thai Jasmine rice – the species is stolen by the U.S.

On paper in Thaksin Shinawatra's hands: Friend of Bush

# Tiananmen Square searches censored in China, “today” & “Big Yellow Duck” also blocked

June 5, 2013

Categories: China



Above: via Guardian: *Twitter image mocking Chinese censorship of Tiananmen Square, adapted from AP's 1989 photograph (the search term 'Big Yellow Duck' is banned). Photograph: Twitter/weibo.com/weibolg*

[Tiananmen Square online searches censored by Chinese authorities](#) – The Guardian, June 4, 2013

# **Thai citizen in US Indicted – More than 240 shipments of restricted firearms to Thailand alleged**

June 5, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Berkeley Resident Indicted – Illegal Firearm Exports Alleged](#) – berkeley.patch.com, June 4, 2013

...Other gun parts were falsely labeled as “hobby parts” and “glow in the dark marker sets,” prosecutors said. The group of six defendants is believed to have made more than 240 shipments of restricted firearms components...

# Guy Fawkes and Thaksin

June 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, May 28, 2013

# Wrong Words

June 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 15, 2013

PM Yingluck: Ko-nok-rit... Amphor Kho-Aom...

Caption: Whichever school teaches her to read Thai like this... must be closed!



# Can Mrs. D. help?

June 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



06/06/56

From Manager, June 6, 2013

Left: Khun Chai, please tell Mrs. D to transfer me from the governor's post to be the director general of the Public Relations Department.

Left caption: For this request, Mrs. D. can help...

Right: Khun Chai, please tell Mrs. D to transfer me from being your mistress to being your wife.

Caption: For this request, Mrs. D can't help.

# What's important?

June 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Komchadluek, June 6, 2013

Thaksin Shinawatra to PM Yingluck: What Moody's did is not right. Accusing you of causing damages to the country is fine by me, but make you lose face is unacceptable.

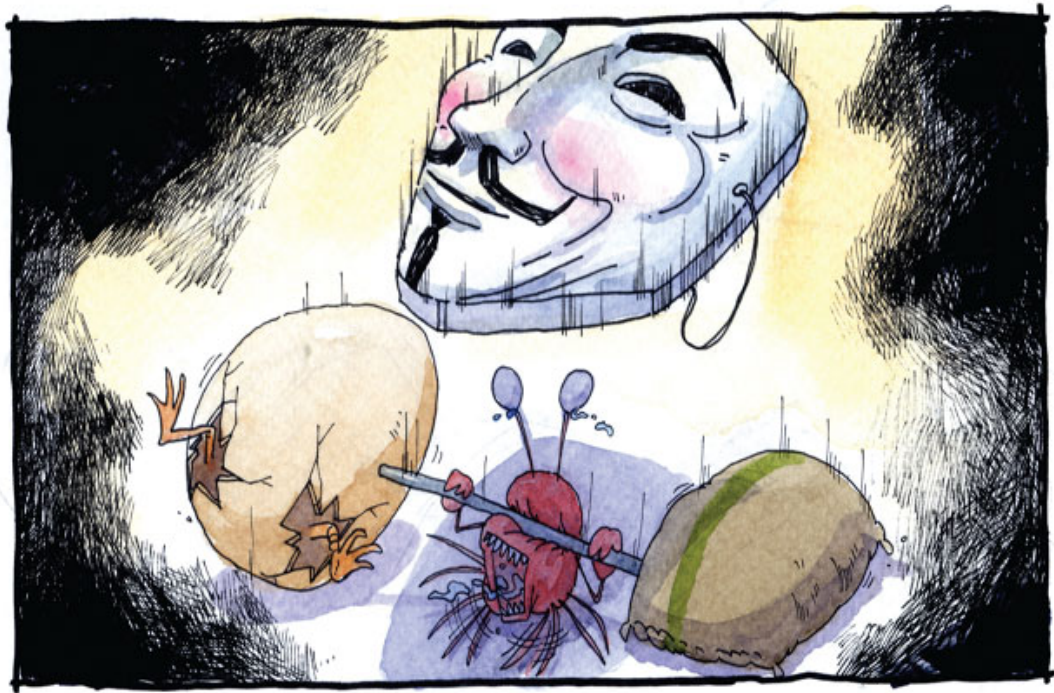
Sign in pot: 2.2 trillion baht budget



# PM struggles

June 6, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons



From Post Today, June 6, 2013

# Thailand's Dawei Port Project in Burma Not Dead Yet

June 6, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Thailand's Dawei Port Project in Burma Not Dead Yet](#) – The Irrawaddy, June 5, 2013

...But it appeared—on the surface, at least—that Japanese support for the first phase of the US\$50 billion harbor and SEZ was still not forthcoming. The chilly reception to Yingluck's plea for funds stood in contrast to Tokyo's clear interest in another industrial zone and port in Burma, at Thilawa...

# Thailand Scrambles to Reassure on Rice Program

June 6, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand Scrambles to Reassure on Rice Program](#) – WSJ, June 5, 2013

# **In nod to strongman Hun Sen, Thailand denies entry to Cambodian opposition leader Sam Rainsy ahead of election**

June 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Thailand denies entry to Cambodian opposition leader Sam Rainsy ahead of election](#) – Washington Post,

June 6, 2013

...Sam Rainsy was scheduled to attend a launch of his autobiography at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand on Wednesday, but Manasvi said he was turned away Tuesday at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

"The Thai authorities have considered the case and deliberated that he could not avoid conducting a political activity at this event, so we had to deny him the entry," Manasvi said...

# Cambodia Risks Violence If July Election Flawed, Sam Rainsy Says

June 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia Risks Violence If July Election Flawed, Sam Rainsy Says](#) – businessweek.com, June 5, 2013

Cambodia opposition leader Sam Rainsy warned of violence if fraud taints the outcome of next month's election, as he uses Facebook in a bid to rally supporters from his self-imposed exile in France.

"If the popular will is again betrayed, then the popular discontent will express itself through different means, and this could be violence," Sam Rainsy, 64, a former finance minister, said by phone yesterday from Singapore during a trip through the region. "Anything can happen, and that's why it's important to ensure democratic elections in order to avoid violence..."

# **Cambodia railway project a disaster for relocated households: report**

June 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia railway project a disaster for relocated households: report](#) – abc.net.au, June 5, 2013

A report has found that a railway project in Cambodia has significantly impoverished hundreds of people who were forced to relocate outside the capital in late 2011...

# One Year Ago: Judges Battle Thaksin, Red Shirts Should Be Patient

June 6, 2013

Categories: Today in History

One Year Ago: [Thai Democracy Tested as Judges Battle Thaksin](#)

*... “Did they fall asleep and didn’t know we got our power from the election?” Chalerm said, referring to judges on the nine-member Constitutional Court. “Don’t go too far. This is too much and no one can accept this...”*

One Year Ago: [The problem of Thaksin’s return may finally be resolved](#)

# **Barred From Thailand, Sam Rainsy Speaks To Foreign Correspondents in Thailand Via Skype**

June 6, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Barred From Thailand, Sam Rainsy Speaks To Foreign Correspondents in Thailand Via Skype](#) – Khaosod,

June 6, 2013

...Initially, Mr. Rainsy was scheduled to chair a book launch event of his new work, “We Did Not Start The Fire: My Struggle for Democracy in Cambodia”, at FCCT but was turned away at Thai airport by the immigration police, in an episode that might have resulted from the close ties between Mr. Hun Sen and Thai former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, whose sister Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra is currently in power...



# Nine Years Ago: Airport Construction Photos

June 7, 2013

Categories: Today in History



Nine Years Ago: [Airport Construction Photos](#)

# Red Shirts to Pressure Moody's?

June 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



07/06/56

From Manager, June 7, 2013

Buffalo 1: This time, where are we going?

Buffalo 2: To attack Moody's in New York!

Title: Red buffaloes may have a chance to go aboard.

# **Nine Years Ago: The Long Twilight of the Bangkok Governor**

June 7, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Nine Years Ago: [The Long Twilight of the Bangkok Governor](#)

# Reforming the Democrats

June 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



Title: Alongkorn Polabutr, Democrat Party deputy leader

“Alongkorn” rebukes “the senior” for spreading a rumor on the overthrow of reform.

License plate: Democrat Party

Caption: Be careful..! The guardian spirit snake.

# White Masks and Communists Trying to Overthrow the Government

June 7, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 7, 2013

Cartoon title: Nowadays there are mob events... from Sanam Luang to the Government House

Man on the left: Wear white mask and gather at the House.

On the bag: Wages for overthrowing the government

On man with the white mask: Coming in in the millions

On next suit: the Communists, the Communist Party of Thailand

On the headband: PAD

On the cap: Salim

Mouse: Mobs or actors?

# Thailand sea gypsies being evicted from their beach dwellings by developers

June 7, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News, Tourism

[Thailand sea gypsies under threat from tourism](#) – theaustralian.com.au, June 6, 2013

...The creation of protected marine parks, the depletion of fish stocks and a construction frenzy are all making it increasingly hard for the kingdom's "Chao Lay" sea people to maintain their age-old lifestyles. Although they often spent time away at sea, Nang Miden says his ancestors have lived on the island of Phuket since long before it was transformed from a sleepy tropical backwater into one of the kingdom's top tourist destinations.

Nowadays prime beachfront on the crowded island is scarce, and Nang is threatened with eviction by a property developer who bought the land from under his feet and wants to move him to a new site further inland...

# **Cambodian PM Hun Sen calls for law prohibiting the “denial” of crimes of the Khmer Rouge era**

June 7, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Khmer Rouge crimes denial law could negatively impact on free expression in Cambodia](#) – CCHR, June 6, 2013

...CCHR in no way supports the denial of crimes committed under the Khmer Rouge, but believes that the Denial Law is unnecessary and would be contrary to provisions protecting freedom of expression both under the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia and international human rights treaties to which Cambodia is a party. Education, debate, discussion and research into the Khmer Rouge era are essential in helping the country to move on and to prevent similar events from reoccurring. A law aiming to restrict opinions and debate about the crimes perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge could potentially stifle such invaluable discussion. Furthermore, the Denial Law could be used as a political tool to stifle dissent and to control dialogue regarding the Khmer Rouge...

