

**STRATEGY  
RESEARCH  
PROJECT**

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**THAILAND STRATEGY TO THE YEAR 2010**

**BY**

**COLONEL CHACHAWAN DATTANOND**

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USAWC STRATEGY RESEARCH PROJECT

**Thailand Strategy to the year 2010**

by

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## ABSTRACT

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After World War II, the world was divided into two political parts: The Free World Countries of which the U.S.A. was the leader and the Communist Countries Which the U.S.S.R. was the leader. There were conflicts about the political policies during this time. It was called "The Cold War Era." After the collapse of the U.S.S.R. which caused the end of the Cold War Era. The U.S.A. became the only one superpower country and attempts to sustain the peace in the world in the form of "The New World Order."

Thailand was one country in the Free World and had an Anti-Communist policy which contributed to the development of the country from the end of W.W.II until the present time. As the world is changing rapidly to the new era in which the U.S.A. is the leader, the opinion of the writer, it is essential to study the U.S. strategy policies and to compare those policies with Thailand's policies. Then, it is possible to develop Thailand's strategy to the year 2010.



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*" Know the enemy and know yourself; in a hundred battles you will never be in peril. When you are ignorant of the enemy but know yourself, your chances of winning or losing are equal. If ignorant both of your enemy and of yourself, you are certain in every battle to be in peril."*

Sun Tzu said in The Art of War. <sup>1</sup>

## **STRATEGY**

After the World War II, the world was divided into two political parts: The first was the Free World countries which U.S.A. was the leader nation and the second was the Communist countries which U.S.S.R was the leader nation. These two parts tried to control the political system of the world and there were many conflicts between the two parts which caused many wars in that era such as The Korean War, The Vietnam War and many of small conflicts which caused a lot of disasters and many people were killed, wounded and lost a lot of treasury. That era was called " The Cold War Era ".

In the period of the cold war, as we focused about the policy of the U.S.A. which was the leader country, we could see that the policy had focused on territorial disputes, armed ethnic conflicts, civil wars that posed threats to regional and international peace, and the awareness of the conflicts between the Free World and the Communist countries. The most remarkable aspect of the growth of the national security state in the Cold



War was the emergence of a huge standing military force that ultimately provided the U.S.A. a balanced global reach unlike that of any great power in history.<sup>2</sup>

After the collapse of the U.S.S.R and the East European countries, and "The Cold War Era." was over. The U.S.A. which is the only one of the super power country declared to enter to the step of the new era which is called "The New World Order." Some policies have to be reformed. The effective responses to these situations may require multidimensional operations which compose of political, economy, social welfare especially in diplomatic and security.

Since the beginning of the "Cold War Era." Thailand had chosen to be in the Free World countries side. Thailand become the close alliance to the U.S.A. in the Southeast Asia region and had the political policies in anti-Communist. Thailand was the first country which offered to send forces to join with the U.S. troops to resist Communist aggression in Korean War. Thailand became the member of the SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) which U.S.A. was the lead member nation to resist the Communist in that region. In the period of the Vietnam War, Thailand was one of the few countries which sent troops to join with the U.S. troops, and is one of the few Asian countries which still has remained committed to the U.S.A.

After the end of the "Cold War Era.", There are no more two political parts (The Free World countries and the Communist countries), U.S.A. is the only one of the super power country and declares the policies of "The New World Order." which can be grouped as:

Human Right

Democracy

Free Trade

Ecology Reservation

Then, it is essential for Thailand to study and to find out the best way to agree with these policies and need to compare to the strategy policies with the U.S. policies and try to find out the suitable ways to enter to the new era in the next 10 years or to the year 2010.

As we are studying about the strategy of Thailand, it is essential to study about the national security strategy, the national interests, new opportunities and future security environment which are concerned to the main policies of U.S. strategy and after that we can compare to the strategy of Thailand in the future.

### **DEFINITION**

It is essential to know the definition of the categories of the words which mean and concern to the words about strategy as.<sup>3</sup>

Strategy: Strategy is an art, and a highly creative one at that. It is also a science, it follows certain rules and requires a common understanding of terminology, adherence to certain principles, and a discipline, albeit creative, thought process.

National Interests: Nations, like individuals, have interests; derived from their innate values and perceived purposes; which motivate their actions. We generally assume interests as public interests (a nation's internal or domestic concerns, needs, and aspirations).

