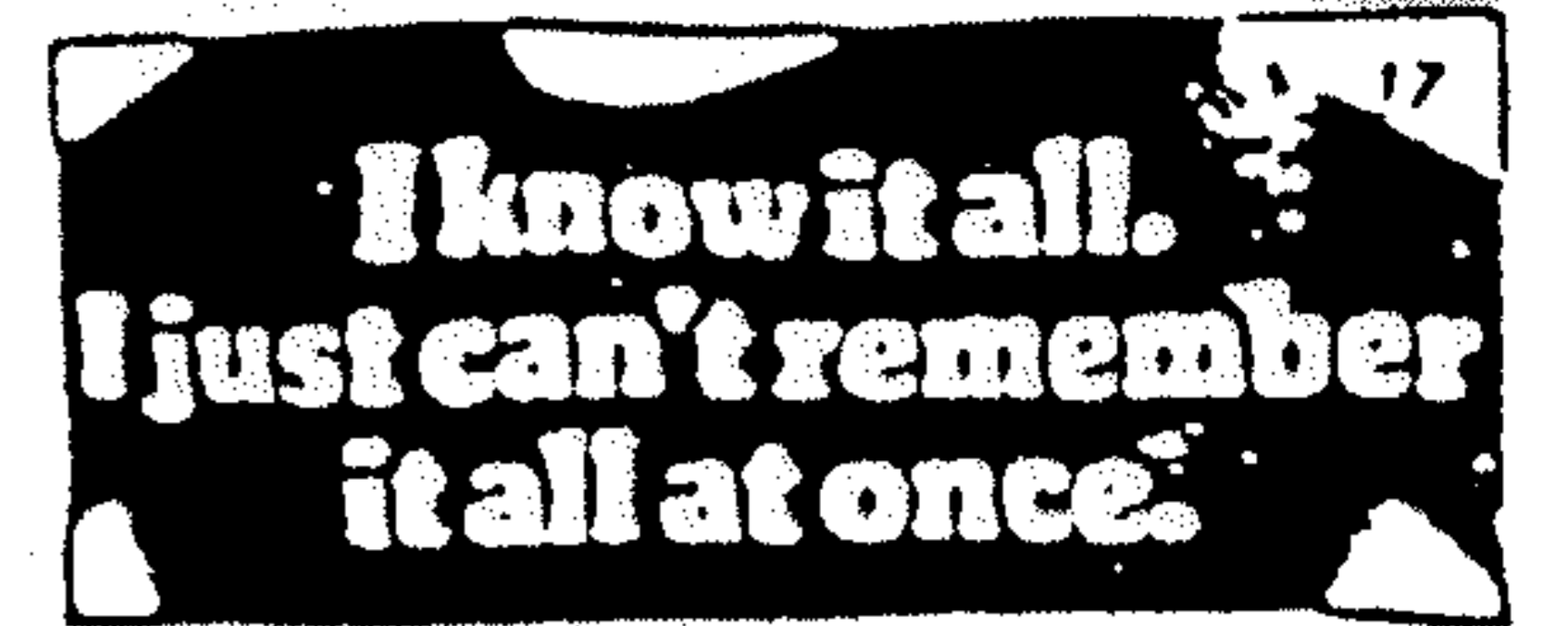


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21 July 95



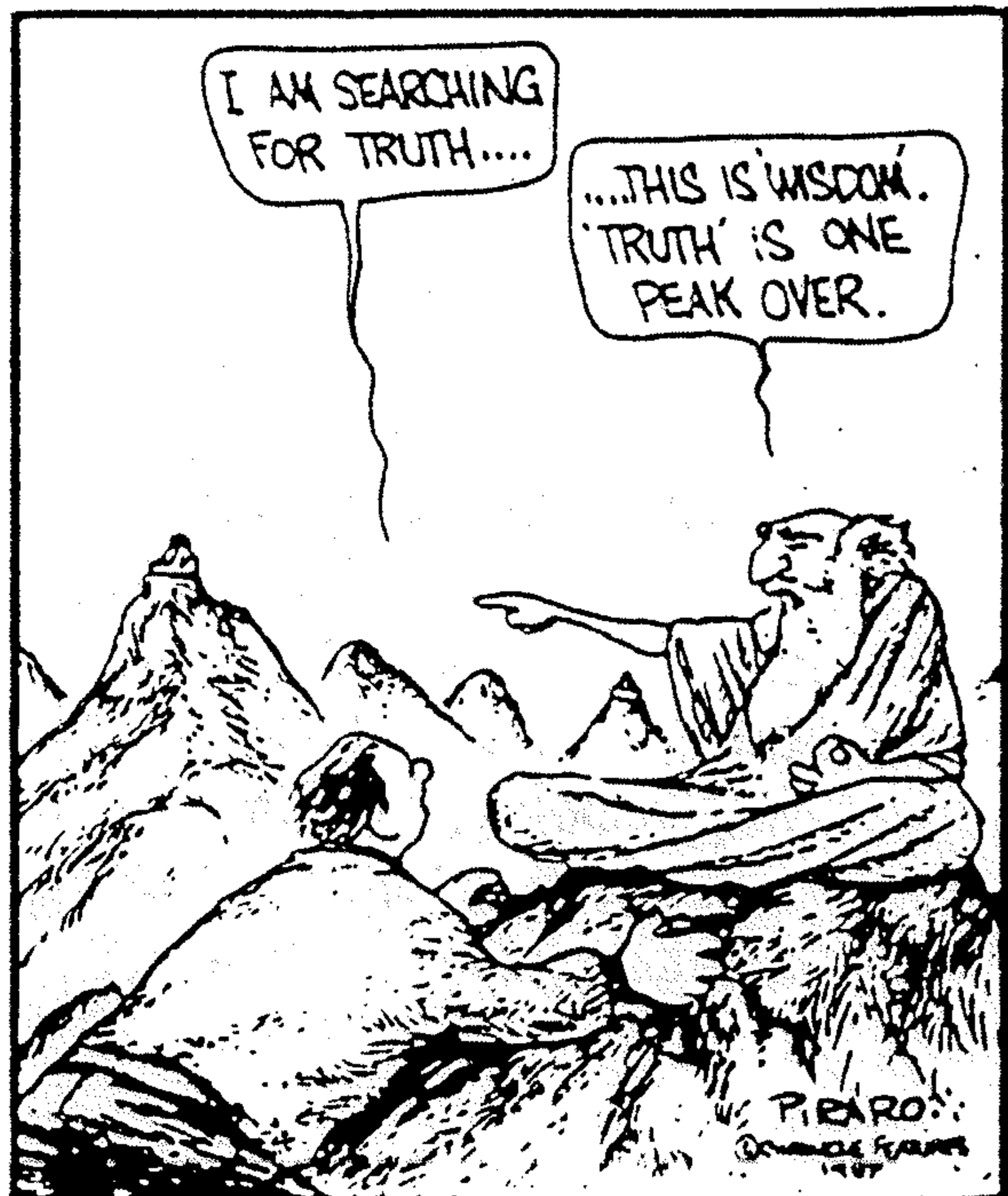
Michael Hayes, Editor  
PHNOM PENH POST  
P.O.Box 12-1074, Soi Suan Phlu P.O.  
BANGKOK 10121 THAILAND

Dear Mike--

I was flabbergasted to learn you'd been carrying that cashiers check for \$100 around all this time; my wallet obviously empties-out MUCH more rapidly than yours!!? Bank said without the CANCEL inscription, you could have STILL cashed it or deposited it even unto today! I thought differently myself, & am sure any PnP bank would not have expected it to be still valid. Anyhow; here it is (replacement), & just THINK how many more riels it is worth now than in 1992!--I was tickled to see the postmark on your letter from Thailand, "PHAT PONG", as in my Laos days, that was center of redlight district, back then, in BKK, & where we safehoused at "LUCY'S TIGER DEN", or R&R from Laos, & recd mail there too, under noms de guerre! Ancient history. & LONG ago I cut loose from that irresponsible durty company, which didn't give a ratzazz as to whether I lived or died.--A lot of my buddy expats contracted for Afghanistan, & where many died, unwept, unknown, & no obit in hometown papers, or anywhere--I ran into a few others at AUTECH, the Navy research-facil. on Andros I., Bahamas, in civvies.

Also the other day, sitting in car outside a new WALGREENS drugstore here in Houston, a man & wife came out of the store, & I was stunned to see a complete "ringer" for Norodom Sihanouk, the man! After I got my lower jaw back in place, I talked with him a bit, & of course I then remembered one of his many sons, "princes", does live here. He