# Bangkok Trader's Assets Frozen in Insider Case

June 7, 2013

Categories: Economy

[Bangkok Trader's Assets Frozen in Insider Case](#) – nasdaq.com, June 6, 2013

...–SEC freezes assets of Badin Rungruangnavarat

–SEC says Mr. Badin profited more than \$3 million ahead of Smithfield acquisition news

–Mr. Badin is 30-year-old resident of Bangkok...

[Facebook Connection Leads To SEC Freezing \\$3 Million In Insider-Trading Profits](#) – Forbes, June 6, 2013

...While details remain scarce, the Commission alleged in its Complaint that Rungruangnavarat may have been tipped off by a Facebook friend who formerly worked with Rungruangnavarat and is presently employed at a Thailand investment bank that participated in the bidding process...

[Facebook friend may have tipped trader to \\$4.7 billion Smithfield deal, SEC alleges](#) – stockhouse.com, June 6, 2013

...By at least May 15, 2013, according to the complaint, the Thai investment bank advising Charoen was given access to Smithfield's electronic data room and confidential financial information.

The complaint goes on to say that Rungruangnavarat submitted an application to open a brokerage account with Interactive Brokers on May 10, 2013. Three days later, the account was approved for trading. The only trades he would make in the account were purchases of Smithfield calls, futures, and common stock.

However, these allegations remain unproven until such times as they are tested in a court of law...



# **The Singaporean model for Thailand: “Provinces which vote for the Thai Rak Thai party will be taken good care of first”**

June 7, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[The ‘mole’ is inside the government](#) – Bangkok Post, June 7, 2013

*...That seems to echo the infamous remark made some years ago by then-prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, which triggered off an avalanche of protests from southerners, “Provinces which vote for the Thai Rak Thai party will be taken good care of first...”.*

*It should not come as a total surprise that Mr Plodprasop’s remark has incensed Phuket residents. A protest was staged in the southern province this Friday morning against the deputy prime minister for his discriminatory and divisive remark. One of the protest banners, carried by a car which drove around the town of Phuket, read: “Plod pen sop (Plodprasop is a corpse), do not treat Phuket residents like buffaloes”...*

# Attack when they are off guard

June 8, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 8, 2013

Cartoon title: ...Attack off guard...

On rice sacks in hands of farmers, from top: The better lives of Thai farmers

On left stack of rice sacks, from top: The rice mortgage project

On right stack of rice sacks, from top: Making up the amount of losses, looking out for a chance to overthrow the government

On suit of man in middle front: Commerce Ministry

Right column, on back of the hooded figure: Order to suppress the people, 100 dead bodies

On suit of the 2nd man from right: NAC

On suit of man on the right: The media

Phi Nooring: Stab in the back

Mouse: Destroying so often that it becomes a habit.

## Weekly News Magazines, May 24, 2013

June 8, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, May 24, 2013

Cover reads: Khun Chai liberates the nation.



From Matichon Weekly, May 24, 2013

Cover reads: Maew's 'frustrated', must 'lift' it out.



From ASTV Manager Weekly, May 25, 2013  
Cover reads: Man of your dream

# **Royal Thai Police Intimidated by African Mafia**

June 8, 2013

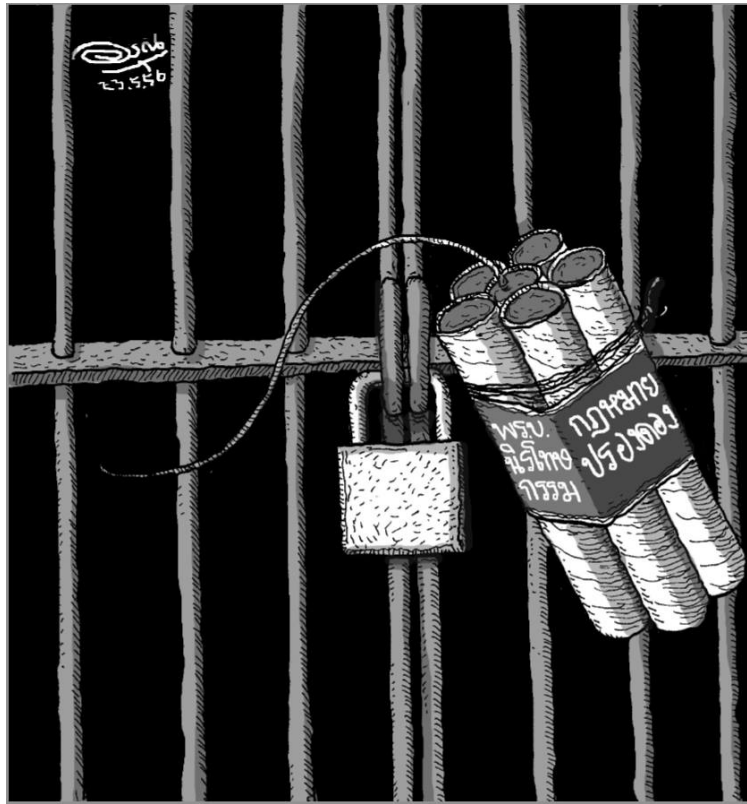
Categories: Crime, Thai Police

[Royal Thai Police Intimidated by African Mafia](#) – Youtube

# Dynamite to release the prisoners

June 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



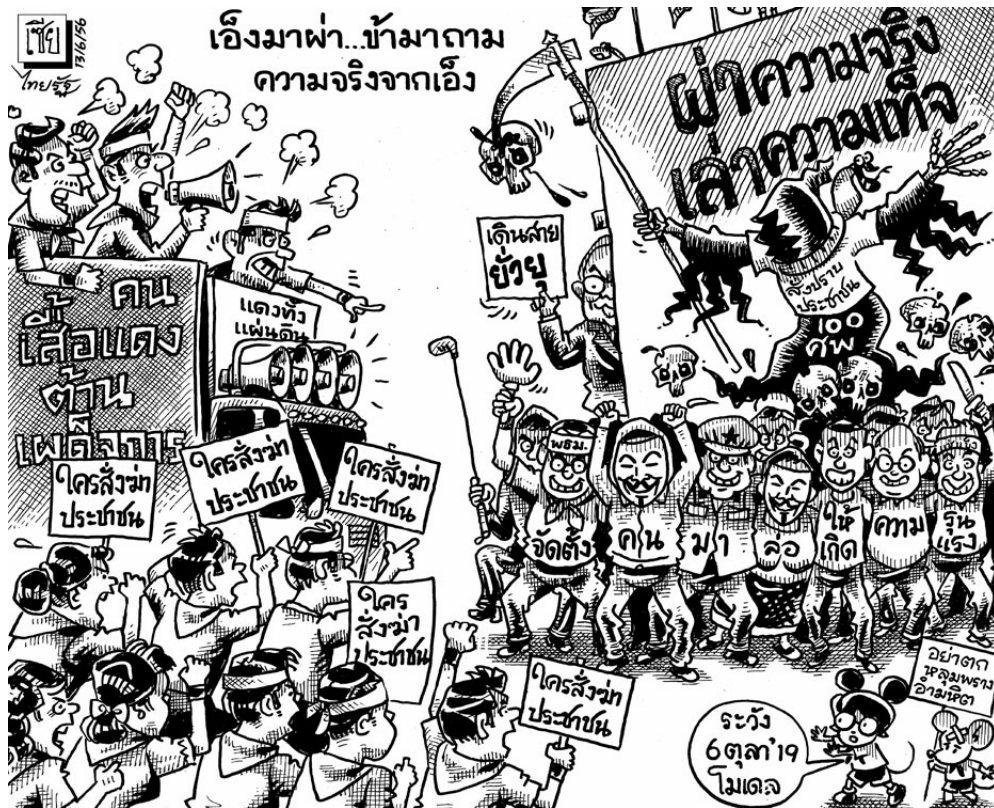
From Arun, May 13, 2013

On the dynamite: Amnesty bill, reconciliation bill

# You come to strike openly... I come to ask for the truth!

June 9, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 9, 2013

Cartoon title: You come to strike openly... I come to ask for the truth!

Sign on the front of the truck: Red across the land

Sign on the side of the truck: The Red Shirt people against dictatorship

Signs of the Red Shirt group on the right: Who ordered to kill the people?

On right backdrop: Strike open the truth, tell lies

On the hooded figure: Order to kill the people; 100 dead bodies

Sign in hand of Suthep Thuaaksuban, behind backdrop: On the road to incite

Banner on head of the 2nd man in the right group: PAD

Banner on head of man on the far right: Freezing

On shirts of men from left: Bringing people to provoke violence

Phi Nooring: Watch out for the Oct. 6, '76 model

Mouse: Don't fall for the cruel trap.



# Weekly News Magazines, June 7, 2013

June 9, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, June 7, 2013

Cover reads: Who's behind the white mask?



From Matichon Weekly, June 7, 2013

Cover reads: Doesn't change the 'color', doesn't change the 'line'





From ASTV Manager Weekly, June 8, 2013  
Cover reads: “Wanna see Thaksin back home”

# Myanmar's moment?

June 9, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar's moment?](#) – khaleejtimes.com, June 9, 2013

...Five sectors – energy and mining, agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, and infrastructure – could account for more than 90 per cent of Myanmar's total growth and employment potential. Of these, manufacturing, which could take advantage of many companies' desire to relocate from China and other Asian economies where wages are rising, is by far the most important...

[Myanmar: A land of opportunity?](#) – aljazeera.com, June 8, 2013

...According to McKinsey Global Institute Myanmar's economy could quadruple in size to \$200bn, with annual growth of 8 percent by 2030,

To actually get to that point, it is going to need to spend an estimated \$320bn. But the rewards for the people could be huge: 10 million non-farm jobs could come from all that investment – in a country that right now depends on agriculture...

[Myanmar monks say most oppose anti-Muslim campaign](#) – SCMP, June 9, 2013

...But while monks have been at the forefront of anti-Muslim mob violence across the country, others continue to preach a message of peace and tolerance and have been organising humanitarian aid for Muslims displaced by the sectarian conflict.

