

# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand**

**The Initial Rules of Engagement [ROE]  
Covered the Republic of Vietnam**

**On November 30, 1961, it was modified for  
herbicides when President Kennedy  
authorized their use.**

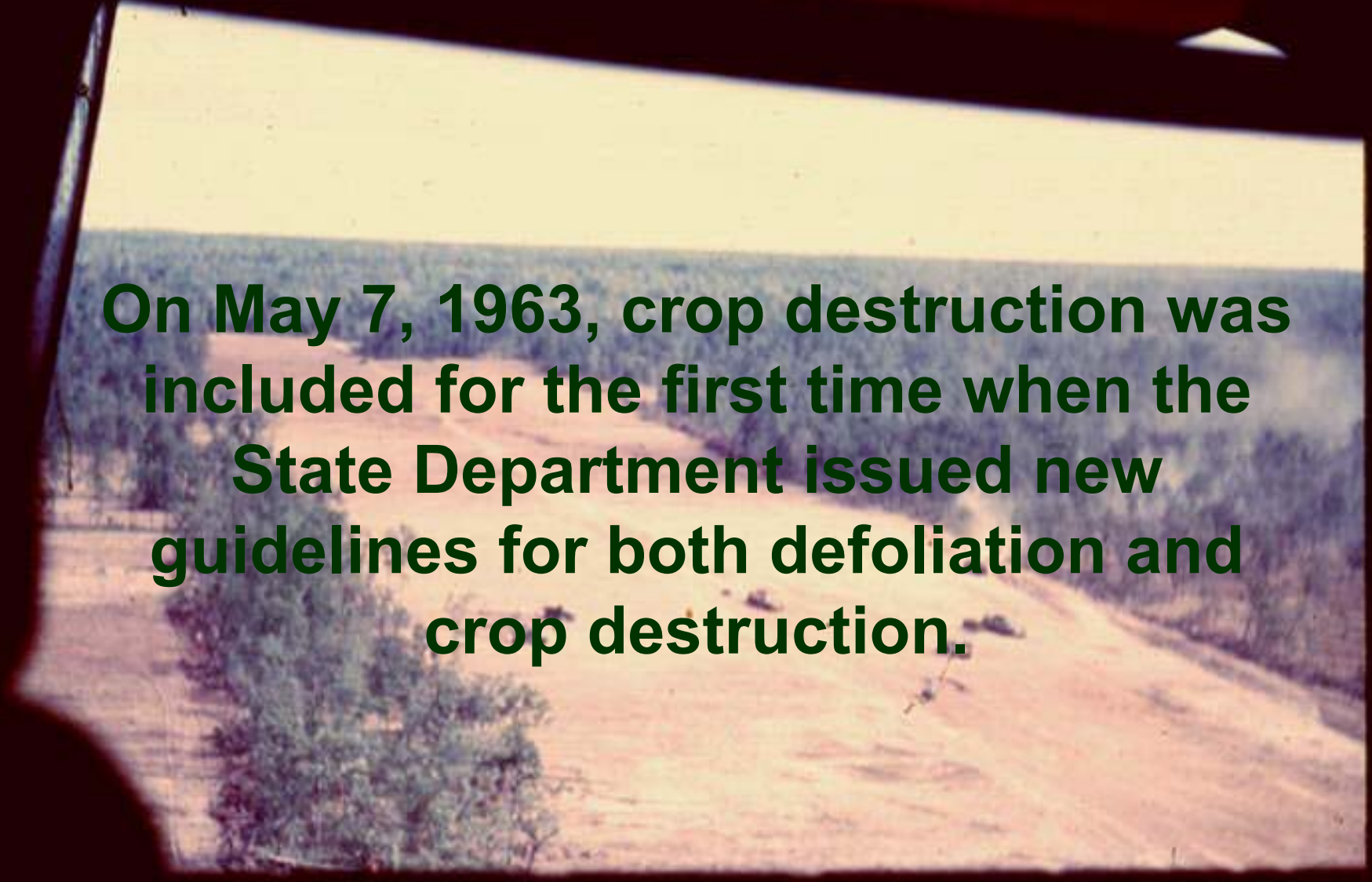
**Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**MACV Directive 525-1, Military  
Operations, Herbicide Operations  
and**

**USMACTHAI/JUSMACTHAI Regulation  
500-5, Arming of U.S. Military Personnel  
and Rules of Engagement codified their  
use.**

# Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued

**On May 7, 1963, crop destruction was included for the first time when the State Department issued new guidelines for both defoliation and crop destruction.**



# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**The Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) began the Pranburi, Thailand OCONUS defoliation tests in April 1964. The tests ran through March 31, 1965.**



## **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On August 7, 1966, the Ambassador to the Republic of South Vietnam received authority to expand crop destruction.**

**On May 18, 1966, General William Westmoreland received approval from Ambassador Sullivan, the Ambassador to Laos for permission to use herbicides for crop destruction.**

# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**In 1966, Ranch Hand sorties were flown out of Nakhon Phanom RTAFB and Takhli RTAFB against Laos.**

**General Westmoreland proposed defoliation in and immediately south of the southern half of the DMZ to Ambassador Lodge.**

## **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On November 26, 1966, the message was transmitted for the authorized defoliation operations in the southern portion of the DMZ, subject to the restrictions imposed in the May 7, 1963 guidelines.**

**The first mission inside the DMZ took place on February 5, 1967.**

## **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On June 12, 1967, the State Department granted the necessary approval authority to the American Ambassador in Saigon for General Westmoreland's requested authority to conduct selective defoliation within the north-portion of the DMZ as well as adjacent infiltration routes inside North Vietnam.**



## **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On July 26, 1968, Udorn RTAFB, Thailand was attacked by sappers. On November 11, 1968, Ranch Hand aircraft flew sorties against Laos from Udorn RTAFB, Thailand.**

**In January 1969, Ranch Hand aircraft flew sorties against Laos from Ubon RTAFB, Thailand. On July 28, 1969, Ubon RTAFB, Thailand was attacked by sappers.**

## **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On August 31, 1969, Ranch Hand deployed five aircraft to Udorn RTAFB, Thailand. The mission used Agent Blue and flew twenty-eight sorties over seven days.**

**On November 1, 1969, USMACTHAI/  
JUSMACTHAI Memorandum Mission  
Policy on Base Defense was published,  
specifically authorizing use of herbicides  
in Thailand.**

# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On January 13, 1970, Ubon RTAFB, Thailand was again attacked by sappers.**

**On January 7, 1971, the last herbicide mission was flown by a fixed-winged aircraft.**

**On May 1, 1971, a Presidential directive ended all US herbicide missions.**



# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On August 18, 1971, the President permitted the resumption of chemical defoliation until December 1, 1971, after mines killed eight and injured seven Army personnel who were trying to clear vegetation by hand from wire entanglements and fields of fire.**

**On November 26, 1971, the President authorized continued use of herbicides and set no termination date.**

# **Use of Herbicides in Thailand Continued**

**On January 4, 1972, Ubon RTAFB,  
Thailand was again attacked by sappers.**

**On January 10, 1972, U-Tapao RTNAB,  
Thailand was attacked by sappers.**



# Use of Herbicides in Thailand

Documented evidence concludes that herbicides were used to clear vegetation at Nakon Phanom between 1966 and 1972.

Back View of Kennel Runs  
Udon 1969

Documented evidence concludes that herbicides were used at Korat RTAFB and U-Tapao RTNAB, Thailand beginning in June 1972 with permission from the US Ambassador, Thailand.