

## **Thailand and the Second Indochina War: Enhancing Security Through State Development**

*A series of lectures by Paul T. Carter, PhD*

**Thursdays**

**October 7,14,21,28**



**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

**on Zoom**

Emerging from World War II economically and politically imperiled, Thailand faced Cold War uncertainties and growing conflict in Southeast Asia. The Second Indochina War (1959-1975) placed Thailand on the front lines of an escalating violent struggle consuming the region. Yet, when the smoke cleared in 1975, with new communist governments in Phnom Penh, Vientiane, and Saigon, Bangkok had survived. Thailand's remarkable success was due to a combination of decisions and strategies. With U.S. and other partner support, Thailand embarked on a campaign of economic development and nation building in support of national security. The government built roads and hospitals, launched mobile medical teams, introduced new agricultural techniques and incorporated foreign educators and technicians. A Thai state extension campaign emphasized assimilating rural northern and northeastern region populations. A four-session workshop by Dr. Paul T. Carter will examine Thailand's efforts from post-World War Two through the Second Indochina War to enhance its security in the Cold War environment.

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