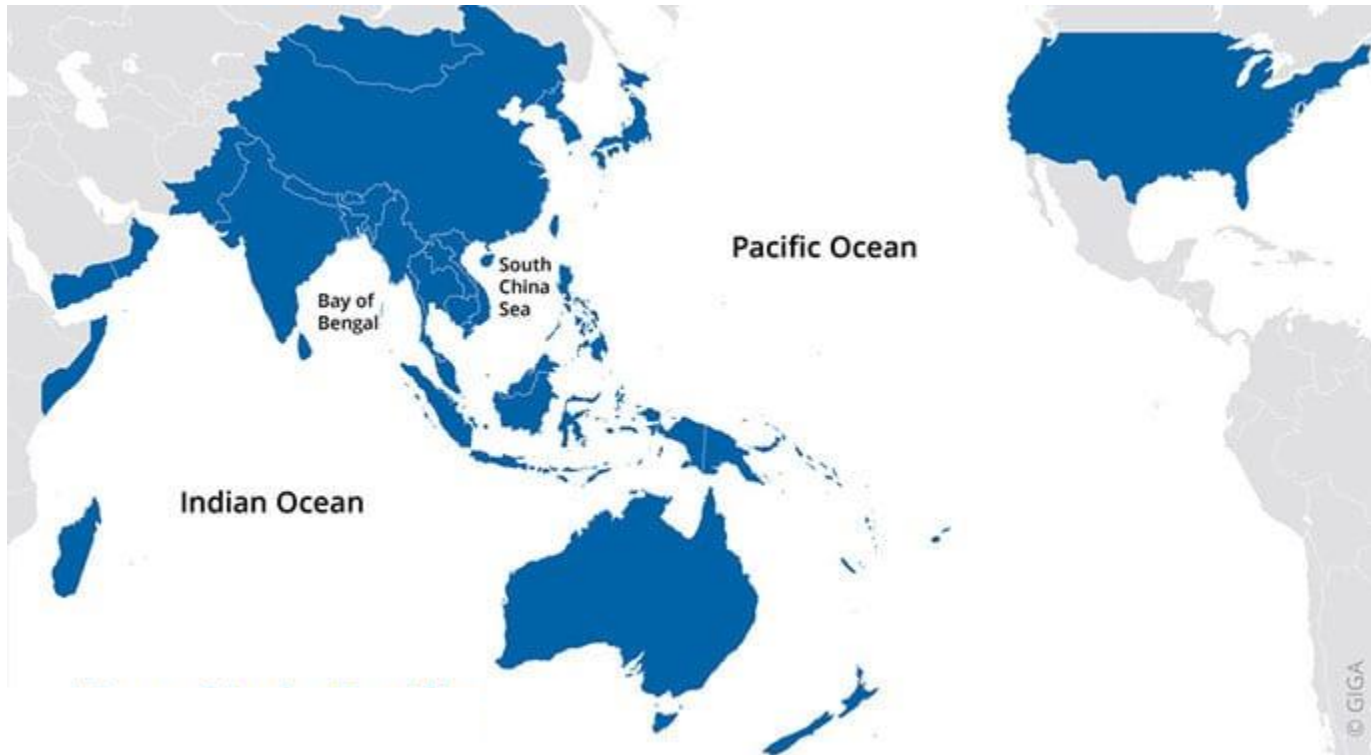


U.S. Strategic Perspectives on a Free and Open Indo-Pacific



Colonel Kurt Leffler

**Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché and Chief
of JUSMAGTHAI**

18 July 2022



Biography and Background

ENSURING A FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC



- Newly arrived Senior Defense Officer/Defense Attaché and Chief of JUSMAGTHAI
- Operational Tours in East Timor (INTERFET) and the Philippines (TF Zamboanga)
- Previously served as the Army Attaché in Islamabad, Pakistan
- Military Advisor to the U.S. Mission to ASEAN Ambassador
- Led Theater Foreign Military Financing at USINDOPACOM
- Served as the JUSMAGTHAI Director of Policy and Plans
- Master's degree in Southeast Asia Studies from Ohio University and a Bachelor's in International Relations The Ohio State University
- Graduate of the Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College and fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in DC





How Do We Best Employ Strategy?



