

THAILAND - Floods

Date: August-October 1983

Location: Bangkok and 42 of Thailand's 73 provinces

No. Dead: 50

No. Affected: Approximately one million

Damage: In Bangkok and environs, 588 roads, 54 bridges and 150,320 houses were damaged and approximately 22,500 hectares of agricultural land were inundated.

The Disaster

Heavy rains during the 1983 monsoon season caused extensive flooding in Bangkok and coastal and riverine provinces. The situation was exacerbated by Tropical Storm Kim and high tides in the Chao Phraya River and along coastal areas. The flooding washed out many roads in Bangkok and caused widespread property damage to homes and agricultural land.

Action Taken by the Royal Thai Government (RTG)

The RTG immediately initiated relief measures, mobilizing workers to assist the flood victims and begin reconstruction of the damaged transportation network.

Assistance Provided by the United States Government

On October 20, within two days of the most serious flooding in Bangkok, U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean presented a check for the local equivalent of \$13,050 to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda. These funds were used to provide emergency relief to the most seriously affected flood victims.

TOTAL \$13,050

Assistance Provided by U.S. Voluntary Agencies

None reported.

Assistance Provided by the International Community

None reported.