National Security Policy: To secure our national interests, the national political leadership establishes policies to guide the formulation of a national strategy. National Security Policy can be comprised to 5 components:

Foreign Policy

Defense Policy

International Economic Policy

Intelligence Policy

Domestic Policy (Not included in some sources)

National Policy: A broad course of action or statements of guidance adopted by the government at national level in pursuit of national objectives.

National Strategy (synonymous with national security strategy): The art and science of developing and using the political,

economic powers of a nation, together with its armed forces, during peace and war, to secure nation objectives.

Interest: can group into 4 categories:

Defense of Homeland

Economic Well - Being

Favorable World Order

Promotion of Values

### **NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY**

The National Security Strategy can be described and discussed as:<sup>4</sup>

1. The world wide interests goals, and objective of the nation that are vital to the national security of the nation.

2. The foreign policy, world wide commitments and national defense capabilities of the nation necessary to deter aggression and to implement the national security strategy of the nation.

3. The proposed short - term and long - term uses of the political, economic, military and elements of national power of the nation to protect or promote the interests and achieve the goals and objectives referred to in paragraph 1.

4. The adequacy of the capabilities of the nation to carry out the national security strategy of the nation, including an evaluation of the balance among the capabilities of all elements

of national power of the nation to support the implementation of national security strategy.

5. Such other measures as may be helpful to inform congress or parliament on matters relating to the national security strategy of the nation.

In the period of the Cold War Era, as we study the national strategy, its containment demanded the presence of a modern, trained U.S. military capability worldwide, maintenance of its readiness for combat, and help to friendly and allied countries around the globe to develop stronger national defenses. The collapse of the Communism and the unraveling of the U.S.S.R. has eroded that unifying element in U.S. national security thinking. The result has been a burgeoning debate over two distinct yet intertwined sets of issues. The first concerns the nature of the international system following the end of the Cold War. The second concern the roll of the United States should occupy in that system.<sup>5</sup> And within "The New World Order," the United States retains vital interests and, despite some isolationist sentiments being expressed in the polls, will surely remain fully engaged in that system in pursuit of its political, economic and strategic interests.<sup>6</sup>

### **NATIONAL INTERESTS**

It is essential that the necessary resources must be provided to ensure the preparation to respond in the interests of the nation. These interests concern with the political, economic, and military means of protecting the nation against military threats and are defined to a large degree by geography, availability of scarce resources, military technology, and the limitation of damage which could be inflicted on U.S. territory or the key allies. These national interests may be defined as the country's perceived needs and aspiration in relation to other sovereign states constituting its external environment.

U.S. Interests are defined as:<sup>7</sup>

1. Defense of homeland: Protection of the people, territory, and the institutions of the U.S. against potential foreign dangers.

2. Economic well-being: Promotion of U.S. international trade and investment, including protection of private interests in foreign countries.

3. Favorable World Order (international security):  
Establishment of a peaceful international environment in which disputes between nations can be resolved without resort to war and in which collective security rather than unilateral action is employed to deter or cope with aggression.

4. Promotion of values (ideology): Promulgation of a set of values that U.S. leaders believe to be universally good and worthy of emulation by other countries.

After the Cold War Era, the essential part is to concern with threats to our enduring goals and hence to the security which are grouped as:<sup>8</sup>

- Regional or State-centered Threats: A number of states still have the capabilities and the desire to threaten U.S. vital interests, through either coercion or cross border aggression. In many cases, these states are also actively improving their offensive capabilities, including efforts to obtain nuclear, biological or chemical weapons. In other cases, unstable nations, internal conflicts or failed states may threaten to further destabilize regions where we have clear interests.

- Transnational Threats: Some threats transcend national orders. These transnational threats, such as terrorism, the illegal drug trade, illicit arms trafficking, international organized crime, uncontrolled refugee migrations, and environmental damage threaten American interests and citizens, both directly and indirectly. Not all of these are new threats, but advances in technology have, in some cases, made these threats more potent.

- Threats from Weapons of Mass Destruction: Weapons of mass destruction pose the greatest potential threat to global security. U.S. must continue to reduce the threat posed by existing arsenals of such weaponry as well as work to stop the proliferation of advanced technologies that press this destructive capabilities in the hands of parties hostile to U.S. and global security interests. Danger exists from outlaw states opposed to regional and global security efforts and transnational actors, such as terrorists or international crime organizations, potentially employing nuclear, chemical or biological weapons against unprotected peoples and governments.

### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Les Aspin (The Former Secretary of Defense) said about an era of new opportunities for U.S.A. which focus in a common commitment to democratic principles, free-market economics, and the rule of law can be significantly enlarged to:<sup>9</sup>

- Expand and adapt our existing security partnerships and alliances and build a larger community of democratic nations.