They say they are in the majority, and that monks who rail against the "Muslim threat" are being exploited for a political agenda. The rival forces are at opposite ends of a battle for the very soul of Buddhism in Myanmar...

# Anti-government, anti-Thaksin tycoon missing

June 9, 2013

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics

[Anti-government tycoon missing](#) – Bangkok Post, June 9, 2013

[Anti-Thaksin Thai missing tycoon's CCTV hard-disk stolen](#) – The Nation, June 10, 2013

...Suwat said Ekkayuth's abductors also went to the businessman's house to steal a computer connected to his security camera system. "They may be a big gang because they went to his house to eliminate the evidence," Suwat said.

He said relatives found Ekkayuth's house door open at 8pm on Friday and the computer's hard disk, which recorded feeds from security cameras, was missing...

# The first car for the children in the rural areas

June 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, May 13, 2013

Left: The first car for the children in the city.

Right: The first car for the children in the rural areas.

Sign in front of the school: This school is closed.

# Robbing the Rice Pledging Scheme

June 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



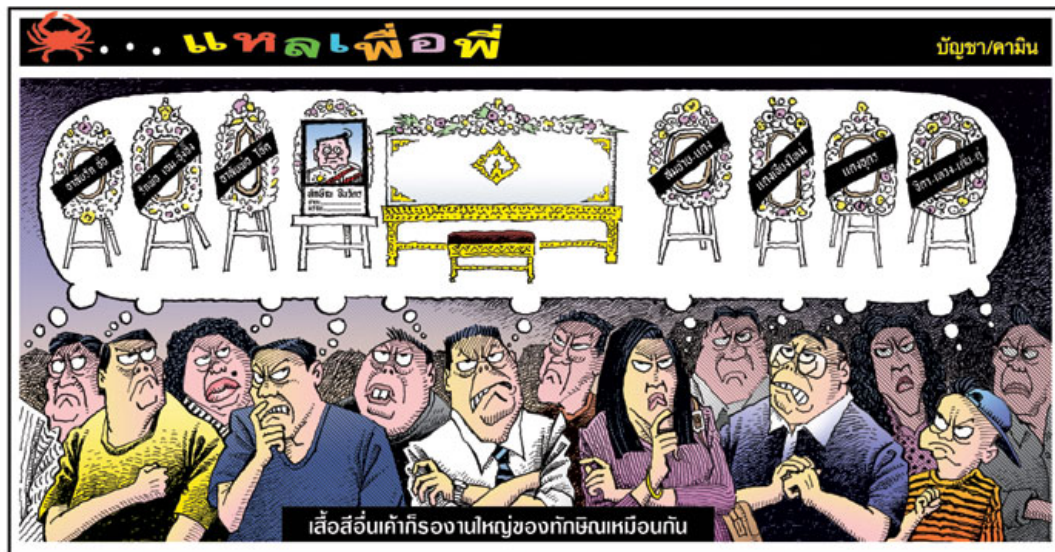
From Komchadluek, June 10, 2013

Farmer: Oh! Are you from the rice pledging scheme program?... It's okay. Whatever you want, just take it.

# Waiting for His Funeral

June 10, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, May 22, 2013

Caption: The other colors also waiting for Thaksin's big event

# Kicking Chalerm

June 10, 2013

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons

มือผมไม่สั่น..แต่ตีนสั่นครับ อยากเตะปากหมา..



From Naewna, June 10, 2013

Prasong Sunsiri: My hands aren't shaking... but my feet are... want to kick a dog's mouth...

Dog: Yow...yow...!!

# **More from the Thaksin Years: Bangkok denies report of al-Qaeda interrogations at base**

June 10, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Ten Years Ago: [Bangkok denies report of al-Qaeda interrogations at base](#)



# **Justice denied in the case of the murder of Charoen Wat-aksorn**

June 10, 2013

Categories: Human Rights

[Justice denied in the case of the murder of Charoen Wat-aksorn](#) – AHRC, June 10, 2013

On 21 June 2004, Charoen Wat-aksorn was assassinated as he alighted from a bus returning to Prachuab Khiri Khan after he gave testimony about environmental destruction in Bo Nok and Ban Krut to the Senate in Bangkok...

# Thailand's Ambitious 30 Baht Healthcare Program Cut Infant Mortality

June 10, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Thailand's Ambitious 30 Baht Healthcare Program Cut Infant Mortality](#) – asianscientist.com, June 10, 2013  
...Before the 30 Baht Program, poor provinces had higher infant mortality rates, but after the program was implemented, infant mortality rates in rich and poor provinces were nearly identical. The study provides evidence that the new health reform reduced infant mortality by as much as 30 percent in poor provinces...

# Turkey and Thailand: unlikely twins

June 10, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Turkey and Thailand: unlikely twins](#) – July, 2012

...Thailand's urbanized villagers have their counterparts in Turkey's gecekondu (roughly meaning "shanty-town"<sup>7</sup>) folk, who are generally discussed with reference to their level of religiosity rather than class, but that is merely a matter of framing. The stereotype of the AKP voter that prevails among the old-line Turkish establishment portrays him as a so-called belly-scratcher: a barely educated, provincial know-nothing with traditional (but insincere) religious values and minor business acumen who puts his own self-interest above the needs of his country.

...Thaksin and Erdogan have practiced a highly personalized form of rule, characterized by a kind of "sultanism" that emulates and sometimes outdoes that of the militaries with which they have clashed. So though there is no going back, the road ahead does not necessarily promise to lead to the gradual consolidation of liberal-democratic norms, and the possibility of detours into populist authoritarianism looms.

...The hypernationalist political-development trajectory exemplified by never- colonized countries such as Turkey and Thailand, like a number of other states at the edges of Europe and Asia, may not provide the most fertile ground for liberalism....

# Two Thai tycoons spend US\$27bil on acquisitions in one year, what lies ahead?

June 10, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Two Thai tycoons spend US\\$27bil on acquisitions in one year, what lies ahead?](#) – thestar.com.my, June 10, 2013

...The billionaires – 74-year-old Dhanin Chearavanont and Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi, five years his junior – personify Thailand's bull market and Asia's frothy credit, feeding on fast, cheap loans bolstered by a surging local currency.

The worry though is that they also represent the financial risks building inside Thailand and elsewhere in Asia amid signs of economic slowdown and tighter lending markets. Consumer growth needs to stay fairly robust to justify the valuations paid for these deals, said Standard Chartered analyst Nirgunan Tiruchelvam...

# Seven Years Ago: 60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne

June 11, 2013

Categories: Today in History



Seven Years Ago: [60th Anniversary of the King's Accession to the Throne](#)

# Opening the Jails

June 11, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, May 19, 2013

Cartoon title: Two Forces helping open a channel of freedom

On the bars, from left: Reconciliation; Amnesty

On Premier Yingluck Shinawatra's suit: the Government

On prisoner's shirt: Political prisoners

On the Parliament's Spokesperson's, Somsak Liatsuranont, suit: The Parliament

Phi Nooring: Restore happiness

Man mouse: For humanity

# One Year Ago: Threatening Judges Who Defy Thaksin

June 11, 2013

Categories: Today in History

รายชื่อองค์คณะผู้พิพากษาศาลฎีกา 76,000 ล้านบาท



นายธานีศ ไพโรจน์ สมศักดิ์ ประทีป อติศักดิ์ อุทธีเทพ พิทักษ์

1. นายไพโรจน์ วายุภาพ ผู้พิพากษาหัวหน้าคณะ  
ในศาลฎีกา, 602 ซ.ลาดพร้าว94 ถ.ลาดพร้าว ต.  
วังทองหลาง อ.เขตวังทองหลาง จ.กรุงเทพมหานคร  
10310 โทร 025140262

2. นายพงศ์เทพ ศิริพงศ์คิกานนท์ ประธานแผนก  
ศาลฎีกาคืออาญาของผู้ดำรงตำแหน่งทางการเมือง

3. นายธานีศ เกศพิทักษ์ ผู้พิพากษาหัวหน้าคณะ  
ในศาลฎีกา, 17/1 ซ.สุขุมวิท47(บ้านดอน) ถ.สุขุมวิท ต.

ศาลฎีกา, 83 กม6 ซ.สวัสดิการนายทหาร ถ.รามอินทรา  
ต.ลาดพร้าว อ.เขตลาดพร้าว จ. กรุงเทพฯ 10230 โทร  
025095553, 84 หมู่8 หมู่บ้านสวัสดิการนายทหาร  
ถ.รามอินทรา ต.ท่าแร้ง อ.เขตบางเขน จ.กรุงเทพ โทร.  
029458084

7. นายกำพล ภูสุดแสง ผู้พิพากษาอาวุโสใน  
ศาลฎีกา, 94 ซ.บ้านช่างหล่อ ถ.อรุณอมรินทร์ ต.บ้าน  
ช่างหล่อ อ.เขตบางกอกน้อย จ.กรุงเทพฯ 10700 โทร.

One Year Ago: [Threatening Judges Who Defy Thaksin](#)

# Needs Father

June 12, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



12/06/56

From Manager, June 12, 2013

Thaksin's son, Panthongthae Shinawatra: Brother Theng... brother Theng... brother Theng... Play with me. Please... please... please.

Theng: No Oak. Stay away from me.

Caption: Kid apart from his father is always yearning for paternal warmth



# Thaksin kicked me out

June 12, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



03/06/56

From Manager, June 3, 2013

Somsak Kiatsuranont: Thaksin kicked me out of being the Speaker of the House of Representatives... It hurts unbearably. Do you have any suggestion for me, sir?

The ghost of former PM Samak: Have a medical examination for cancer fast!!!

Caption: Somsak has to ask for suggestion from Thaksin's ex-lackey.

# Cars and Shame

June 13, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 13, 2013

Title: Different kinds of sorrow for kids...

Left: I'm so disgraced. My friends laugh at me because dad drives an old Japanese car to pick me up.

Right: I'm so disgraced. My friends laugh at me because dad drives a Bentley installed with a gas tank for the purpose of tax evasion to pick me up.

