

Before the United States provided its official assistance for Thailand in 1950, there had been a relationship between these two countries since the Nineteenth Century. The relations included commercial, religious and diplomatic.

The United States assistance for Thailand during 1950 - 1976 was primary about economic and military ones. These assistance emphasized on the Northeast of Thailand. The military assistance supported Thai military to protest the Communism. This led to the close - knit political relations between the two countries. Besides the direct assistance from the United States government, it was also handled through the work of several private foundations and company, such as Fulbright Foundation, Ford Foundation. Rockefeller Foundation, and Sea Supply Company.

The economic assistance aimed to support the production and development of the natural resources in Thailand so that the economic could expand. The illustration of the economic development were the infrastructure and industrial investments.

Since the United States had changed its policy in Southeast Asia according to the Nixon Doctrine, the later assistance had been changed into the form of loan money, and also the qualities of all kinds of assistance were reduced. This could be said that, most of the United States assistance during 1950 - 1976 were significantly to protest the communism.

However, the United states assistance was utilized in may ways. It could help Thailand improve its economic. There were industrial investment as well as the circulation of foreign currency exchange.

As a reason of the American soldiers and expertises had spent out their dollars, there were local employment, particularly in the areas which had American force bases, in both direct and indirect ways. On the contrary, the United States assistance led American intervention to Thailand's policy making. The settlement of American force bases also caused undesirable problems as high living cost, tax problem, mixed marriage - children, and other social problems. In a conclusion, the United States assistance brought about both positive and negative to the development of Thailand.