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BOOK MESSAGE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

FROM: COMUSMACV BANGKOK THAI
 TO: CG 79.3.9 (TASK FORCE DELTA), NAM PHONG RTAFB, THAI

UNCLAS

For BG Taylor from *Col. Curtis*

SUBJ: Use of Herbicides in Thailand

1. The use of herbicides at Nam Phong was discussed in our recent meeting in Bangkok and in response I am providing the procedures to be followed for obtaining approval. The American Embassy in Bangkok is the approving authority. It has emphasized that the use of herbicides must be tightly controlled, and that every effort must be made to insure that civilian property is not damaged. Herbicides should be applied only within the confines of the base.

2. In order to obtain AMEMB approval to use herbicides a letter in quadruplicate should be forwarded to MACTJ42 with the following information:

- a. Justification for the use of herbicide instead of mechanical or other means.
- b. Type of herbicide to be used and whether DOD approved or not.
- c. Qualifications of the individual who will supervise applica-

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DISTR: *SJS*
J4 COORDINATION NOT REQUIRED

DRAFTER TYPED NAMED, TITLE, OFFICE SYMBOL AND PHONE JAMES E. BLIGH, CDR, MACTJ42, 2408		SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
RELEASER	TYPED NAME, TITLE, OFFICE SYMBOL AND PHONE D.A. CURTIS, COL, CHIEF OF STAFF	
	SIGNATURE <i>Col. Curtis</i>	
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS		

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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BOOK

MESSAGE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

FROM:

TO:

tion, e.g. certified entomologist.

d. Month herbicide will be applied.

e. Base layout map in four copies with the areas to be treated shaded in red. The map should be signed by both the U.S. and the Thai Base Commanders.

3. Approval must be obtained for each application of herbicide. Requests should be submitted approximately 60 days in advance of desired application date to allow adequate lead time for processing. The departmental requirements for approving the application of herbicides must also be satisfied. The AMEMB approval is in addition to, not in place of these requirements.

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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SIGNATURE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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See Page 2 of 3



HEADQUARTERS

MACTJ4

UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, THAILAND

and

JOINT UNITED STATES MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP, THAILAND

APO San Francisco 96346

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:REGULATION
NUMBER 210-10INSTALLATIONSFOLIAGE AND VEGETATION CONTROL METHODS

1. PURPOSE. To establish policies for methods of foliage and vegetation control, and to define procedures to obtain approval for the use of soil sterilants by US military forces in Thailand,

2. GENERAL.

a. Foliage at the perimeter and within the confines of installations must be controlled to enforce security and reduce fire hazards. Vegetation control can be accomplished by methods such as cutting, plowing, burning, spraying of oil, and application of herbicides (an agent used to destroy or inhibit plant growth).

b. Inasmuch as herbicides affect all exposed vegetation, stringent controls are necessary to avoid damage to nearby farm land, rice paddies, etc. Because damage to private land results in claims and adverse publicity, the use of herbicides in Thailand is politically sensitive; therefore, approval for soil sterilant operations in Thailand must be obtained from the American Embassy (AMEMB), Bangkok through USMACTHAI.

3. POLICY.

a. The approved and desired methods for controlling foliage and vegetation include cutting, burning, plowing, and spraying of oil. The

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USMACTHAI/JUSMAGTHAI Reg 210-10

effect of such actions on the quality of the environment must be considered when selecting the method to be utilized. AMEMB approval through USMACTHAI for any of the above procedures is not required; however, concurrence of the local Thai commandor controlling the installation must be obtained for methods other than grass cutting. Otherwise, service directives apply.

b. The use of herbicides is not an approved method for foliage and vegetation control. Therefore, a maximum of resourcefulness and ingenuity is essential to identify alternatives for herbicide use. If no feasible alternatives exist, strong justification must be submitted with requests for approval to apply herbicides as an exception to policy. Upon approval, every effort will be made to control the application of herbicides to ensure that no environmental damage is caused,

4. PROCEDURES.

a. Requests to utilize herbicides as an exception to policy must contain extensive justification for the application and be submitted for approval to USMACTHAI, ATTN: MACTJ4. (Requests from US Air Force units will be submitted by 13th ADVON/CCE and those from US Army units will be submitted by the USMACTHAI Support Group Engineer). Each request will include a detailed discussion to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Type of herbicide to be used,
- (2) Qualification of individual(s) who will supervise application.
- (3) Alternative methods available for defoliation,

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(4) Cost-effectiveness analysis of the alternative methods in lieu of the application of herbicides.

(5) Location of areas (include three copies of the installation map with areas where herbicides are to be applied indicated in red) for herbicide application and discussion concerning the effect of such application on the quality of the environment,

(6) Dates desired for application,

(7) A copy of the written approval of the local Thai commander where there is a local Thai commander at the installation. If there is no local Thai commander with the authority to approve herbicide application requests, so state, and USMACTHAI J4 will obtain written approval from Supreme Command Headquarters (Forward).

b. USMACTHAI/JUSMAGTHAI (MACTJ4) will:

(1) Review requests for approval, insuring that all required areas of discussion have been covered satisfactorily.

(2) Forward requests to the AMEMB, Bangkok, ATTN: D/S, for approval, if justification is considered sufficient.

(3) Follow through with the AMEMB and notify appropriate parties of the resolution of their requests for herbicide application.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. 13th AF ADVON/CCE and the USMACTHAI Support Group Engineer will insure that their requests to control foliage and vegetation through the application of herbicides as an exception to policy are factually correct and include the detailed information required by this regulation.

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b. The ACoS J4, USMACTHAI/JUSMAGTHAI, will review the herbicide application requests for sufficiency prior to forwarding them to the AMEMB. USMACTHAI/JUSMAGTHAI (MACTJ42) will maintain the status of each request and notify either 13AF ADVON/CCE or the USMACTHAI Support Group Engineer of the request's disposition.

c. COMUSMACTHAI, as Single Senior Military Representative (SSMR) for Thailand, is responsible for insuring adherence to AMEMB policy concerning foliage and vegetation control in Thailand.

6. APPLICABILITY. All US Armed Forces in Thailand.

FOR THE COMMANDER;

OFFICIAL:

ROBERT A. CARTER
Colonel, USAF
Chief of Staff

GEOFFREY T. COWELL
LTC, USA
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

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