# Ai Peud Strikes Again!

June 13, 2013

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons



From Naewa, June 13, 2013

At left, Deputy Prime Minister Chalerm Ubumrung says: left: Ask me. I know very well... Akeyuth was abducted and detained at Nong Jok awaiting money withdrawal before taken to the South.

Middle: He's a man with no real power. He didn't earn trust from his men. That's why he had to die for 5 million baht. Anybody want to know anything else...?

Reporter: I want to know where Ai Peud is who killed Pol.Sen.Sgt.Maj. Yim?

More about the bill: [What is Chalerm's Goal?](#)

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

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

[Who is Chalerm Yoobamrung?](#)

# The hasty open and shut liquidation of anti-Thaksin critic Akeyuth

June 13, 2013

Categories: Kamronwit Thoopkrachang, Thai Politics

[The hasty open and shut liquidation of anti-Thaksin critic Akeyuth](#) – Bangkok Post, June 13, 2013

*...Metropolitan police commissioner Pol Lt Gen Kamronwit Toopkrachang said he did not completely believe Mr Santiphap's story and asked for a few more days for police to gather evidence.*

*But for the sake of looking professional, the commissioner should have enough credible evidence in his hands before presenting the suspect to the media in the full glare of the public.*

*Hence, it should hardly be surprising if some people are wondering if Mr Santiphap is not just a scapegoat and that the press conference was staged just for publicity purposes...*

# **With warnings of civil war and one-sided legislation, strongman for 28 years Hun Sen indicates he won't go easily**

June 13, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's leader intends to keep his post](#) – vancouver.sun.com, June 13, 2013

Hun Sen has ruled Cambodia since 1985 and one of his favourite campaign tactics is to warn voters there will be civil war if they are foolish enough to defeat him.

His threats are not to be taken lightly...

# **Zambian govt minister slams Thaksin lobbyist Amsterdam for representing Rupiah Banda**

June 13, 2013

Categories: Robert Amsterdam

[Kabimba takes a dig at Amsterdam, calls him a hired mercenary](#) – lusakatimes.com, June 12, 2013

...Mr. Kabimba said Mr. Amsterdam has failed to have the former Prime Minister of Thailand Thaksin Shinawatra regain power despite waging a similar international media campaign.

He said Mr. Amsterdam has no success story to tell except give a ray of unfulfilled hope to desperate men of fickle characters such as Mr. Hichilema and his surrogate, Pastor Nevers Mumba.

# Do police in charge of Akeyuth investigation really owe allegiance to Thaksin?

June 13, 2013

Categories: Kamronwit Thoopkrachang, Thai Police, Thai Politics

[The Nation Versus the Tribe](#) – Bangkok Post, June 13, 2013

*...The man in charge of investigating the case is Metropolitan Police Bureau commissioner Kamronwit Thoopkrachang. Last year when he received his appointment to the job Pol Lt Gen Kamronwit flew to Hong Kong to meet Thaksin and personally thank him for the promotion.*

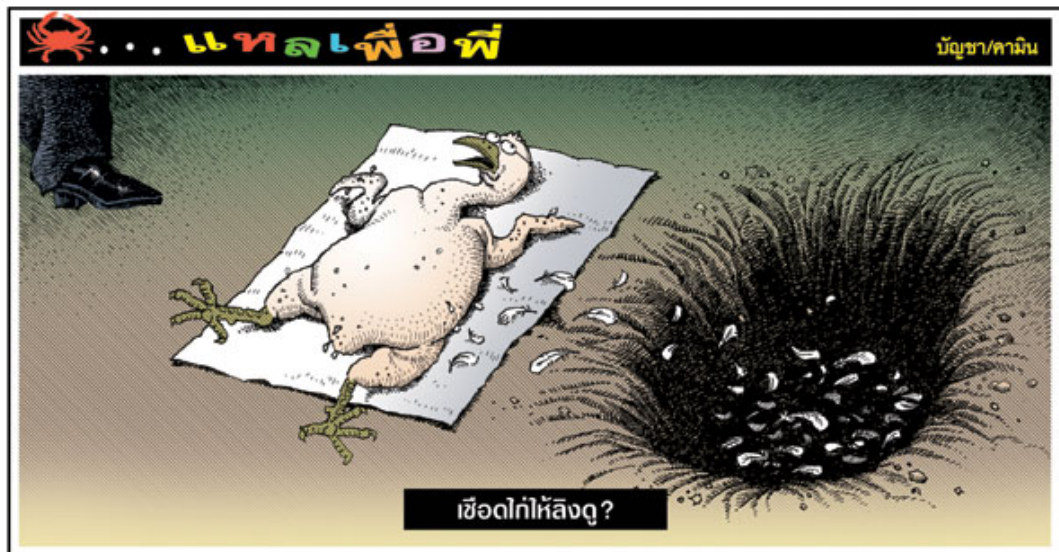
*On his office wall, he placed a framed photo of himself with Thaksin, with the caption ‘I can have today because you gave it to me’. He said he will always be loyal to Thaksin and if his loyalty, love and respect is wrong, then, as he told the country, ‘fire me’.*

*A man has his loyalty, love and respect and that is his prerogative. However, it begs the question: would this affect the investigation into the case of Mr Akeyuth?...*

# Killing a Government Critic as a Warning

June 14, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



14/06/56

From Manager, June 14, 2013

Title: Isn't it killing a chicken to send a message to a pack of monkeys?



# The Wheel Begins to Turn: Weekly Rallies and Disapproving Academics

June 14, 2013

Categories: Analysis, Thai Politics



From *Thairath*, June 2, 2013

Cartoon title: Anything can happen in this country.

On the octopus's face: Claim to be a decent person with morality

On the octopus's tentacles, from top left: ; the Constitutional Court; NACC ; selected senators; hooded figure ; Mob ; double standards

Over death: Strike open the truth, but tell lies.

On knife's blade in hand of man: Have connections.

On papers around PM Yingluck: Reconciliation bills; amnesty bills; constitution amendment; 350 billion baht worth of water management projects; borrowing 2.2 trillion baht for Thailand; 2020; '14 budget

At bottom left: Mouse man: Demons in disguise

Mouse: nominees of the dark power

Who would have guessed that the government's most persistent critic, whose website has been the source of nearly every Thaksin scandal over the years, could be killed, with the murderer immediately confessing, and the website finally offline—all within a few days? Well, it happened this week in Thailand.

It certainly could be the case that Akeyuth Anchanbutr's chauffeur was "pushed too far" in the Thai style by an arrogant and over confident "big man" (which Akeyuth certainly was). However, it is not surprising that there is skepticism over the details considering the case has been hastily wrapped up by a police officer who once flew to Hong Kong to personally thank Thaksin for his posting. And Deputy Prime Minister Chalerm's immediate statements that politics was not involved can be taken no more seriously than his confident assertions on almost any other subject.

Murders by disgruntled lackeys as well as political killings by the Royal Thai Police are both integral parts of Thai culture. Also integral is that the public will be resigned to never really being sure about the truth of the situation. Whatever the reason, Akeyuth's death comes at a time when political tensions are rising once again.

Earlier this month Noppadon Pattama, who serves as Thaksin's spokesman in the Thai-language world, was quoted as saying he noticed "unusual movements of news" as well as "rumors."

He was right. It started with academics and the heightened rhetoric of the "white mask" anti-government demonstrations ([Thaksin's populist policies blamed for rifts in society](#) – *The Nation*, June 1, 2013).

What is the significance that academics are passing judgment on the government? What is the significance of weekly organized rallies against the government?

In Thai culture in general, it is expected that the elite and educated pass judgment on others. The city dweller (assumed to be the elite and educated) passes judgment on the hoards of country people who bring regional tycoons to power. In politics these elite are one of the unelected and informal checks that are expected to temper the activities of the elected. The elected are held with some suspicion, as it is assumed that they will inevitably seek to benefit themselves and their status by harnessing the supposedly uneducated voter.

When seminars begin again that include academics passing judgment on a sitting government, it means the classic Thai cycle in the lead up to a coup is starting. It will later include the "Chula doctor's letter" where, again, elite physicians from Thailand's most prestigious university present a letter to the government saying it has engaged in overreach. This trend includes expressions of disapproval and concern from military figures, those in the state bureaucracy, and elder statesmen (like Anand Panyarachun who this week spoke out against the government). We can already see a ramping up of media scrutiny (this time being conducted on the internet as the mainstream Thai papers are considered, rightly or wrongly, to be already co-opted by the Pheu Thai) and regular ongoing protests. This is the significance of the sudden regular white mask protests—to create either a genuine groundswell of public opinion or at least the appearance of it.

The English-language press has joined in as the government is referred to as a "regime" and even the *Nation* has decided to begin referring to Thaksin as the "defacto leader" of the government.

It is important to note that the military cannot take open action without feeling confident that there will not be widespread protest or dissent. They must be able to claim that they have support for any action. The pro-Thaksin camp can rest assured that they can make things sufficiently painful for the military. The military has always been inept at governing and their humiliating outing after the coup in 2006 means there is little real stomach to act against Thaksin amnesty with tanks on the street—even if it were assured a Red Shirt siege threatening Bangkok would not happen again.

The courts are a much better weapon to use against the government. Warnings about a "judicial coup" have not aroused the same alarm as when there are actual tanks on the streets. Government and Red Shirt calls for the court to be abolished or judges resign to make way for those friendly to Thaksin simply do not play the same way to the public as when the military is abrogating a constitution.

What has caused all this now? After years of delay, two amnesty bills are being pushed by the Pheu Thai—full amnesty and partial amnesty. The only reason for this double-barreled approach is to give the government the cover it needs to get a full amnesty passed. The pledge to "bring Thaksin home" has long been a rallying cry of the government as well as the Red Shirts leadership connected to the Pheu Thai Party. Amnesty and constitutional reform have been perennial issues that are undoubtedly the real priorities behind this government directed from afar (now more or less openly) by Thaksin.

While amnesty appears to be first up, the rewriting of the constitution would be just as dangerous for the powers that be. Promises to eliminate the power of the courts to check government action and the creation of a fully-elected senate, in particular allowing MPs' husbands and wives to serve in the senate as they did during the Thai Rak Thai years, would once again stop the senate's ability to temper the popularly-elected MPs.

