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THE FUTURE PATTERN OF JAPANESE
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA

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"The Future Pattern of Japanese Economic and Political Relations with Southeast Asia" is the fifth publication in the Institute's Current Issues Seminar series. This series was inaugurated in 1972 with the objective of bringing together knowledgeable people in particular fields to discuss topics of current interest and importance to the region.

"The Future Pattern of Japanese Economic and Political Relations with Southeast Asia" grew out of a seminar held in Singapore in March 1975. This was the second seminar on Japan, the first being held in January 1974. Since the first meeting, we had numerous requests for another seminar on Japanese-Southeast Asian relations. At the same time, both Japan and Southeast Asia had been undergoing fundamental changes in the wake of momentous political and economic developments on the international scene, including the energy crisis and *détente* in United States-Soviet relations and the diplomatic emergence of China. These changes were of considerable significance for not only Japanese-Southeast Asian relations but also the Asia-Pacific region as a whole, and anyone interested in Japanese-Southeast Asian affairs could ill-afford to ignore them. With this in mind and also to take advantage of the presence in the region of two of Japan's leading authorities on Southeast Asia - Professors Shinichi Ichimura and Tohru Yano - the Institute organized the second meeting on Japan to discuss the Future Pattern of Japanese Economic and Political Relations with Southeast Asia. In this connection, we were also fortunate in having Dr. Chan Heng Chee of the Political Science Department, University of Singapore, and Dr. Chua Wee Meng of J. Ballas & Co. Pte., Singapore, as commentators on the presentations of Professors Ichimura and Yano.

The individual papers and commentaries that follow are as they were presented and subsequently revised by the authors for publication, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Drs. Ichimura, Yano, Chan and Chua for their contributions and co-operation. Whilst wishing them and their contributions all the best, it is clearly understood that responsibility for facts and opinions expressed in the papers, commentaries and proceedings that follow rests exclusively with the particular author or authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Institute or its supporters.

27 August 1975

Director
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies