Contents

	List of figures	ix
	List of abbreviations	X
	Acknowledgements	xi
	Note on names and transcription	xiii
PA	RT I	
In	troduction and theory	1
1	Introduction	3
	Introduction 3	
	Background 4	
	Conventional explanations of Thai foreign policy 8	
	The curious case of Thailand and main arguments 15	
	Methodology, case selection, and sources 18	
	Alternative explanations? 24	
	Organisation of the book 26	
2	Ontological security, stigmatisation, trauma, and status	28
	Ideas and the small state in realism 28	
	Ontological security and international stigmatisation 33	
	States, status, and recognition 42	
D4	D.T. II	
	RT II ne origins of Thailand's sense of ontological insecurity	57
	, and the second	
3	Latecomer: Siam and the quest for civilisation	59
	Sources of self: Siamese kings and gradual adaptation 59	
	After defeat and humiliation 69	
	Conclusion: hybridised Siam 74	

4	Interest, status anxiety, and status-seeking Trauma and status concerns 77 Phibun as prime minister: seeking status 87 Conclusion 97	77
	RT III nailand's two gambits	99
5	Beating goliath for prestige: Thailand's war with France Structural opportunities and the choices of Thailand 101 The conflict of passion 108 Phibun's strategic offensive 124 Conclusion 135	101
6	Alliance anxiety: Thailand's search for recognition from Japan Structural opportunities and the choices of Thailand 136 The war for recognition 144 Inferiority complex: a gradual turn against Japan 160 Conclusion 179	136
7	Conclusion Overall summary 182 Policy implications 186 Possible weaknesses 187 Concluding remarks 188	182
	Bibliography Index	189 211