Introduction

Articles
Growth, Debt, and Military Spending in Southeast Asia
ANDREW L. ROSS 243

The Economic Determinants of Military Expenditure in Selected East Asian Countries
ROBERT E. LOONEY and P.C. FREDERIKSEN 265

The Political Dimensions of Military Spending and Debt Service in Southeast Asia
LEWIS W. SNIDER 278

The Effects of the U.S. Military Bases on the Philippine Economy
WILLIAM E. BERRY, JR. 306

Military Procurement and Regional Security in Southeast Asia
AARON KARP 334

Book Reviews
Security and Economy in the Third World by Nicole Ball
HANS H. GLISMAN 363

The Vietnamese Tradition of Human Rights by Ta Van Tai
NGUYEN THE ANH 367

Vietnam: Facing the 1990s compiled by Richard Stubb
EERO PALMUISJOI 369

Recent Publications 373

Index to Vol. 11 375
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Introduction

This special issue focuses on the neglected topic of the relationship between security and development in Southeast Asia. Economists and political scientists, who produce much of the separate and distinct literature on development and security in the region, are brought together here in an attempt to scale the barriers to cross-disciplinary research on security and development. The first paper is an overview of military spending, the defence burden, and the relationship between military spending, economic performance, and external indebtedness in Southeast Asia. Robert Looney and PC. Frederiksen examine the economic determinants of defence expenditures in the second contribution. Lewis Snider's contribution to the literature analyses the relationship between military spending and external debt. An assessment of the economic impact of the United States military bases on the Philippines is provided by William Berry, Jr. Finally, Aaron Karp offers a strategic evaluation of arms procurement, a topic at the core of defence economics, by the Southeast Asian countries.

Andrew L. Ross
Guest Editor
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