- Promote new regional security arrangements and alliances to improve deterrence and reduce the potential for aggression by hostile regional powers.

- Implement the dramatic reductions in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the former Soviet Union achieved in the START 1 and 2 treaties.



- Protect and advance our security with fewer resources, freeing excess resources to be invested in other areas vital to our prosperity.

### **FUTURE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT**

Edward Warner said about Security Environment in 1997 - 2015 which is uncertain, dynamic environment with range of concurrent challenges as:<sup>10</sup>

- Regional Dangers
  - Hostile powers capable of challenging U.S. in their region.
  - Coercion / aggression against U.S. allies, friends, and interests.
  - Regional instability, failed states.
- Proliferation of Advanced Technology: as NBC weapons, missiles, information warfare, access to space capabilities, and advanced conventional weapons.

Transnational Dangers: as terrorism, migration / refugees, drugs, international organized crime.

- Threats to U.S. homeland: as terrorism, information warfare, remaining strategic nuclear threats.
- Emergence of a regional near-peer or global peer unlikely before 2015.

The report of the National Defense said about the key trends of the world in 2020 as:<sup>11</sup>

- Geopolitical Trends: (A Changing World) Political decisions of the twentieth century may define the environments of the twenty -first century as;

- New ethnic-cultural-religious polarization.
- National boundaries redrawn.
- Powerful non-state entities.

- Demographic and Social Trends: (A Changing people) Adapting to a Changing World Population as:

- Uneven and rapid population growth.
- Migration to resources.
- Challenge to provide basic necessities.

- Economic Trends: The emergence of a global, interdependent market place that effects the well-being of virtually every nation and society.

- Technology Trends: Transforming advanced industry- based economics into information-based economies and that promises to effect a revolution in military affair.

### **THAILAND GENERAL BACKGROUND**

The Kingdom of Thailand occupies a strategic position in Southeast Asia. The east part joins to Laos and Cambodia, the west part joins to Myanmar, the north part joins to Myanmar and Laos, and the south part joins to Malaysia. Peninsular Thailand is flanked by the gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea. Thailand has the land area 513,115 sq. km., and extends 1,620 km north-south

and 775 km east-west. The country can be divided into five regions. The southern peninsular consists of a narrow strip of coastal lowland, which is rich in minerals. Central Thailand consists of an alluvial plain, on which about one-third of the population lives and is one of the world's most fertile rice growing and Bangkok, the capital, is situated in this region. The north consists mostly of forested mountains. The northeast is largely flat farming land which, because of its poor soil and inadequate irrigation, remains relatively undeveloped. The principal river of Thailand is the Chao Phraya river which flows south through the fertiled central plain for more than 365 km to the gulf of Thailand and the Mekong river runs along most of the border with Laos.<sup>12</sup>

#### POPULATION

Thailand has the population about 60 millions which has the growth rate 1.2% and the population density at 116 per sq.km. The ethnic groups are Thai 75 %, Chinese 14 % and other 11 %. Thai is the official language which ethnic and regional dialects are also used. Thailand has a constitutional monarchy with a democratic form of government. Thailand is divided into 75 provinces which each administered by an appointed governor and the province is subdivided into districts, sub-districts and villages and the Bangkok Metropolitan which is the capital city.

The legal system is based on civil law which is being influenced of common law. The king is the head of state but has only nominal powers. There is also a prime minister, cabinet and a bi-parliament legislature (consisting of an appointed senate (270 appointed senators) and a house of representatives (360 elected members)). The prime minister is selected from the house of representatives. The judiciary is usually relatively independent, although this is not been the case in important political subversion cases.

### **THAILAND STRATEGY PROBLEMS**

#### **POLITICAL PROBLEM:**

As Thailand is a constitutional monarchy since 1932. The government has traditionally been conducted by a prime minister and cabinet who Exercise their authority with the consent of the military. But the present time, the military tries not to concern in the political affairs if the political system can support the majority of the people and the politicians are in good conduct. Thailand has remained remarkably stable. It has sound democratic institutions and a more advanced legal system than have most other countries in the region because the most crucial pillar of stability is the monarchy. The present king is King Bhumibol or King Rama 9 who is the beloved king and can warn, encourage and give advice to the government.

He is viewed as a symbol of national identity and unity in a country. He has ruled for over 50 years and commands enormous popular respect and moral authority, which he has used on several occasions to resolve thorny political issues that have threatened national stability. If without this respected king, rival factions within both the democratic political arena and the military may take advantage of the situation.