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We define **strategy** as the relationship among ends, ways, and means. **Ends** are the objectives or goals sought. **Ways** or methods are how one organizes and applies the resources. **Means** are the resources available to pursue the objectives.

A **National Security Strategy** is a country's broadest approach to the pursuit of its **national objectives** in the international system.

A country applies its **instruments of national power** as the "ways" of its grand strategy.

Instruments of National Power

D Diplomatic	I Informational	M Military	E Economic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Embassies/ Ambassadors ▪ Recognition ▪ Negotiations ▪ Treaties ▪ Policies ▪ International forums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Military information ▪ Public diplomacy ▪ Public affairs ▪ Communications resources ▪ International forums ▪ Spokespersons, timing, media and venues for announcements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Military operations ▪ Engagement, Security Coop, Deterrence ▪ Show of force ▪ Military technology ▪ Size, composition of force 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade policies ▪ Fiscal and monetary policies ▪ Embargoes ▪ Tariffs ▪ Assistance





The Nesting of U.S. Strategy



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- National Security Strategy (NSS)
 - National Defense Strategy (NDS)
 - National Military Strategy (NMS)
- INDOPACOM Theater Campaign Plan (TCP)



- Embassy Integrated Country Strategy (ICS)
 - USINDOPACOM Country Engagement Plan (CEP)
 - JUSMAG Country Security Cooperation Plan (CSCP)

INTERIM
NATIONAL
SECURITY
STRATEGIC
GUIDANCE

MARCH 2021

PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.





Free and Open Indo-Pacific



ENSURING A FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC

- **Free and Open** - Governments can make their own choices and that shared domains are governed lawfully.
- **Connected** - Build collective capacity for a new age
- **Prosperous** - Strengthen innovation, economic competitiveness, good-paying jobs, supply chains, and economic opportunities for middle-class families
- **Secure** - Support regional peace, security, stability, and prosperity.
- **Resilient** – Address climate change, COVID-19, and natural disasters