In passing amnesty and rewriting the constitution, the popular concept of democracy is employed. “We have the most votes” and “we are overwhelmingly popular” translates into “we can rewrite the laws.” That perhaps represents well the nascent definition of Thai democracy. From the government perspective, only a single party-based government without fear that unelected sources of power can check it gives it the freedom of action needed to make reforms and then make them last.

Last year in May 2012, Prime Minister Yingluck was brought forward for the last major amnesty push. Then she insisted that the reconciliation bill (judged an amnesty bill by critics) was urgent and that the government “got the clear mandate from the people.” At that time Thaksin faced a backlash after telling Red Shirts to forgive and forget so an amnesty for all could be passed. He quickly mended fences and reversed himself as the Red Shirts are essential to protecting the government from street protests.

At that time the push fell apart due to strong-arm due to tactics in parliament (the opposition rushed the house speaker to physically prevent him from introducing the bill) coupled with behind-the-scenes military “advice” that tricked the government into thinking another long delay was the wise move.

Now Thaksin feels they have the government significantly weakened. PM Yingluck was drawn into the fray in April with her speech praising the Red Shirts and Thaksin and the courts successfully weathered attempts at intimidation while wracking up an impressive list of cases that can be used to shake up the government if necessary.

The Red Shirt movement is transforming as well. It was initially designed to meet force with force to halt another PAD-like siege of the government. However, as months pass, some Red Shirt factions appear to be gradually following their own agendas, more based on regional power plays of their leaders and becoming less reliable allies in demanding reconciliation defined as “amnesty for all.” A partial amnesty bill not including Thaksin would be disastrous as it would take the pressure off those in the movement who are continually hounded by criminal charges. Each month lost means the movement might continue to be distracted by local political issues. Local disputes and power grabs continue to divide them while more radical factions play into the hands of those who want to smear Thaksin with accusations of revolution and disloyalty to the monarchy.

All those who would lose from a Thaksin return—essentially every politician who is not a Thaksin relative—will tend to drag their feet on amnesty, but still try to look like they are not doing so. Factions within the Pheu Thai will be dreaming of a future premiership—an impossibility if Thaksin returns. An open break with Thaksin is unlikely of course, as Thaksin’s strength has been the vast financial influence that has created a remarkable party discipline unusual for the Thai political world. And any government shakeup that could oust a Shinawatra relative from the premiership would surely see thousands of Red Shirts on its doorstep.

Each failure to push through amnesty diminishes Thaksin’s future chances. This is complicated by an unnameable, but inevitable event that will afford the opportunity for a prolonged time of stately decorum backed up by military order. This means time is running out for amnesty measures. Thaksin has to act. After a possible upcoming cabinet reshuffle (rumored to finally include firebrand Red Shirt leader Jatuporn to placate disgruntled Red Shirts), it should be full-steam ahead on amnesty.

If amnesty is stalled, new elections might be called, followed by an immediate government push for amnesty again. However, despite the Pheu Thai’s popularity, an election is an unknown, a variable, an admission of defeat... and most of all a delay. So new elections will indicate a last resort situation.

What have we seen again and again when amnesty is pushed? A period of high political tension and political theatrics (so MPs can show Thaksin they really want to obey him), followed by a collapse in support and a delay. Whether Thaksin can really bide his time and afford another delay is the question.

The best common outcome for the anti-Thaksin camp is to maintain the government as is and endlessly delay amnesty plans. This is the ultimate solution for now.

This means keeping the Pheu Thai MPs passing legislation and spending money with the expectation that Thaksin influence will be gradually replaced by the ambitious of in-country politicians, like Sudarat and her growing faction (more on this in this earlier analysis: [More about why Pheu Thai MPs feel hesitation in risking their comfy positions in a free-spending sitting government by pushing for Thaksin amnesty](#)).

With Pheu Thai still in power there is little reason to call out the Red Shirts which would surely happen if Pheu Thai was judicially disbanded and a new government formed from the remaining MPs. More time passing allows the Red Shirts to devolve into their local power cliques. New elections would certainly return Pheu Thai to power with a fresh mandate. The hope would be that, over time, the natural attrition of fortune will impact the government. This means scandals like the rice pledging scheme might swamp and discredit the government in the eyes of the public.

The political situation, for all its variables, controversies, and conspiracy theories, is stoked by an elected government daring to give its supporters amnesty and even rewriting the nation's constitution in a way that will surely preserve its power for a generation. Its popularity is powered by a highly popular appeal to a majority that is used to decades of neglect and indirect representation. It is the lure of majoritarianism applied to the definition of democracy—"we can pass anything we want as we were elected." Not only Thailand, but nations are struggling with this (such as Russia, Turkey, and Egypt) as democracy in some form and definition is assumed to be the ultimate end-state of government in the twenty-first century.

The opposition, having experienced the Thai Rak Thai years when the media and business became political pawns of one-man and one-family rule, fears this future. It works against it by again starting the cycle of academic disapproval, weekly protests, and the threat of judicial sanctions to bring the elected government to its knees.

(Ron Morris' book on the Thai political universe, *The Thai Book: Protest, Democracy, Big Men, Coups, Bombs, Killing People and Forgiveness*, will be released by Villefort Publishing in June 2013.)

# **Thai official reveals that an alert, typically used for sex offenders, is issued to prevent US whistle blower from reaching the UK**

June 14, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Don't fly Edward Snowden to UK, airlines told](#) – Guardian, June 14, 2013

... Thai official reveals the an alert, usually used for sex offenders, has been issued to prevent US spy whistle blower from reaching the UK. The Associated Press news agency saw a photograph of the document taken on Friday at a Thai airport. A British diplomat confirmed to AP that the document was genuine and was sent to airlines around the world. A Thai airline official also confirmed the alert had been issued...

# Red shirts attack, injure white-mask protesters in Chiang Mai

June 14, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Red shirts attack, injure white-mask people in Chiang Mai](#) – The Nation, June 14, 2013

...Police were present but did not try to stop the red shirts from attacking the white-mask demonstrators...

[Chiang Mai Redshirts Clash With 'Guy Fawkes' Crowd](#) – Khaosod, June 14, 2013

..."We were here just to find out what they campaign about, but they provoked us. One of them took pictures of us, so some Redshirts are angered," Mr. Worawut said. He vowed that his group would stage counter-protest wherever the White Mask group appears in order to "observe" them...



# Durian McFlurry at McDonald's Singapore

June 15, 2013

Categories: Food and Drink



[Durian McFlurry at McDonald's Singapore](http://donaldandcathy.typepad.com) – donaldandcathy.typepad.com, June 10, 2013

# Lost city found in the Cambodian jungle

June 15, 2013

Categories: Cambodia



[Lost horizons: mediaeval city uncovered](#) – SMH, June 15, 2013

Archaeologists using revolutionary airborne laser technology have discovered a lost mediaeval city that thrived on a mist-shrouded Cambodian mountain 1200 years ago.

The stunning discovery of the city, Mahendraparvata, includes temples hidden by jungle for centuries – temples that archaeologists believe have never been looted...



## **Variety Thai Profile: Country's main lures are its spectacular scenery for location work and well-appointed facilities**

June 15, 2013

Categories: Film and TV

[International Profile: Country's main lures are its spectacular scenery for location work and well-appointed facilities](#) – Variety, May 29, 2013

...There were 636 foreign productions shot in the nation last year, a rise of 45% over the previous annum. Los Angeles location manager Michael J. Burmeister, whose recent resume includes “Spider-Man” and the “Twilight” saga, says the infrastructure is as good as that in Los Angeles...

# The same old government opponents

June 16, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 16, 2013

Title: Why are you so cruel???

Left: PM Yingluck holds sign that reads: 'To govern the country under democracy'

The man behind her is wearing a headband reading UDD

The man with a white mask says: A puppet government

On his sign: To provoke the Red Shirts

Man with beard says: To find reasons for the military coup

On the headband: Salim (means the anti-Thaksin "multi-colored group")

The man with a cap says: Overthrow the government for a new election.

On his board: 'Flash mob' and 'strong patronage'

Man close to him: But I want...

Hooded figure says: Visiting many places to tell lies to people

On the hooded figure: 'Crackdown of people' and '100 dead people'

A board at the right corner: Cruel works of Apr. 10-May 19, 2010

Phi Nooring: Ought to be ashamed

A mouse: Addicted to the wrong power

# **‘White Mask’ Guards Seen Trying To Hit Red Shirts With Iron Bars**

June 16, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[‘White Mask’ Guards Seen Trying To Hit Redshirts With Iron Bars](#) – Khaosod, June 16, 2013

*Rival political rallies by anti-government protesters wearing 'Guy Fawkes' masks and pro-government Redshirts in central Bangkok came close to violence after a group of so-called White Masks used makeshift weapons to chase down a few Redshirts passing their way...*

# **Democrat candidate beats Pheu Thai rival in Don Muang by-election**

June 16, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Democrat candidate beats Pheu Thai rival in Don Muang by-election](#) – The Nation, June 16, 2013

[Tankhun likely to win by-election](#) – Bangkok Post, June 16, 2013

# **Ladyboys versus All Blacks: is this the world's weirdest sport?**

June 17, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

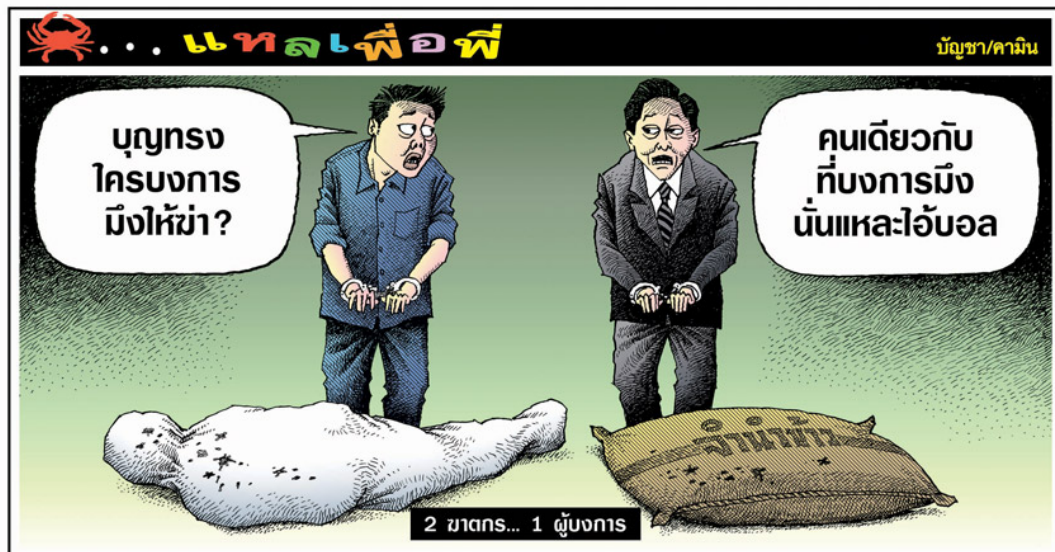
[Ladyboys versus All Blacks: is this the world's weirdest sport?](#) – theage.com.au, June 13, 2013

...Most of the players, except the All Blacks and ladyboys, have experience in regular polo, though one player says it doesn't help much. Being on the back of an elephant puts the player much further away from the ground and the length and weight of the mallet also makes it quite difficult to give the ball a decent knock...