Corruption among the leading politicians is also the big problem to bring down the advance in political system.

**Internal Political System:**

In the present time, the electoral government seems to have a lack of efficiency in govern and modernize the country and sometimes has the problems such as: lack of unity, short of vision, etc. Without the trust of the people may cause the untrust in democracy. It is essential to reorganize the structure of the new democracy which the people prefer for the democracy political.

**External Political System:**

The collapse of the U.S.S.R. and the Communist countries causes the end of the Cold War. U.S.A. is the only one super power country, but the coalition of the nations in the regions seem to have more such as: APEC, NAFTA, EU and WTO. The conflicts within and between the nations still are the main

problems as in Bosnia, U.S.A. - The Middle East countries. And the more increase in world political of some countries as China, Germany, Japan seems to have more conflicts about the national interests in the future. The problems in the South East Asia region as The Spratley Islands or The Korean conflict in the East Asia are the vital problems to concern with. The roles of the U.N. about an Agenda for Peace & Development and the roles of Peace-Keeping & Peace Making are the main roles which the member nations must concern and cooperate. The international terrorism, the drug problem, the AIDS problem are also the main problems of Thailand.

#### ECONOMIC PROBLEM

Thailand has experienced remarkable economic growth since the mid-1980s. Real GDP has risen at an average of nearly 9 % a year while inflation has been kept at 4-5 %. The Thai economy is likely to remain strong but rising labor costs will force it to diversify and abandon labor - intensive sectors such as the textile industry for the more technology - intensive production of cars, computers, chemicals and electronic products. In 1997, Thailand was the first country in the Asia region which has the problem about the currency and became the severe problem in economic system in that region. Thailand had to ask for the IMF (International Monetary Fund) support and renting some money to

recover the economic system. The causes of this problem come from:

1. The corruption among the leading politicians and the big bankers who have the authority to rent money from abroad. Sometimes they had the agreements for their own benefits.

2. The renting money from abroad is not used in upgrading the industry and agriculture sites but used in support of their own wealth and properties.

3. The overheating of growing in economic system.

Thailand is one of the nations in the New Economic World which has the relationship among the nations by trade and investment and makes itself for the preparation of the changing in Economic System. The U.S.'s "New World Order ." about the Free Trade System is the main cause of this changing and Thailand must adapt itself for the future. For the past 30 years, Thailand was successful in the economic growth but the Globalization makes every country develop itself in economic and trade system and will have some problems in the coalition of the countries in the region according to their national interests such as EU., NAFTA., etc. will blockage to another countries' trade especially to the developing countries.

The New Information Technology changes the Economic World to the new era. The country which has the modern I.T. can gain a lot of information more than other countries and will gain

more benefits about trades and investment. And most of all, the richer countries can have more opportunities in trades and investment than the poor countries and can cause the more of international debts which will be the big problems in the future.

#### **SOCIAL WELFARE PROBLEM:**

##### **Criminal & Drug Risk:**

The most significant threats to Thailand's stability are the crime and drug trades. Although opium production and heroin manufacture have been virtually eliminated in Thailand, but the country functions as a major transshipment point of drugs originating in Myanmar and Laos and as a location for money laundering.<sup>13</sup>

##### **Environment:**

Thailand has seen most of the once vast forests virtually disappear over the past few decades and water pollution is also a serious problem. Air pollution in the big cities seem to be the severe problem in the future.

##### **Ethnic Groups Problem:**

There is also a Muslim groups in Thailand. About 5 % of the population are Muslim and most of them are in the Southern. There are also some terrorist Muslim groups which try to



separate from Thailand such as PULO (Pattani United Liberation Organization) which is supported by some Muslim Countries. But the risk of this source of terrorism is now minimal.

**Education:**

Thailand is successfully for the education of the people in the country. The number of the literate people is over 90 % of the population. The developing plan of the country in the future focus to the education and the quality of the people more than another plans. But the problem of economic growth will effect to the way of living . The modernization of the country cause the lack of peaceful and good mind because the people have to survive for the well being of themselves more than the ethics and moral.

