

9. LETTER FROM PRIDI TO PHOONSUK, 3 JULY 1932

Dear Phoonsuk,

So sorry for not speaking the truth that day, and telling you I was going to Ayutthaya. Because if I told you the truth, I feared I would not be able to leave the house. And bad things would definitely have happened. That is, the officers would have captured me the next day at ten o'clock, as we now know. What I have done this time was for the nation and for the majority of the people. I thought we are born only once, and when there is a chance to do something, we should do it. I should not behave like the scum of the earth (*nak lok*). I did not tell you from the beginning because I feared you would be frightened and if the news of your fright leaked out it would spoil all we had planned. I had thought about everything before taking action. I had made plans so that if I died there would still be enough money to support you and the children. I have life insurance and cash in the bank which I transferred to you two to three days before the event. About the printing press, I must ask you to help look after it. What I ordered does not mean you have to take the seal for anything else. The seal is for receiving and sending C.O.D. The money will be brought to you. Besides the money and the C.O.D., I was prepared to transfer as much as 15,000 baht. Apart from that, I have asked for all my salary to be given to you without deduction. Wichit said the cost of sending C.O.D. would be about 300 baht. I asked him not to bother you. I asked Wichit to take it from Luang Prakop, and if that was not enough, to advance his own money. Whatever is left will be given to you. Please do not misunderstand. Please understand that from now you must look after the printing press and make all the decisions. I did not tell you from the beginning because I simply did not have time. There was so much work that I could not finish everything. Right now it happens I'm less busy so I have some spare time to write you a letter. I miss you and the children. I determined to come home, but I thought that at this time it is better to stay here with the soldiers. Please think as if I had gone into the

monkhood. Before we made the attempt, I had asked what you would say if I went into the monkhood for six months. You replied that you agreed. What I have done this time is more than going into the monkhood. We did good works (*kuson*). The merit we did for the nation should pass down to children and grandchildren. The wife will also have a part. In truth, I complained every day to the military head that you must be unhappy. But what could be done? We are acting for the nation. Many millions of other people do not have such an opportunity in their life. Not long now, when things are settled, we will live together as normal again. Please think of the nation and the people a great deal. I had started on all these things since Paris. Once I had decided to take this step, I could not possibly sacrifice my honour. Politics is politics. Personal is personal. Whenever anyone from home arrives or when someone returns from a visit, I always ask after you. I also miss Nu and Parl all the time. It's not that I'm calm and composed.

About the printing press, you must agree to take charge.

Thinking of you always,

Pridi

สมุดปกเหลือง

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เศรษฐกิจ

สิบ
ทศวรรษประดิษฐ์นวัตกรรม

ฉบับที่ ๑

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ศาสตราจารย์วิจิตร ถักตักพันธ์

เขียนในโอกาสครบรอบ ๕๐ ปี

มหาวิทยาลัยธรรมศาสตร์

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สำนักงานการพิมพ์ ศ.ศิลปานนท์

Cover of the 1948 publication of the outline economic plan