## 2 murderers... 1 mastermind

June 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



17/06/56

From Manager, June 17, 2013

Caption: 2 murderers... 1 mastermind

Left cuffed man: Boonsong, who ordered you to kill?

Right cuffed man: The same person who gave you the order, Ai Ball.

On jute sack: Rice mortgage

# Thailand's boom: To the northeast, the spoils

June 17, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's boom: To the northeast, the spoils](#) – Reuters, June 15, 2013

...Economic growth in the region reached 40 percent from 2007 to 2011, against 23 percent for the country and just 17 percent for greater Bangkok.

...Politics explains part of what is going on. Yingluck's government brought in a nationwide minimum wage of 300 baht (\$10) a day in January. In some Isaan provinces, that was an increase of 35 percent, among the biggest gains in the country, on top of a nationwide 40 percent rise in April 2012.

...The poverty rate in Thailand fell to 13 percent of the population in 2011 from 58 percent in 1990, according to the World Bank, but per capita gross domestic product in Isaan in 2011 was still less than an eighth of that of Bangkok at \$1,600 a year, according to the state planning agency, the NESDB...

# **Govt sending a signal – Officer accused in disappearance of human-rights activist Somchai brought in to make arrest in the Akeyuth case**

June 17, 2013

Categories: Kamronwit Thoopkrachang, Thai Police, Thai Politics

[Who ordered the assassination of Thai businessman?](#) – The Nation, June 15, 2013

*...the police team that nabbed Santiparb at a petrol station was led by none other than Pol Colonel Napanwut Liamsa-nguan – a suspect acquitted over the disappearance of lawyer and human-rights activist Somchai Neelapaijit in 2004. Thaksin Shinawatra was in power when Somchai disappeared.*

*...Napanwut, who changed his name from Chadchai, works as a superintendent at the Children and Women's Protection Division. Yet, Bangkok Police Chief Kamronwit Thoopkrachang gave him the job of making arrests after news came out that Akeyuth might have been abducted...*



# Today, they are ordering to suppress millions of farmers

June 17, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 17, 2013

Title: Today, they are ordering to suppress millions of farmers.

On the hooded figure: Corruption... Loses... Stop...

On the robe: 'order to kill people' and '100 dead people'

Word at the right corner: Rice traders

PM Yingluck Shinawatra is giving a farmer a rice bag that reads: Rice pledging scheme for better lives of Thai farmers.

Mouse: To narrow the farmer's power

# No anti-government protests in the north

June 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



18/06/56

From Manager, June 18, 2013

Red buffalo: If you want to stay in Chiang Mai, don't wear a white mask while walking on the street... understand!?

Caption: Unbelievable... this city is governed by a buffalo.

## Foot on head

June 18, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 18, 2013

Thaksin Shinawatra to Yingluck: Eh! You told me that the government was on the rise... then why do you want me to rush into reshuffle the cabinet?

# **Thai govt finally revealing huge losses incurred by rice pledging scheme-why not reveal who received the payments?**

June 18, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Who really benefited from the rice scheme?](#) – Bangkok Post, June 18, 2013

...Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom, who chaired the NRPC meeting on Monday, said the adjustment of the rice pledging price was intended to maintain fiscal discipline so that the rice scheme would not place too great a burden on the state's coffers.

One might wonder why the minister had not felt a similar need for fiscal discipline several months ago, but instead had persistently shrugged off all criticism of the scheme and refused to come clean on almost everything about it — be it the amount of rice sold and still in stockpiles, the price of rice sold, the buyers, and the estimated losses so far...

# **A Thai family's desperate search for their missing daughter**

June 18, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[A Thai family's desperate search for their missing daughter](#) – BBC, June 18, 2013

...The Thai police are reluctant to take a missing person report until a full 24 hours have passed.

“If they’d started to look quicker I’m sure I could have got my daughter back,” said Manee.

...If that is the case Pattaya is a likely destination. A sleazy tourist town on the Gulf of Thailand, it has become infamous as a sordid magnet for trafficked children and paedophiles...

# Don't stop the rice pledging scheme!

June 19, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



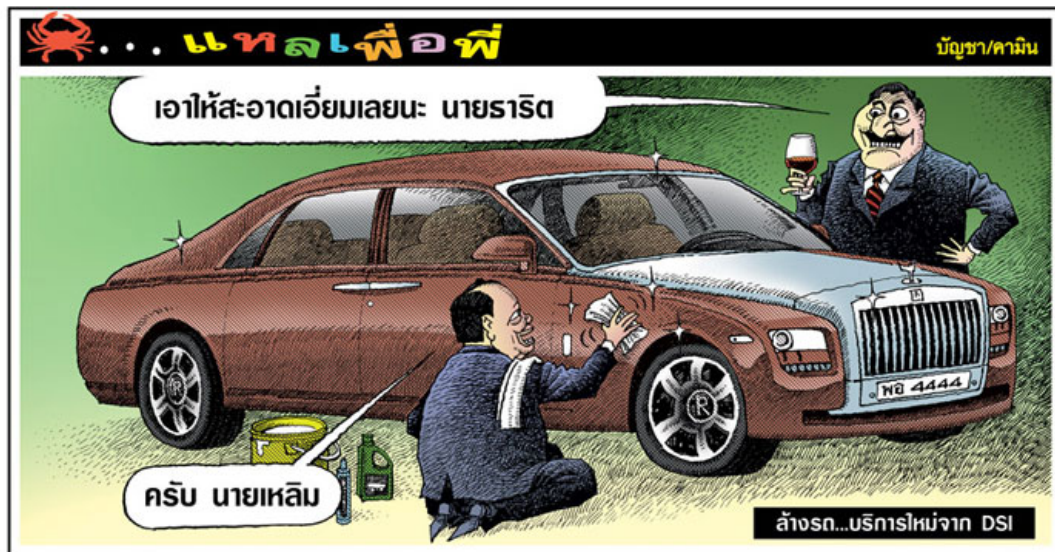
From Komchadluek, June 19, 2013

PM Yingluck Shinawatra: Don't stop the rice pledging scheme... otherwise this farmer will die!!

# Chalerm's Rolls Royce

June 19, 2013

Categories: Chalerm Yubamrung, Editorial Cartoons - Manager, Tharit Pengdit



19/06/56

From Manager, June 19, 2013

Deputy PM Chalerm Yubamrung: Tharit, clean my car properly.

DSI Chief Tharit Pengdit: Yer,sir.

Caption: Car washing... new service from DSI

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

# Thailand's government acknowledges \$4.4B loss from controversial rice price support scheme

June 19, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's government acknowledges \\$4.4B loss from controversial rice price support scheme](#) – WP, June 18, 2013

...Subsidies for rice farmers were launched in 2004 when Yingluck's brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, was prime minister and implemented a host of populist policies. The scheme was criticized then for alleged graft and high costs, and Thaksin was ousted by a military coup in 2006 after protests in the capital against his alleged corruption and abuse of power.

The scheme was revived by Yingluck as a flagship policy in her 2011 election campaign...



# **Secret footage reveals brutal conditions of Rohingyas in Thai refugee center**

June 19, 2013

Categories: Refugees and Migrants

[‘Free Rohingya’ Call from Europe to Thailand](#) – Phuketwan, June 17, 2013

...Secret television footage taken inside the Phang Nga detention centre, north of Phuket, has portrayed overcrowding in cells, with 276 men limited in movements and with their muscles beginning to atrophy...

# Ten Years Ago: The perils of ‘doing a Thaksin’

June 20, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Ten Years Ago: [The perils of ‘doing a Thaksin’](#)

# The rice scheme is like donating to the poor

June 20, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



20/06/56

From Manager, June 20, 2013

Panthongtae Shinawatra: Won't you donate your tax for helping our 'relatives' who are the poorest in country to have better lives?

Left to right are PM Yingluck Shinawatra, Minister of Commerce Boonsong Teriyapirom, Yaowapa Wongsawat and Deputy Minister of Commerce Nattawut Saikua.

Caption: Oak changed only one word... then it is correct!

# Weekly News Magazines, June 14, 2013

June 21, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, June 14, 2013

Cover reads: The mysterious kill



From Matichon Weekly, June 14, 2013

Cover reads: Mitsuo Gavesko, 'the shore seeker'



From ASTV Manager Weekly, June 15, 2013  
Cover reads: Woh. 5, Order to die, License to kill

# Who will confront the White Masks?

June 21, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



21/06/56

From Manager, June 21, 2013

Man: Who will go to Central World this Sunday... Put your tail up!

Buffalo: Aeng!

Caption: Look at the tail.

# **Fifa warns Thailand of possible international ban**

June 21, 2013

Categories: Sports

[Fifa warns Thailand of possible international ban](#) – gaol.com June 19, 2013

...The world's governing football body sent an official warning letter the following morning after Worawi Makudi, president of the FAT, was forced to reschedule the elections due to a court injunction from the Min Buri Court in Bangkok.