**MILITARY PROBLEM:**

As a key ally in Southeast Asia, Thailand is of strategic importance to the Western world. U.S. which has access to Thai military facilities, is not only the primary arms supplier to Thailand but also conducts joint military maneuvers with the Thai armed forces. The State department has declared that Thailand's independence and territorial integrity are critical to the stability of Southeast Asia and to America's strategic position westward into the Indian Ocean. Thailand is one of the few Asian nations which still has remained committed to the U.S.

and other Western powers. Thailand has since the end of the World War II emphasized collective security as the primary means of assuring peace . Toward that end, it was the first country to offer ground forces to join those of the U.S. to resist Communist aggression in Korea. In 1954, Thailand became a charter member of the SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) originally conceived to contain the spread of Communist in the region. In 1977, Thailand helped establish the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nation) which comprising 10 nations in that region. As the only Asian country bordering war-torn Cambodia, Thailand has been suffering the spill-over effects of the ongoing conflict in that country even after the U.N.-supervised elections there.<sup>14</sup>

In the present time, even though there is lack of domestic or foreign immediate security threats. Thailand's attention has been drawn to regional security issues. The most significant external threats to continued stability in Thailand would be regional conflict (such as over sovereignty issues of the neighbor countries (Thailand- Myanmar, Thailand-Laos, Thailand-Cambodia and Thailand- Malaysia and in the South China Sea.)). The other conflicts are the regional hegemony issues (such as far-reaching Chinese or Indian expansionism) and a worldwide economic depression that would seriously affect its burgeoning economic advancement and the maintenance of domestic stability.

And a new era of peace is ushered in and Thailand abandoned a long - standing policy of maintaining links with anti-government rebels in Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia, whose forces in the past had acted as buffers along Thailand's frontiers.

There are no foreign forces officially based in Thailand. However, Thailand is host to frequent combined exercises including the large "Cobra Gold." Exercise with Involves troops from the U.S. Other countries conducting exercises or training Thai territory include Australia, Singapore and the U.K.<sup>15</sup>

#### SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM:

Thailand has a lot problem about the technology advance. It is necessary to import the new technology from abroad. The power of the modern science & technology is essential to maintain and arrogate the economic benefits. The country which can control the technology and the information can control the world. And it is essential to preserve the ecology of the country for the next generation.

### **THAILAND STRATEGY TO THE YEAR 2010**

The plans of the Thailand Strategy to the year 2010 which lead to the National Interests have to be studied about the internal and external environments and the changing situations. It is also to find out how to seek the strategies from the

trends which have causes and reasons to develop all of the activities as:

## THE POLITICAL STRATEGY

### **Internal Political Strategy:**

Since 1932, Thailand had changed the political system from the Absolute Monarchy to the Democracy. But it was not the real democracy because it was controlled by government officers for more than 50 years and caused to the alternation political powers between the elections and the revolution & coup d'etat. Then the right and the liberty of the people were cut down for many times and most of the election governments which composed of many political parties could not bring the confidence to the majority and caused to the corruption and searching for illegal benefits that caused to the weak points in development of the Thailand political system. In the present time, the people still have a lack of confidence of the political parties and the election governments which caused a lot of the problems such as the lack of unity, the fall of economic, the lack of justice in election and especially the lack of vision of political parties. These problems can cause the lost of confidence to the Democracy if the people think that it will lead to more problems rather than less problems to them.

One of the fact is the lack of developing the basic infrastructures of the Political System in Thailand. It is essential to have and to develop these main points if we want to realize the democracy political system to the year 2010 as:

-To let all of the Thai people have the same social mind and belief in the democracy political system.

-To make the good atmosphere of the democracy political and have the sufficiency of structures and to suggest the good men to join and serve in the political parties.

-To let the democracy governments have enough efficiency to serve the country and the people.

- To let the political men who were elected by the majority groups of people in each region be in the rule of the democracy and serve in the national interests and the majority of the people in the whole country.

**External Political Strategy:**

After the collapse of the U.S.S.R. and the Communist countries site, the Cold War Era was over. U.S.A. is the only one super power country. But there are still the coordination of benefits among the nations in the regions such as NAFTA, EU, WTO and APEC. There are also the conflicts between and among the nations and in the same nation such as the conflicts in the Middle East countries, India and Pakistan, The Korea conflict,

the Bosnian ethnic groups and etc. The growth of the of some countries' status in the roll of the world such as China, Japan and Germany cause to the more conflicts in the economic benefits and may cause to the serious problems in the future.

The rolls of the United Nations are growth after the end of the Cold War Era. An Agenda for Peace, An Agenda for Development are accepted by the member nations. But the Preventive Diplomacy, the Peace Making and the Peace Keeping and the Post Conflict Peace Building are being in the forms of coordination among the member nations. The member nations are also agreed as:

- The Peace is the root of Development
- Economic is the structure of Progress
- Ecology is the base of Endurance
- Justice is the main post of Development
- Democracy is the base of good Political

It is essential to Thailand to have the national goal and national policies for the external political strategy which are proper and suitable to these current of changes and trends as:

1. To have the good relationships between and among the nations especially because of security benefits and equality status and prestige by:

1.1 To have the good relationships and to develop the

coordination in Economic, Technology and Education specially between and among the neighbor nations.