was surprised to meet ME, as he was aware of my own Cambodia history somehow; the Cambodia-American "grapevine" stays very active here. I forget his own name now, but --whatever, I assume you killed or never recd my article once on the Cambodian here who won the Texas lottery for over \$12 Million !! He & family dissappeared immediately & have never surfaced since; with many rumors. If you killed the story, it was best anyhow, as no one in PnP would have even comprehended the import or actuality.--Credibility gap. & 96% of USA population has already forgotten Cambodia. Occasionally we see a tiny squib or paragraph in NYT--I really depend on PnP POST, recently renewed. Yes, it is o.k. to send to P.O.Box address as previously; but for LETTER-mail, secure, I have the above address on Memorial Drive. P.O.Box-ripoffs.

Yes, I thankee for the covers you've added into PnP envelopes, esp. one from King Sihanouk's Beijing address, for collection! Actually, may I respectfully ask you to please save & send me the whole envelopes (covers) from mail from within Cambodia --& Laos. Friend here recently gave me a cover postmarked at obviously a NEW p.o. at "POCHEN TONG", I guess for "safe" airmail--? Cancel was poor, faint, could you get a



local-mail cvr to you, with clear, well-inked cancel, next time you or staff is at airport, --please??!--A few months ago, at an Asia Society breakfast, I re-met yr old boss\* here, & Mongolian Ambassador, here trying to whomp up a big oil-bidness contract.\* Roy Huffington, He sed tell you HOWDY! Asia Scty. reviving now; head of UNNY <sup>pea</sup> keeping Dept. due here in Nov. Gotta run; stay well, & be careful where ye STEP, upcountry!

Cheers,

Gale