



CORONA HARVEST

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP
WORKING PAPER NO. 10-68

A REVIEW OF THE HERBICIDE PROGRAM
IN SOUTH VIETNAM (U)

PROJECT CORONA HARVEST

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William F. Warren

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Approved by

ROY F. LINSEMEYER
Chief, Scientific Advisory Group

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SECTION IV
CURRENT OPERATIONS

A. CURRENT OPERATIONS

1. [The 12th Air Commando Squadron of the 7th Air Force, operates some twenty-four specially equipped and armored UC-123 type spray aircraft at two principal bases (Bien Hoa and Da Nang) in South Vietnam and has the primary responsibility of herbicide operations in South Vietnam. The U. S. Army, using hand equipment and H-34 type helicopters, conducts other spray operations of smaller dimensions, such as defoliation around special forces camps, clearing perimeters around airfields, depots and other bases, and small-scale crop destruction of small VC food growth areas in rugged mountain areas which would be difficult to reach with the large UC-123 type aircraft.]

B. TYPES OF EQUIPMENT

1. [The types of equipment used to accomplish the various spray operations include the UC-123 aircraft, H-34 helicopters, Buffalo turbine units, and hand spray units.] The UC-123 is made by Fairchild and is a very reliable aircraft. With two R-2800 reciprocating engines, it has a combat range of 250 miles and takes a crew of four when a navigator is used. [TACAN navigation equipment is available and communications equipment includes UHF, VHF, ADF, FM, and HF capability. The UC-123 utilizes an MC-1 spray tank of 1,000 gallon capacity and associated spray equipment such as the wing and tail booms, pumps, and plumbing, all of which made up the A/A 45Y-1 Dispenser System. This system provides three gallons of defoliant per acre which is delivered at a speed of 135 knots and is capable of clearing an area 80 meters wide and 16 kilometers long.]

2. [The H-34 helicopter spray system was initially developed by the U.S. Navy Disease and Vector Control Center as a potential insecticide delivery system. The HIDAL system using the H-34 has a capacity of 200 gallons and a delivery rate of three gallons/acre. The spray is normally delivered at 50 knots and cuts a swath of 75 meters. This system is vulnerable to ground fire because of the slow delivery speed and requires excessive maintenance.]

3. [The Buffalo turbine is a trailer-mounted spray system used in ground operations. The turbine is gasoline driven, has a 100-gallon

capacity. Ideal can spray swath 75 meters wide

4. *Hand Spray units - backpack type dispenser capacity 3 gallons*

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