1.2 To have the good relationships with the power countries especially the U.S.A. in the forms of the growth in benefits and security to Thailand.

2. To let Thailand have more authorities in negotiation and coordination in benefits in the ASEAN, APEC and ASEM and to support the UN in the roll of the ceasing conflict problems as:

2.1 To have more coordination between and among the nations in ASEAN, APEC and ASEM in Economic, Education, Technology and Culture.

2.2 To support the UN in the roll of Peace Keeping and the ceasing conflict problems in every region.

2.3 To have more cooperation in protection and preventive of international terrorist, drug trade, international crimes and illegal intelligent registration.

3. To make Thailand be the center in Southeast Asia region especially the neighbor countries in common market, investment center, natural resource and endurance energy as:

3.1 To make and develop the good relationship and to cooperate with the neighbor countries and to prevent and

cease the conflicts with peace in the form of Preventive Diplomacy and Constructive Engagement.

3.2 To let and support the non-government parts in free trade and investment on the co-benefit bases.

#### THE ECONOMIC STRATEGY:

Thailand is one of the parts in Social- Economic World with has the relationship and coordination by Economic, Trade and Investment. These relationship could be seen by the form of the international trade among the nations to the GNP (Gross National Product) of Thailand which is more than 80% in the present. The current of changes of the World Economic & Trade System makes Thailand have to adapt itself to survive this alternative changes in the future. Since the past of 30 years of development, Thailand has been successful in the growth of economic even though it has the short term problems. The weak points are because of the unequal of the income and the opportunities among the groups of people, the degeneration of the natural resources and environment, the social problem and the quality of life of the Thai people of the past development era. Then the Economic Strategy of Thailand to the year 2010 is essential to consider about the current of chances of the Social Economic World and to reconstruct the basement of the long term of the security and wealth of the economic strategy.



After the end of the Cold War Era and the collapse of the Communist countries, the economic world is more in the forms of free economic system and the structures of free market. Every country must adapt itself to develop and execute its economic policies to the new world which has more view of power and prestige as the agreements of WTO, EU and APEC are the samples. The coordination of the economic system will set the order in economic and make more security and equality and to reorganize the efficiency of the international resources of the world. But the free trade and investment can cause the free movement of international funds. These funds will move easily from the less potential of economic nations to the more potential of economic power nations which have more progress in investment and technology. It will automatically absorb the utility of national resources of the poor countries to make more utility and wealth to the rich countries. In the Globalization, there are a lot of agreements of the nations which can cooperate the benefits, but there are also a lot of measurements in prevention of another nations for the goods and the taxation. The influence and the power of the rich international companies will be more and more because they can easily provide their essential parts and goods to the countries which they can gain a lot of investment. There will be more fair-shared companies because of the common

trademark and will be the essential parts to control economy and the trade of the world.

The progressive of the IT (Intelligence Technology) will make the international fund markets more empower than the investment and will be the essential parts to support more funds. The currency system of the world will be in the trend of sharing to the only few of power currency. These current of changes and the new orders in economic, the progressive of the Technology in Communication, Production, Trades and Services will cause the poor countries can not adapt themselves and will be behind in economic and can not raise the well of living and will be poorer and poorer. Then it is essential to Thailand to consider about the new Technology Development Structures to strengthen the products and services to the world markets. It is also to reorganize some of old government systems which are lack of vision and improvement to speed enough in time of the rapid growth of economic in the year 2010.

#### THE SOCIAL-WELFARE STRATEGY:

The social and psychological security is one of the essential parts of the security of Thailand. Man power is one of the most essential parts of the powerful countries. The quality of people can make a lot of efficiency in the country. Then it is essential to improve the quality of Thai people which can

make a lot of progressive to the country in future. But in the present, the globalization causes the rapid of information which make the people asking for the human right without the realization in the meaning of the human right. The changing of the new low quality of foreign culture can ruin the good culture and tradition. The progress of material construction can ruin the moral mind. It can cause a lot of problems as the security in life and properties, the spread of drug & AIDS, the moral principles of the political men in the roll of the cooperation and serving the people and social, the lack of discipline in the ways of living and the lack of moral to cooperate in the social.