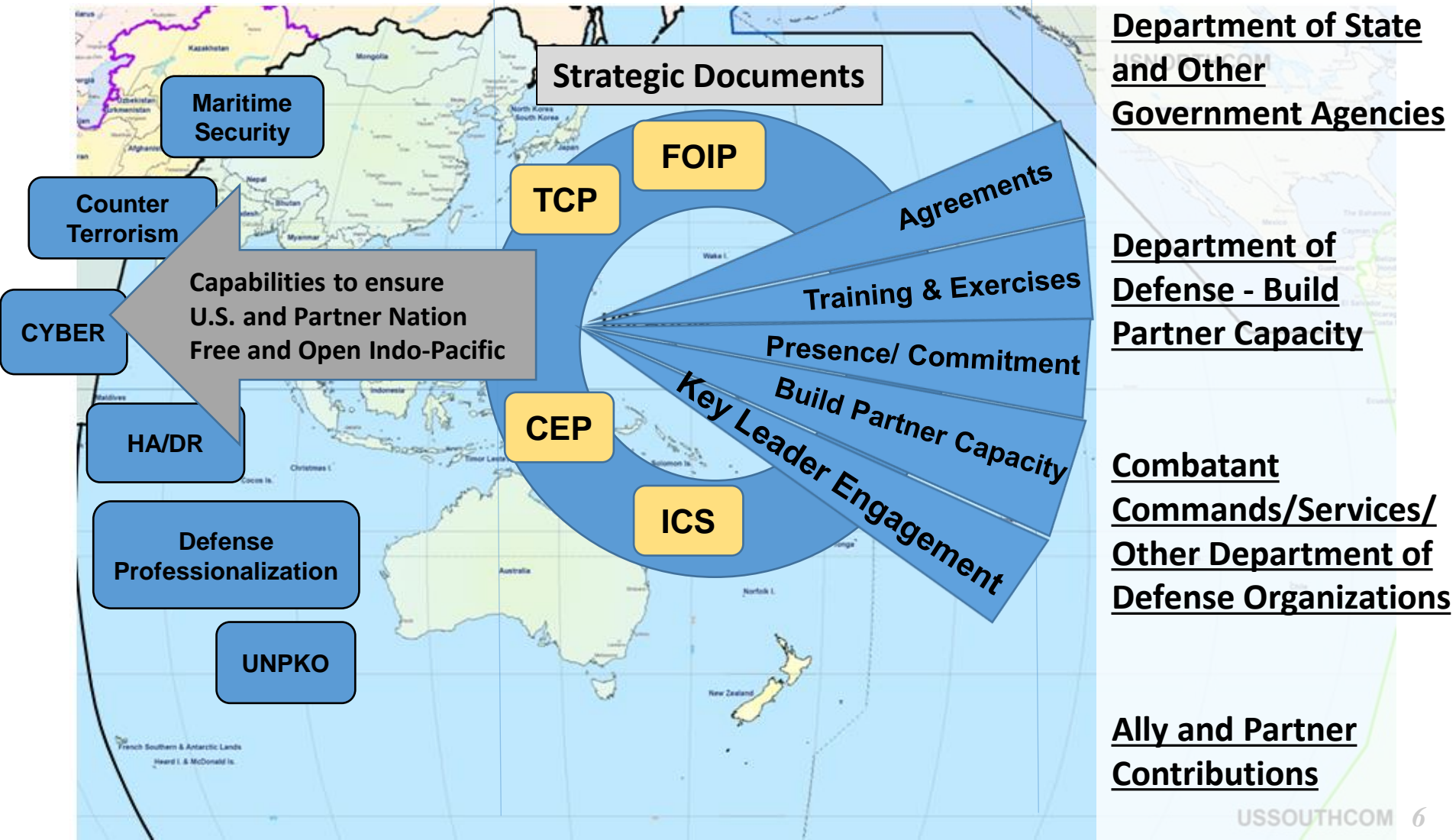
U.S. Approach to Theater Engagement

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Ends

Ways

Means



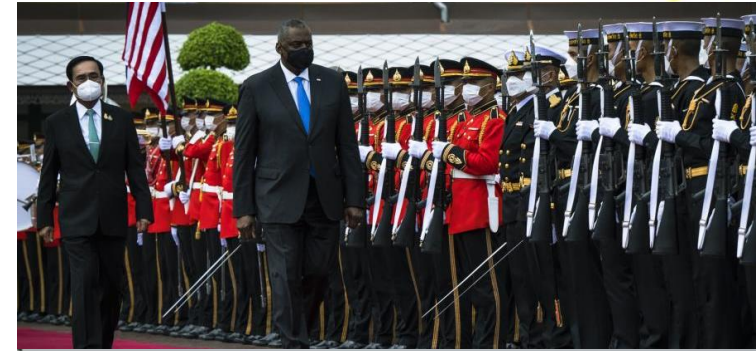


U.S. – Thai Security Alliance

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- Support Thai Military Modernization Efforts
- Expand maritime domain awareness and security to defense exclusive economic zones
- Strengthen Education and Training opportunities
- Boost reciprocal access for training in both the United States and Thailand
- Partner with all services and civilian agencies to enhance response to natural disasters
- Promote all domain operations with new cyber and space partnerships



Senior Leader's Dialogue

June 8, 2022

Bangkok, Thailand





Multilateral Approach and Vision

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ASEAN

- Signed ASEAN-U.S. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership to support ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific
- Announced \$1B in funding for education, health infrastructure, and people exchanges
- Supports the five-point Consensus on Burma



QUAD

- Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness to respond to HADR and IUU
- \$50bn in infrastructure assistance and investment in the Indo-Pacific over the next five years
- Pledged \$5.2 billion to the COVAX AMC





UNCLASSIFIED

Questions and Discussions

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