

USAF Ranch Hand Herbicide Amounts from August 1965

Please go to URL: http://www.gmasw.com/ao_amts1.htm#Corp3

There you will see the “Official amounts of Agent Orange” that was used throughout South Vietnam.

Remember that Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam is located in III Corps.

To my personal knowledge, when the 377th Security Police Squadron, could not obtain herbicides through official channel's, then they reverted to the bootleg method.

It was the 377th SPS Personnel and 377th Civil Engineer's who done the actual spraying of Agent Orange.

See the two official document below that came from the 377th SPS, Historical Reports.

Charles Penley

(U) The enforcement of traffic rules on the flightline has been a massive program. 258 traffic citations for various violations were issued during this quarter. The volume of traffic on the North sector of the base has reduced as a result of some US Army units relocating off base at the end of the monsoon, but a problem still exists with vehicles being operated at high rates of speed. Sector NCOIC's have been contacting first sergeants of units located in their respective areas and requesting them to instruct all their vehicle operators to reduce their speed while on Tan Son Nhut Air Base. Sector NCOIC's have been instructed to enforce the speed limits on the perimeter road.

(U) During this quarter Security Police responded to 258 in-flight emergencies and secured 5 aircraft crash sites.

(U) Vegetation control continues to be inadequate. Civil Engineering was unsuccessful in obtaining an aircraft for spraying herbicides in areas that can not be reached by a land vehicle. Herbicides that were being obtained through the "boot leg" type operations can no longer be obtained. Civil Engineering has ordered 1000 gallons of a commercial type herbicide that proved acceptable during a test conducted during the last quarter. The vegetation has stopped growing and should be dry enough to burn during the month of January 1969.

(U) Civil Engineering constructed a road that provides access to bunkers and towers located in Bravo Sector, Northeast part of base. This will eliminate the problem that was experienced this year during the monsoon, and in addition a road is being constructed linking up the defensive bunkers on the West end of the base.

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This document shows that it was a common thing for Tan Son Nhut to bootleg herbicides prior to this 2nd Quarter 1968.

To my knowledge, Security Police are the ones to spray it. (Penley)

0109
USAF Film Strip from Maxwell AFB, AL
M-0074, Frame 0109, Paragraph 3
Oct 68 - Dec 68

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section was awaiting the arrival of SMSGt Virgil K. Hendrix, who was to arrive from Tuy Hoa on 2 April 1969.

(U) Weapons Systems Security continued to enforce traffic rules on the Flight Line and perimeter roads, issuing 184 traffic citations for various violations during the quarter. The paving of the perimeter roads on the east and west sides of the base added to the speeding problem.

(U) Vegetation control continued to be inadequate. The commercial herbicide which was ordered by the base civil engineer during the previous historical period had not arrived and was nowhere in sight as of 31 March.

(U) Despairing of success through official channels, the section looked into its bootleg sources once again. They obtained five 55-gallon drums of herbicide from the Tan Son Nhut Sensitive Area and were seeking additional supplies from Bien Hoa and other areas as the historical period came to a close.

(U) According to Captain William D. Saban, Weapons Systems Security Officer, the lack of rain during the period decreased the magnitude of the program. However, he said vegetation growth would become a real problem when the monsoons came in May or June.¹³

(U) The Sentry Dog Section reported one death-sentry dog Fritz A903 on 12 February 1969--of a new blood disease, Idiopathic Hemorrhagic Syndrome (IHS). According to Dr. Larry Coen, Veterinarian for the 377th USAF Dispensary, IHS was first noticed by U.S. Army veterinarians in Vietnam in November 1968. Since then, he said, the Army in Vietnam has lost over 70 dogs to the disease, which is believed to be caused by a virus-type organism transmitted by ticks.¹⁴ Two other

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0515

This document shows that it was a common thing for Tan Son Nhut to bootleg herbicides prior to this 3rd Quarter 1968.

To my knowledge, Security Police are the ones to spray it.

USAF Film Strip from Maxwell AFB, AL
M-0074, Frame 0515, Paragraph 2-4
Jan 69 - Mar 69

(Penley)