The social welfare strategy of Thailand to the year 2010 have to point in developing of the man power in order to prepare for serving the development of the country. To improve the well of living and the quality of the people, it is essential for the government to bring the good education to the people. The government need to find out the good officers who want to serve the people and the country and to be the good samples for the next generation. It need to let the good people to join in developing the social and the country. It is essential to compare and change the suitable ways of living of the people to the globalization step by step with the old good culture, tradition and ways of living and adapt to the current of

changes of the new social world by coordinate with another strategies. On the contrary, the social welfare strategy must not oppose to another strategies, but support all of them.

#### THE MILITARY STRATEGY:

After "The Cold War Era." was over, the world is changing rapidly to "The New World Era." The Communist countries try to change their strategy policies and adapt themselves to this changing world. It seems to have the big hope of the peace era in this world which have only wealth and progressive. It seems that there will not be the big wars to the year 2010, but there will be only small conflicts. These conflicts may occur in the forms of:

- Ethnic groups
- Lines of border
- Gain & Lost of benefits
- Difference in Religion & Culture
- Economic Growth

To compare with Thailand Strategy in the year 2010, it is essential to study about the strategies as;

1. U.S.A. is the only super power country which has the major rolls and will be the leader country to solve the problems in all regions. U.S. troops will still be in the East Asia region to back up its economic interests. The relationship

between U.S.A. and Thailand will be in the same level because of the status of Thailand geography strategy location.

2. China will try to expand its rolls instead of U.S.S.R. because of its interests especially in the Southeast Asia region.

3. The neighbor countries will try to coordinate each others more in the form of ASEAN for the benefits of interests. But there will still be some small conflicts as border lines and economic interest.

It is essential to Thailand to modernize the armed forces because there will still be some conflicts in this region. The developing plan of the military strategy have to be continued as:

1. To reduce the quantity of the armed forces for the suitable of the predicted situation.

2. To increase the quality of the armed forces by:

2.1 Educating and training the men for the new technology of the new weapons.

2.2 Trying to have the new technology of modern weapons which are suitable for the region and the budgets.

3. To serve and support the democracy election government for the stability of the nation.

4. To develop the country with all of personnel and military equipment.

It is essential for Thailand to cease all conflicts with the neighbor countries with peace and negotiation. But if we can not cease or have more conflicts, we have to prepare the readiness armed forces which have much efficiency to win those conflicts in the proper time. Thai military need to have readiness compact troops which have high mobility and full equipment to go to any region of the country in short time. The power of the military of the country can protect the national interests, the people at the border lines and can make of another countries in awe of power.

#### THE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY:

In the year 2010, Thailand will face to many conditions in the world technology. Many countries try to develop the science & technology. Thailand needs to import the foreign technology and changes the social to be as it want to be. However, Thailand have many problems which obstruct the improvement in the field of science & technology which have to solve as:

1. The policies of Science Development are not agree with the real operations and do not support to efficiency of technology developing. It causes to the inefficiency in the responsibility of the products, goods and services to the world trade & market. These policies have to be improved rapidly.

2. The lack of man power in the field of the science & technology is from the lack of high graduated education. The growth of economic in the country in the past needed the man power in the field of market and trade business more than the scientists. Then Thailand had to import the new technology machines more than build and improve them and had not enough budgets to support the students to study in science & technology fields. Now, it is essential to Thailand to develop this education and to have enough budgets for supporting to develop this science & technology.

3. Thailand needs to develop the basics of science & technology and the investment in this field. The essential part is to develop the efficiency plans, structures, the connection of Information Technology and the technical systems. It is also need the rules and regulation which can support to the development of science & technology.

4. Thailand needs to have the efficiency plans to preserve the natural resources instead of using much more than usual in producing goods in the industrial fields and growing corps in the agricultural fields. It is essential to use the new methods of technology for the production while these technologies do not destroy the ecology systems.

## RECOMMENDATION

After studying about the strategy in the United States Army War College and reviewing the literature in some books about the U.S. Strategy and the items which concern with the U.S. Strategy, I believe that the best way to find out and have the vision of Thailand strategy to the year 2010, needs to study about the strategy and the items which concern with the U. S. strategies. As U.S.A. is the only super power country in the world now, and it seems to have the trend that it will be in the same potential and stability status until beyond 10 years next. It is essential to compare the U.S. policies to Thailand policies and to find out the suitable ways for Thailand strategy.

