

PART II

A NEUTRALISED SOUTH EAST ASIA:  
PROBLEMS AND  
PROSPECTS OF LEGAL PRESCRIPTION

"It will be of advantage to make a treaty with either party that is waging war, in order that it may be permissible to abstain from war, while retaining the goodwill of either, and to render to each, the common duties of humanity"

- Hugo Grotius in  
The Law of War and Peace

## INTRODUCTION

It is proposed in this part of the paper to deal briefly with the various forms of neutralisation arrangements that have been employed throughout the course of history. Admittedly there is no one treaty that can be applied to all circumstances. But it is hoped that a basic understanding of past treaties will contribute to a formulation of a draft outline of a treaty which may be applied to South East Asia.

Consequently this model will be assessed to help turn the conception of neutralisation of the region into something more tangible than a vague abstraction. In this assessment, problems and obstacles will undoubtedly appear. It is here then that we can find possible areas of compromise to enable a convergence of interests not only as between the great powers but also between the South East Asian states themselves.