However, as Fifa rules do not allow for civil courts to get involved in the administration of national football bodies, Thailand may possibly face an international ban if the impending lawsuit is not dropped by Monday, June 24...



# Wall Street Journal: Thailand's Ruinous Rice Subsidy

June 21, 2013

Categories: Thai Politics

[Thailand's Ruinous Rice Subsidy](#) – WSJ, June 20, 2013

*...Predictably, the market wanted nothing to do with Ms. Yingluck's clumsy attempts at price manipulation. Sensing an opportunity to gain ground, rice exporters in other countries—notably Vietnam and India—rushed in to fill the shortfall. Meanwhile, private-sector Thai exporters responded by investing in emerging producers such as Cambodia, Laos and Burma...*



# **Two Years Ago: Exiled Thai Prime Minister Awaits Chance to Return**

June 21, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Two Years Ago: [Exiled Thai Prime Minister Awaits Chance to Return](#)

# Monk hires pilot

June 22, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 22, 2013

Left: A: When I grow up, I will be an abbot.

B: When I grow up, I will be a captain flying a plane over your head.

Middle: A: You cannot fly over my head.

B: Why?

Right: Because I will hire you to fly my private jet.

## Negotiating with the BRN

June 22, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 22, 2013

Cartoon title: Negotiating like this, will they reach agreement by next life's afternoon?

On chairs, from left: The Royal Thai Army, SBPAC , NSC

On back of chairs in the front: People

Sign on table: Deputy Prime Minister

## On the TV: BRN's one-side demand

Phin Nooring: So that the Southerners be happy

## Mouse: Develop the South

# The Lotus and Thaksin Supporters

June 22, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



Cartoon title: Monday cartoon series – Lotus



Caption: At the bottom of a lotus pond

Small lotus on the left: Hey, you guys have emerged before me for a while... Why don't you grow and blossom above the water?

Lotus on the right: Why should I rush blossoming? I'm fine just like this.

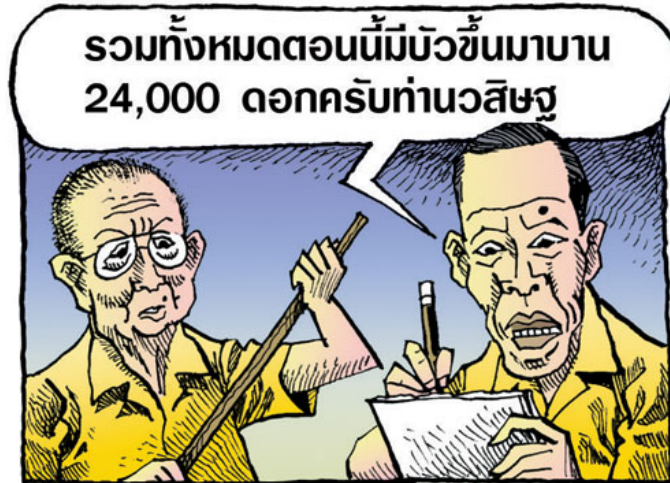




Lotus on the left: Fine. I'm going up now.  
 Lotus on the right: Where does he rush up to?; Hey there!



Lotus: Arks...!  
 Turtle representing Thaksin: Take care of all these submerged lotuses before grow up to blossom, Nong Poo.  
 Crab representing PM Yingluck: Yes, brother turtle!



Caption: Above the water in the pond

Man: Another one is emerging! The total number of the lotuses emerged to blossom is 24,000, sir, Thaan Vasi.



Man: There are millions of lotuses under the water. Why only less than 30,000 of them grow up to blossom above the water?

Man on the left: They have been eaten by the turtle and the crab...Ajarn Kaewsan. It'll take us some time.

Caption: \*Let's blossom with the Thai Spring



# Keep on dreaming

June 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Chai



From Thairath, June 23, 2013

Cartoon title: Keep on dreaming

Top left: Dream that Louis Vuitton produces Luang Poo bags for the market!

Top middle: Dream that PEA cut the electricity based on one standard!

Top right: Dream that Thai people are close to be able to reconcile!

Bottom left: Dream of stipulating fiscal discipline: On left money bag: borrowing 2.2 trillion baht; on right money bag: borrowing 35 billion baht; on other bags: Borrowing

Mid bottom: Dream that peace talks with the BRN Coordinate Group will bring peace

Bottom right: Dream that dismounting a tiger is easy.

On tiger: Rice mortgage price at 15,000 baht per ton

## Making up news about the rice mortgage project

June 23, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Thairath - Sia



From Thairath, June 23, 2013

Cartoon title: Stamp, stamp, hurting... enough...?

On second man's necktie: Democrat Party

On the hooded robe: Ordered to suppress the people; 100 dead bodies

On rice sacks, from top down, left to right: Willing to undermine rice mortgage project; Make up news that rice is contaminated with poisonous substances; Make up news that the rice is rotted

## On papers on the floor: Reduce the mortgage price

### Phi Nooring: Poor farmers

Mouse: Vicious, cold-hearted



# **Thaksin's soothsayer: Profile of fortune teller to the Burmese and Thai elite, "ET"**

June 23, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

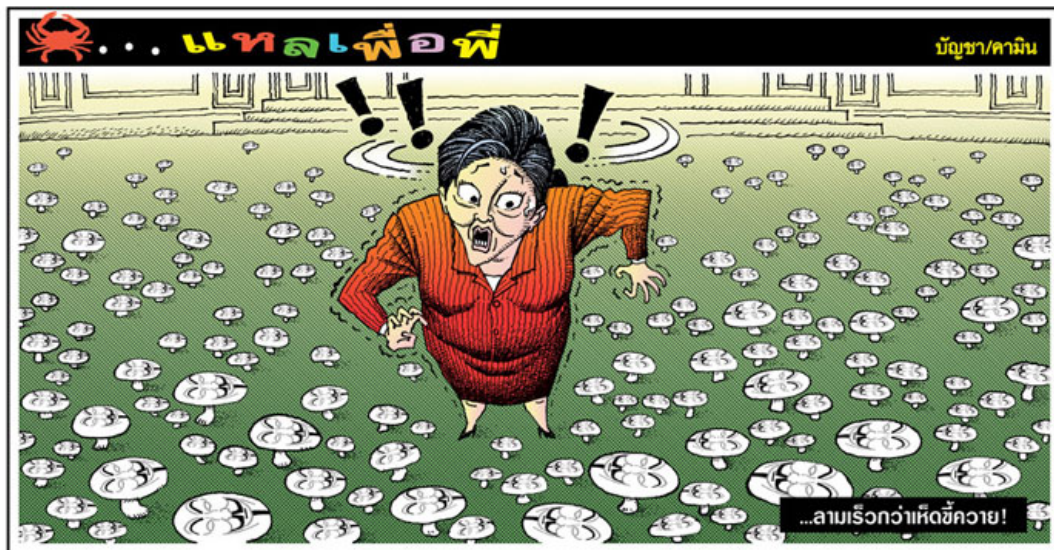
[Myanmar mystics give supernatural help to Asia elite](#) – AFP, June 23, 2013

...Myanmar's fortune tellers are thought to be behind several unexplained occurrences in the country, from the abrupt decision by the former junta to relocate the capital in 2005, to bizarre episodes when the generals appeared wearing women's longyi — a sarong-like skirt...

# Spreading faster than magic mushrooms!

June 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



24/06/56

From Manager, June 24, 2013

Caption: ...Spreading faster than magic mushrooms!

# Revive the rice mortgage

June 24, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 24, 2013

Doctor: Let's try to revive it one more time.

On patient's blanket: Rice mortgage

# 82 Years Ago Today: Siam Tries a People's Party

June 24, 2013

Categories: Today in History



82 Years Ago Today: [Siam Tries a People's Party](#).

# **Cambodia's ailing democracy thrown into crisis**

June 24, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Cambodia's ailing democracy thrown into crisis](#) – ABC, June 23, 2013

Less than six weeks before national elections are to be held, all opposition MPs were stripped of their wage, and their status as lawmakers...

# **Bustle on the beach at Sihanoukville in Cambodia**

June 24, 2013

Categories: Cambodia

[Bustle on the beach at Sihanoukville in Cambodia](#) – news.com.au, June 23, 2013

...We are in Sihanoukville, the country's only developed port and biggest seaside town, as part of a 14-day Asia Explorer cruise with Holland America Line.

About 185km southwest of the capital Phnom Penh, Sihanoukville is rapidly growing as a popular tourist attraction and is one of the newest destinations to be added to the cruise line's southeast Asia route. Its white-sand beaches remain less developed and less crowded than the resorts in nearby Thailand...

# Thai Rath's cartoonist Chai surrenders to face charges of defaming the Prime Minister

June 24, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



From Post Today, May 6, 2013

[Thai Rath's cartoonist Chai meets with police but denies defamation charges](#) – The Nation, June 24, 2013  
...Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra filed the complaint with police against Somchai after he drew a cartoon and posted it on his Facebook wall, calling the prime minister a betrayer of the country who was worse than a prostitute...

More: [All the whores should thank the brother](#)

Earlier: [Thairath editorial cartoonist calls Yingluck a prostitute – Red Shirts protest](#)

Earlier: [Pheu Thai Joins Chorus Against Anti-Yingluck Cartoonist](#)

Another prostitute reference from the past: [The Difference Between the DSI Chief and a Prostitute](#)

Also: [An analysis of the political events that surrounding Yingluck's controversial pro-Red Shirt speech and the efforts to intimidate the courts](#)



# The face of Buddhist terror

June 24, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma



[The face of Buddhist terror](#) – Time, July 1, 2013

*His face as still and serene as a statue's, the Buddhist monk who has taken the title "the Burmese bin Laden" begins his sermon...*

[Myanmar slams Time magazine's "Buddhist terror" cover](#) – DPA, June 24, 2013

[Is Time magazine's Wirathu the face of Buddhist terrorism in Burma?](#) – AP, June 21, 2013



# Just keep saying “democracy”

June 25, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 25, 2013

Devil: You don't need to care how much it will lose. Just keep saying “democracy.” Then, you can stay for a 4-year term.