There are several specific recommendations which are suitable to develop the problem areas in this paper. These should have been considered to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Thailand strategy to the year 2010 as:

1. The internal political system of Thailand should have to improve and reorganize some systems to make the stability and the security. The best way is to let Thai people cooperate themselves to strengthen and support the political men who are qualified enough in their own goodness and are confident in their moral and discipline personality. And to support the new



generation of the political men who have the vision in the future to make sure that they could bring the nation to modernize the democracy political system.

2. To reorganize some of the government systems and let them have the unity, authority and efficiency to spread out the sub-authorities to the urban areas and the country sites. And to let the non-government organizations have more rolls and cooperate in democracy systems.

3. To have the good relationships with the foreign countries on the bases of co-benefits and equality especially the neighbor countries and the power countries.

4. To support the economic systems and let them have authority to grow up under the racing of the world trades and investment. To spread out the investment of the agricultural and industrial parts to all over the country. To spread out the incomes on the bases of justice and equality economic system. To develop the structures of the production system and let them have enough potential for the changing globalization. And to support the international trades and investment of Thailand to all over the world on the bases of equality and justice.

5. To support the education to Thai people on the bases of qualification and efficiency of man power to improve themselves

to the globalization. The ways to develop the man power can separate into three steps as:

5.1 International qualification

5.2 National qualification

5.3 Urban qualification

To support Thai people to be scientists, technicians and inventors in order to make and develop the new inventions.

6. To rebuild the major characteristic and personality of Thai people and reform Thai social to make better living, happiness, safety, mankind and discipline.

7. To develop the armed forces and make it as the main post of the nation. The armed forces have to be smaller but smart, compact, efficiency. The military men have to be professionally military men, not to involve the political or any other careers. To modernize the armed forces with efficiency and potential and let it have more technology equipment for fast, lethal, precise and accurate operation.

8. To develop the new science and technology systems to Thailand and import the new technology equipment for helping Thai people to study and research. To make the new plan of air and space technology system for the globalization.

9. To control the natural resources and try to use as much as necessary and reserve for the next generation. To have the

saving plans of all natural resources by developing and reservation for the future.

As professional military officers, we have to think, consider and have vision for the future of the country. This vision is not only in the military field or strategy but also the whole national securities and interests. If without this vision, we will be ill-prepared to face the challenges of Thailand to the year 2010.

WORD COUNT = 7299.

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Sun Tzu, "The Art of War." Translated by Samuel B. Griffith; Oxford University Press, 1963 : p.84
- <sup>2</sup> David Jablonsky, "Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle : Metaphors for a Period of Transition." Parameters, Winter 1997-1998, Vol. XXVII : 4-27 : p.14
- <sup>3</sup> Strategic Vision and Strategy Formulation; Exercise Guide, U.S. Army War College, 1994 : p.A-4
- <sup>4</sup> Don M. Snider, "The National Security Strategy : Documenting Strategic Vision." , July 1994 : p.28-29
- <sup>5</sup> Ronald D. Asmus, The New U.S. Strategic Debate U.S.A. : Rand, 1993 : p.222
- <sup>6</sup> Robert P. Haffa, Jr., "The Future of Conventional Deterrence : Strategies and Forces to Underwrite A New World Order." Conventional Forces and the Future of Deterrence, March 5, 1992 Chapter.1 : 5-30. U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute : p.85
- <sup>7</sup> Donald E. Nuechterlein, "National Interest as a Basic of Foreign Policy Formulation," University Press of Kentucky. 1985 : p.150
- <sup>8</sup> "A National Security Strategy for a New Century." National Security Strategy of the United States; The White House, May 1997 : p.5
- <sup>9</sup> Les Aspin, "Forces for the New Era," The Bottom-Up Review , September 1, 1993 : p. D-4
- <sup>10</sup> Edward L. Warner, III, "The Quadrennial Defense Review and Future Defense Challenges," lecture. Carlisle Barrack, PA, U.S. Army War College, October 1998, cited with permission of Mr. Warner : p. C-3
- <sup>11</sup> "Transforming Defense, National Security in the 21<sup>st</sup>.Century." Report of the National Defense Panel, December 1997 : p.5-6
- <sup>12</sup> "Thailand ." Economic Assessment 1996, Jane's Information Group, 1340 Braddos Place. Alexandria, NA. U.S.A.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Foreign Military Markets; Newton Conn U.S.A., 1998 : p. AN-1

<sup>15</sup> " Thailand." Jane's World Armies 1998, Jane's Information Group inc. 1340 Braddos Place. Alexandria, NA. U.S.A. : p. ISS-3

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