# Murdering Rice

June 25, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



From Manager, June 17, 2013

Voice from car: Leave it in the warehouses!...Wait until it rots!

Caption: And then... the victim merely disappears from Thailand eternally.



Left: Where do you want me to dump the body, boss?

Middle: I strangled him to death, brother.

Right: Well done, Nong Doh.



Cartoon title: The killing team is taking care of the victim  
 Thaksin Shinawatra: Boonsong, take off.  
 Boonsong: Yes, sir.



Top left: Inside the car  
 Thaksin Shinawatra: Quick, Nong Doh. Strangle it with a rope!  
 Yaowapa: Yes!  
 On rice sack: Future of Thai rice





Bang!



Rice sack: Ouch! Hey! Boonsong!  
 Boonsong: Ak! Kick it.  
 On rice sack: Future of Thai rice



Rice sack: Hey! Who are you, guys?  
 On rice sack: Future of Thai rice



Man: please, boss!  
 On rice sack: Future of Thai rice





Rice sack: Boonsong, export me.  
 Boonsong: Yes, boss.  
 On rice sack: Future of Thai rice



Caption: The same plot. A corrupted driver called Boonsong was sent as a decoy to tail the victim.  
 Boonsong: Here it comes.



Caption: This case of abduction for murder happened 2 years prior to Akeyuth's case. But it's more cruel and traumatizing. It still makes Thai people horrified till nowadays.



The most horrifying abduction for murder in the history  
On rice sack: Future of Thai rice



# Farming the farmer

June 25, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



25/06/56

From Manager, June 25, 2013

Yaowapa Wongsawat: What? You get 12,000 baht and you complain about it. I get only 4,000-5,000 baht and I still keep quiet.

Caption: A farmer on people's shoulder doesn't complain about anything.



# Hiding it with democracy

June 26, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Komchadluek



From Komchadluek, June 26, 2013

On the floor: Bribes, high price of goods, corruption, defrauding, rice, and threats

# **Myanmar bans Time magazine over cover story about monk called ‘Face of Buddhist terror’**

June 26, 2013

Categories: Myanmar/Burma

[Myanmar bans Time magazine over cover story about monk called ‘Face of Buddhist terror’](#) – AP, June 26, 2013

...State television announced Tuesday that the decision was made “in order to prevent the recurrence of racial and religious riots...”

# Weekly News Magazines, June 21, 2013

June 27, 2013

Categories: Thai Newspapers and Magazines



From Nation Weekend, June 21, 2013

Cover reads: Luang Poo Novice Kham, flying dhamma



From Matichon Weekly, June 21, 2013

Cover reads: Celebrate June 24, '13, Royal appointed premier

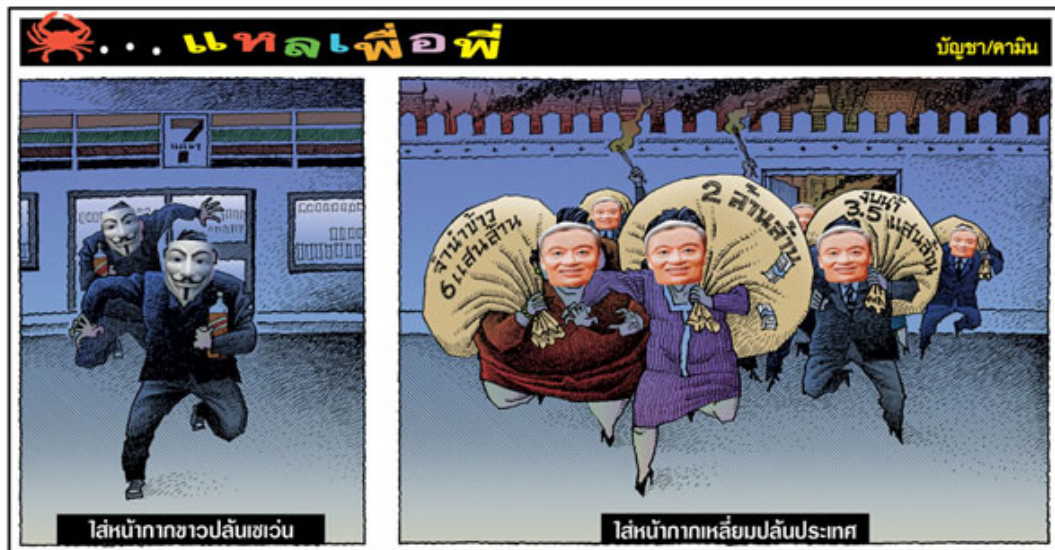


From ASTV Manager Weekly, June 22, 2013  
 Cover reads: Novice Kham style

# Robbing

June 28, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons - Manager



28/06/56

From Manager, June 28, 2013

Left: Wearing a white mask robs 7-11.

Right: Wearing a square face mask robs a country.

Bag carried by a woman in a red dress: Rice pledging scheme 600 billion baht

Bag carried by a woman in a violet dress: 2 trillion baht

Bag carried by a man: Flood budget 350 billion baht

# **Two Years Ago: “I will work for the people, but will not work for any specific man”**

June 28, 2013

Categories: Today in History

Two Years Ago: [“I will work for the people, but will not work for any specific man”](#)

# **Human trafficking in the “land of smiles” is often underestimated by the government and overestimated by some NGOs**

June 28, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[Trafficking in Thailand: what the Tip doesn't say](#) – Guardian, June 27, 2013

...What the TIP report didn't mention is that the recruitment and exploitation of children in Thailand often follows geographic and ethnic patterns. According to a 2012 report by Traficord, an organisation set up in 2002 to tackle human trafficking in northern Thailand, central and southern Thai migrants are more vulnerable to different kinds of exploitation, while northern Thailand is more prone to child sex trafficking...



# K-Water chosen for biggest share of Thailand's flood prevention project

June 28, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News



Above: 2011 photo of Korean bid winner welcoming Thaksin

[K-Water chosen for biggest share of Thailand's flood prevention project](#) –

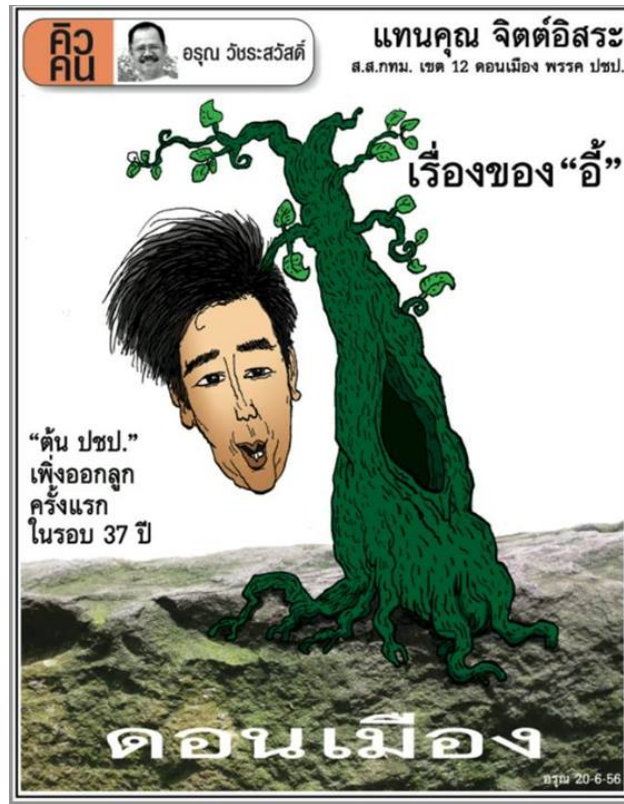
...The Korean consortium was selected as the preferred bidder for a 56 per cent portion of the total W11.5 trillion project. A consortium of Thai and Chinese companies were selected for 38 per cent, while a Thai consortium and a Thai-Swiss consortium are the preferred bidders for a couple of smaller parts worth 5 per cent and 1 per cent...



# “The Democrat Tree” just bore its first fruit in 37 years

June 30, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, June, 2013

Cartoon title: The story of “Ee”

Top right: Thaenkhun Jitissara, BKK MP for the constituency 12 Don Muang, the Democrat party

Beside the human head fruit: “The Democrat Tree” just bore its first fruit in 37 years.

At bottom: Don Muang

# Donation box to buy a Rolls Royce

June 30, 2013

Categories: Editorial Cartoons – Arun



From Arun, June, 2013

Left box: Donation box to buy a Rolls Royce

Middle box: Donation box for airplane fuel

Right box: Donation box for maintenance of a helicopter parking ground

# Mysterious no-fly list strands American in Bangkok

June 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[American stranded in Bangkok suspects ties to no-fly list](#) – seattletimes.com, June 29, 2013

...stranded at the Bangkok airport, sleeping for 10 nights on a roach-infested mattress in a dank, windowless detention room reserved for deportees.

...“They treat you like an animal,” Motiwala said in a phone interview.

...For 10 days, Motiwala was unable to leave the airport detention center because immigration officials said he had exceeded the maximum time allotted to transit passengers.

With no access to his luggage, he wore the same dirty shalwar kameez for two weeks. Bathroom conditions were less than sanitary, he said, so he didn’t shower. Some nights the 15-bed detention room was packed with 40 or more men, some sleeping two to a mattress or crowding together on the floor...

# Two Years Ago: Pheu Thai Victory

June 30, 2013

Categories: Today in History

[Fugitive ex-leader Thaksin dominates Thai election](#)

[The Conspiracy Theory](#)

[A 'Thaksinomics' renaissance in Thailand](#)

[The Cloning of Yingluck](#)

[Slandering to Destroy Pheu Thai](#)

[Pheu Thai for the Future of Thailand](#)

# California bans possession, sale and distribution of shark fins

June 30, 2013

Categories: 2Bangkok News

[With shark fin ban, a slice of Asian culture ends in California](#) – LA Times, June 28, 2013

...”The law is unfair,” said Gian, whose store in Los Angeles’ Chinatown sells shark fins for \$599 a pound. “Why single out Chinese people in California when shark fins are legal in many other states?”...

